

Board of Warden and Burgesses
Minutes of Monthly Meeting ~ Nov. 21, 2016

CALL TO ORDER

Warden Jeffrey Callahan called the monthly meeting of the Borough of Stonington Board of Warden and Burgesses to order at Borough Hall at 7:31 pm. Present were Burgesses Howard Park, Michael Adair, Robert Scala, Amy Nicholas, Amanda Barnes, Karen von Ruffer Hills and Clerk-Treasurer Lisa Coleman.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion by Warden Callahan, seconded by Burgess Park to change the draft minutes of the monthly meeting held on October 17, 2016 to be amended to state specifically that granite crosswalk pavers were removed from Summit and Bayview and installed as a crosswalk on Orchard Street at the intersection of Church Street, was unanimously approved.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT'S REPORT (PERRY):

- Received October collections: \$1,234.76
- Received donations to Williams Fund: \$275.00
- Requested credit refund from CIRMA from payroll audit: \$2,415.00

Correspondence:

Other:

Robert Casey: resignation from ZBA

Stonington Historical Society: letter regarding removal of granite stones at Bayview & Summit

JD McClatchy: email regarding curb cut at 135 Water Street

SVIA: certificate of insurance for Christmas Stroll

Claire Regan Morse: letter regarding curb cut on Grand St.

Request:

Kevin Bowdler: Curb Cut Application for 135 Water St.

Meetings:

- None

CLERK-TREASURER'S REPORT (COLEMAN):

- One William Williams Fund request received
- Nothing from SOTS office on the May 2017 Borough election

REVIEW OF BILLS:

- The 10/17/2016 through 11/18/2016 report was reviewed and is on file in the Borough Office. Bills for the period totaled \$30,835.63

REVIEW OF INCOME AND EXPENSES:

- The July 01, 2016 through November 18, 2016 Income and Expenses Budget vs. Actual was reviewed and is on file in the Borough Office. Net income as of November 18, 2016, is \$563,241.40.

WARDEN'S REPORT:

- Dog Park: Borough P&ZC is being sued over the fence approval, and two appeals of the approval have been filed with the ZBA.
- Wrote and distributed, with assistance from Waldron Fund trustees and Lisa Coleman, mailing to all Borough residents.

- Continued working on annual stormwater management report to DEEP. Prepared for DEEP stormwater inspection in late December. Interviewed (with Town Engineer) four engineering firms as potential consultants for preparing joint Town-Borough stormwater management plan.
- Met with engineers from Milone & McBroom, who have a contract from SCCOG to prepare new hazard mitigation plans for all municipalities within SCCOG.
- Investigated history of Elm Street foot bridge, which was constructed about 1940 and rebuilt in 1992. Both projects were funded with state funds. The bridge is in need of maintenance.

BOROUGH CLOCK:

Reset clock for standard time and arranged semi-annual maintenance by tower clock technician.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS:

FIRE & EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT – (CHIEF HOADLEY/WARDEN CALLAHAN)

- There were 2 alarms in September 2016 they were as follows:
 10-4-16 9:07 am one tap on the tape...windy day & wires could have collided, investigated but never found the cause.
 10-20-16 12:41 pm Fire alarm activation Light House Museum
- Jeff Hoadley has completed part I (inspection) fire marshal training this week. The second part will begin in February.
- Received 2016 fire marshal report from Mr. Brennan.
- Discussed with Chief Hoadley and Peter Victoria replacement of fire house phone system, which is failing. New system will cost approximately \$4,500.

STREETS (BURGESS PARK):

- Besides their regular weekly garbage pickup and the four loads of brush taken to the land fill, the crew was busy with maintenance of machinery notably repairs to the leaf pick up vacuum and leaf box.
- Pot holes were tended to and cement areas at the firehouse were repaired.
- The fallen tree limb in LaGrua path was cut up and removed. A small tree was damaged there and the tree warden might want to replace it.
- The crew painted a stop line at Broad St and Cliff at the request of the police department.
- Catch basin covers were cleared and out flowers were checked.
- Leaves have been top priority and challenging with windy days and rain. Both of these conditions make pickup impractical to impossible.
- Flags were put out on Veterans Day.
- The point was re-graded by Tim Keena. Wayland's Wharf will be done next.
- I received a quote from Sullivan Paving for paving Bayview Ave. but still need to walk through with them explaining the various extras needed. Hasted Paving will meet with me in December. I drove around with Craig Rowley explaining the possible ideas for the project. I have been in contact with Ray Lewicki but we haven't met yet. I will show him the Bayview project and explain, as I did with Mr. Rowley, our plans. I am extending a courtesy as this is not something usually done.
- We will need to replace the 30-year-old street sweeper and am still investigating machines and prices in coordination with the highway crew as they are the ultimate users.

PARKS, TREES, AND RIGHTS OF WAY (BURGESS BARNES):

- None

PUBLIC BUILDINGS (BURGESS ADAIR):

- **Firehouse Doors:**
After much research and observations over several years, I have come to the conclusion and will make the recommendation at the meeting that all four doors need to be replaced for a cost of approximately \$40,000 which is currently not in this year’s budget but should be provided for in the next. As of today, ALL the double paned vacuum sealed windows in all four doors have been compromised. The obvious white calcium and magnesium residue from the rain which dries between the panes is more obvious on the lower panes because the doors are more protected by an overhang at the top and the normal down flow of the rain intensifies as it flows top to bottom. The problem is not the panes but the door construction itself. Otherwise there would be selective fogging at various rates. All other firehouses I visited with similar glass doors have been in service longer than ours and none have had this problem. Our expensive Philip Johnson Firehouse should look better than this for many reasons, not the least of which is for the maintenance of the enthusiasm and pride of the personnel who work hard at keeping the engines and firehouse spotless.

The industry leader in this industry, Overhead Door Co., who currently does the construction and maintenance on the doors is the largest and best in the business and should have been the contractor in the beginning, They have built most of the doors of all the firehouses in our area. They are professionals and can be relied on to be around in the future. I would recommend we select Overhead Door Co who are familiar with us and the problem.

A proposal from Overhead Door Co. in the amount of \$28,874.35 is on file in the Borough Office. Burgess Adair is checking with Overhead Door Co. for the how long the quote is good for.

SIDEWALKS (BURGESS SCALA):

- I have spoken to Elizabeth Tobin Brown regarding the corner bush. She will take care of it once she returns.
- Talked to Bayview sidewalk owners who say they will repair their sidewalks once the street is repaved.

POLICE, PUBLIC AFFAIRS, AND COMMUNICATIONS (BURGESS NICHOLAS):

- **Police Incident Report**
During the month of October 2016 there were 48 incidents in the police report for the Borough including 7 Medical Assists, 5 Assist Citizens, 5 Larcenies, 4 Burglar Alarms (2 false), 4 911 Misdiagnoses/hang-ups, 3 Business Checks, 2 Accidents no injury and 2 Found items. There was one incident each of a Domestic Disturbance, Parking Complaint, Assist other Agency, Animal Control, Welfare check, Motor Vehicle Abandoned, Trespass, Fire Alarm, Open Door Window, Lost Item, General Information, Found Vessel, Escort, Criminal Mischief, Scam and Harassment.

There was an arrest for a domestic disturbance.

- **Website/Communications:**No report

SANITATION/UTILITIES REPORT – (BURGESS VON RUFFER HILLS)

- Ensured that an additional redundant utility pole was cleared away - and have identified various lighting repairs for streetlights with Eversource, which have been completed.

- Have done drive through of the east side of Boro to review concerns about trash/yellow bags being placed curbside prior to garbage collection day, but found it not to be an issue. Will continue to monitor - although believe it may be more of a summer rental issue.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- **Various issues.**

Don Maranell asked if there had been an expiration date on the firehouse doors quote.

The Town has applied for approval of the existing fences at the “dog park.”

Firetruck has not been coming down Bayview with Santa Claus. Chief Hoadley replied that yes, it has been coming down.

Historic crosswalks should be returned not replaced. Feels that the sidewalks should be repaired now, not after Bayview is repaved. He feels Borough is being too nice to people who have broken sidewalks.

During the planning stages of all roads, everyone should be notified and involved.

Stated there should not be this side, that side, there is one Borough.

- **Crosswalk removal on Summit St. and Bayview Ave.**

Dana Lewicki asked that the return of the crosswalks be put in writing. Crosswalks must be ADA compliant. Warden Callahan invited everyone to the budget planning meeting in February 2017.

Craig Rowley thanked Warden Callahan and Burgess Park for the amount of time they have spent with him. Going forward, the residents feel an error in judgement was made in taking the crosswalks to Orchard Street. Greater than 15% of the Borough is in agreement. We want those stones put on Orchard Street to be returned to Summit and Bayview.

Mr. Rowley asked that a motion be made and voted on by the Warden and Burgesses not later than the regular Board meeting held on December 19, 2016 that “the paving stones removed September 2016 from Bayview and Summit be returned to the intersections.” Warden Callahan said that Mr. Rowley’s request had been received after the agenda was prepared and that such a motion would not be made tonight. He also noted that the Board could not guarantee the money would be available to do the work in next fiscal year’s budget.

Carole Martin submitted additional Borough resident signatures to the original October 2016 letter.

Bergin O’Malley talked about the different character and issues in each neighborhood in the Borough. She hopes that “we” and “they” will not continue to be a part of the language used in the discussion of the crosswalks.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Consider sale of Temple Street parcel**

A formal appraisal values the parcel at \$12,600.

Richard Easton suggested that the property be given to the owner. Warden Callahan responded that he did not want to set that precedent. He feels that selling the property for half its appraised value is a fair compromise.

A motion by Warden Callahan, seconded by Burgess Park to authorize Warden Jeff Callahan or his successor, acting on behalf of the Burgesses exercising their authority under the Borough Charter, to sign a Quitclaim Deed and other necessary documents conveying approximately 630 sq. ft. of property between 17 Temple Street and the paved portion of Temple Street as delineated on an August 1961 map prepared by Diceasare Bentley, to Gail Woodrow or subsequent owner of

17 Temple Street for \$6,300, the authority of the Warden to convey this property to continue for a period not to exceed five years, was passed unanimously.

- **Consider revisions to Borough tree policy:** Tabled.
- **Consider hiring – with the Town – a consultant to assist in preparation of new storm water management plan (SMP) as mandated by DEEP**
Four engineering consultant firms were interviewed by the Warden and the Town Engineer.

A motion made by Warden Callahan, seconded by Burgess Scala to authorize Warden Jeff Callahan to enter into a joint contract with the Town of Stonington for engineering consulting services to develop a Town-Borough Storm Water Management Plan in order to comply with the new Stormwater Management General Permit issued by CT DEEP, the Borough's share of the contract not to exceed \$7,000, passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Consider requests to use Borough property:** None
- **Consider curb cut request on Grand Street**
We have received three letters in objection to the curb cut.
Property owner Kevin Bowdler was in attendance.

A motion by Warden Callahan, seconded by Burgess Park, to allow the curb cut request on Grand Street made by Kevin Bowdler, not to exceed the currently yellow painted curb distance, was unanimously approved.

- **Consider removal of maple tree opposite 168 Water Street**
The tree was posted on November 4, 2016. No comments have been received.
A motion by Burgess Scala, seconded by Burgess Nicholas, to remove the maple tree on Wadawanuck Square across from 168 Water Street, was unanimously approved.
Tree Commissioner Barnes was asked to arrange removal with the tree service.
- **Consider purchase of new telephone system for Borough Fire House**
The existing system is a used system that is now over 30 years old. Repair parts are no longer available. Chief Hoadley stated that he cannot hear callers speak.
A motion by Warden Callahan, seconded by Burgess Park, to authorize Fire Commissioner Jeff Callahan to purchase through Frontier Communications a Mitel 5000 telephone system for the Borough fire house at a price not to exceed \$4,500, was unanimously approved.

OTHER BUSINESS: None.

ADJOURNMENT:

- On a motion by Burgess Scala, seconded by Burgess Adair, adjournment of the meeting at 8:53 pm, was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa M. Coleman, Clerk-Treasurer
November 28, 2016