

**Board of Warden and Burgesses  
Minutes of Monthly Meeting ~ October 17, 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 7:30 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 Burgess Scala, seconded by Burgess Park, the minutes from the regular Board meeting held on September 19, 2016 were unanimously approved.

On a motion by Burgess Scala, seconded by Burgess Barnes, the minutes from the Special Board Meeting held on September 29, 2016 were unanimously approved.

**ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT'S REPORT (PERRY):**

- Received September collections: \$7,136.07
- Processed quarterly reports
- Completed CIRMA payroll audit

**Correspondence:**

**Other:**

Superior Court: Citation to P&Z Commission related to fence approval

Fire Marshal: Report for September

DOCKO: copy of notice of application to DEEP for NESS to install floats

Richard Easton: email regarding sidewalk conditions at 43 Main Street

Mary Maranell: letter (and response from Warden Callahan) regarding trash & sidewalk issues

Tiffany Cook: email regarding interest in ZBA position

Craig Rowley: letter concerning granite crosswalks on Summit St and Bayview Ave.

**Request:**

Stonington Garden Club: Request for Gardens by the Sea Tour (June 2017)

SVIA: Request for Christmas Stroll (December 2)

**Meetings:**

- None

**CLERK-TREASURER'S REPORT (COLEMAN):**

- Meeting on a William Williams Fund request
- Received a new request tonight
- Initial contact with SOTS office on May 2017 Borough election

**REVIEW OF BILLS:**

- The 9/19/2016 through 10/14/2016 report was reviewed and is on file in the Borough Office. Bills for the period totaled \$77,346.69.

**REVIEW OF INCOME AND EXPENSES:**

- The July 01, 2016 through October 14, 2016 Income and Expenses Budget vs. Actual was reviewed and is on file in the Borough Office. Net income as of October 14, 2016 is \$622,201.47.

**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.
- Conducted search for new Borough zoning enforcement officer to replace Dave Atkinson, who stepped down at the end of September after 18 years of service. Selected Tom Zanarini, who started on October 4th. Tom is Town Planner in North Stonington.
- Began work on annual stormwater management report to DEEP.
- Held discussions with First Selectman regarding status of old stone wharf behind Stonington Commons.

**BOROUGH CLOCK:**

- Adjusted timer for lights.

**COMMISSIONER REPORTS:**

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

- There were 12 alarms in September 2016 they were as follows:

9-2-16	5:28 pm	Fire alarm activation 86 Collins Rd.
9-3-16	9:34 am	Fire alarm activation 3 Open way Lords Pt.
9-3-16	11:08 am	Possible structure fire 163 Water St.
9-5-16	7:50 pm	Tree branch burning on wires Collins & Bradford Rd.
9-6-16	11:58 am	Lift assist with SAC 9 Cliff St.
9-12-16	12:21 pm	Dumpster fire 242 Wamphassuc Pt. Rd.
9-12-16	6:10 pm	Vehicle leaking fluid IFO 9 Cliff St.
9-15-16	9:07 am	Mutual aid to 173 Montauk Ave. gas leak
9-16-16	10:03 am	Black smoke from chimney 37 Langworthy Ave. Lords Pt.
9-18-16	9:08 pm	Gas stove problem 9 Briar Patch Rd.
9-21-16	6:21 pm	MVA Water & Broad St.
9-24-16	12:17 pm	Medical assist with SAC 44 Main St.
- Fire Marshal's report from 09-02-2016 to 09-30-2016 (George Brennan)

9-2-16	117 Water Street-Plans for Coffee roasting business
9-6-16	2 Trumbull-gas inspection
9-8-16	36 Orchard Street-Gas piping inspection
9-12-16	Velvet Mill-Velvet Vine plan review for hood
9-16-16	Stonington Commons-Meeting regarding generator
9-20-16	Stonington Commons-Research on removing emergency lights
9-23-16	Coast Guard Investigative Services-Meeting regarding boat fire
9-26-16	Velvet Mill-Inspection of 3 new units off of Meadow Road
9-28-16	Velvet Mill-Meeting regarding progress on Velvet Vine
9-30-16	5 Trumbull-Gas piping inspection
- Jeff Hoadley continues fire marshal training.

**STREETS (BURGESS PARK):**

- The highway crew was busy with its usual duties such as brush pick up and lawn mowing, to this was added work on repairing the park benches. This included replacing wood planks and reprinting.
- A new sign was placed on Water and High Streets.

- A street name sign was placed on Cheesbro.  
A new trash basket was placed at the point.
- Wheel stops were removed from the point.
- Numerous cones and postings for paving and tree pruning.
- Drains were kept clear.
- Leaf pickup will start in earnest and potholes will be addressed this week.
- Hancock Street repair was a success with little disruption to the residents The drainage system was restored and this will solve the problem of sinkholes.
- Orchard Street was pulverized and graded, and two courses placed to rebuild the surface.
- Granite cross walk pavers were removed from Summit and Bayview and were installed as a crosswalk on Orchard Street at the intersection of Church Street.
- The cross walks were removed in anticipation for future work on Summit and Bayview after which granite pavers will be replaced.
- Received a quote from Hastedt Brothers for repaving of Bayview Avenue.

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

- Trees in Wad Square on High Street were pruned by Bartlett.
- Treatment of a ginkgo tree in front of the Pandolfi's house on Water Street was not successful, and the Pandolfi's have asked us to consider removal of the tree.

**PUBLIC BUILDINGS (BURGESS ADAIR):**

- O'Malley Fence Project: The O'Malley's have made their decisions on the style of fencing, the construction company, the costs and only need final approval from P&Z which they are obtaining. There will be no cost to the Borough, except for a new gate on the west side of Borough Hall. I will coordinate this with the builder.
- Current Status of the Fogged Windows in the Firehouse Doors:  
A majority of the vacuum sealed double glass windows in all four of Stonington's firehouse doors have broken seals and because of water seeping in and leaving a white residue, the panels look terrible. This condition has grown worse over the years. A year ago four estimates were requested and presented: 1. Overhead Door Co: \$31,048 2. United Glass and Mirror Co: \$10,320. 3. Ruby Glass Co: \$10,560 and 4. Mystic Mirror and Plate Glass Co.: \$10,740. All estimates were based on replacing all 96 panels in all four doors. Because those panels still were an effective barrier and only represented an unattractive eyesore, the decision was made to postpone the replacement. The problem has not gone away and more research was done. I made trips to three other local firehouses and had interviews with their personnel, Mystic, Wequetequock, and Pawcatuck. Pictures of each were shown. Not a single pane on any of the three firehouses had our problem and each had over 12 years of active use. When our doors were installed, there was an unfortunate situation that resulted in last minute changes of suppliers. Obviously, that supplier made an inferior product.

The research that must be done now must answer the following questions: 1. Who was that original supplier if he still exists? 2. Can a glass company effectively replace the 96 panes in the existing doors and will that be effective for an extended period? 3. Do the doors themselves need to be reworked (the horizontal panels and mechanical hardware? 4. Can we test glass replacement on one door as a trial and if so what is the cost and how could we make the change as cold weather sets in? 5. What are the costs of each alternative? It is a shame that a Philip Johnson design and an enthusiastic, responsible group of conscientious firemen have to live with this unsightly front of their house.

**SIDEWALKS (BURGESS SCALA):**

- Chasing sidewalks in the Borough. Waiting for prices.

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

- **Police Incident Report**

During the month of September 2016 there were 66 incidents in the police report for the Borough including 8 Suspicious Activities, 7 Medical Assists, 6 Assist Citizens, 6 Larcenies, 5 Burglar Alarms (all false), 5 Accidents including 1 Hit and Run and 1 Accident with an injury, 3 Parking Complaints, 3 Assist other Agency, and 3 Animal Control. There 2 Sudden Deaths, 2 Welfare checks, 2 Motor Vehicles Abandoned, 2 Business Checks, 2 Juvenile Incidents, 2 Suspicious Vehicles and 2 Fire related calls. There was one incident each of Motor Vehicle Stolen, Patrol Request, Loud Music, Keys in Vehicle, Order to Repose and One Harassment.

In total there were 3 Arrests this month:

- One for a Hit and Run
- One for suspicious activity
- One for Larceny

- **Website/Communications**

No report

**SANITATION/UTILITIES REPORT – (BURGESS VON RUFFER HILLS)**

- Have addressed various street light outages
- Will ensure redundant utility pole on Main Street will be removed now that new pole has been installed.
- Stonington Borough Merchants have been provided notification about SBO-07 which states that yellow bags must be placed in secured containers. The same will be done with Stonington Borough residents/tenants.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Approximately 20 residents were in attendance.

- **Crosswalk removal on Summit St. and Bayview Ave.**  
Carole Martin read aloud Craig Rowley’s letter dated October 10, 2016. (a copy of which is available at Borough Hall.)

Dana Lewicki presented a petition signed by approximately 157 residents. She stated that the east side of the Borough feels neglected.

Carole Martin asked why the Borough decided there needed to be a granite sidewalk on Orchard Street where there had not been one there before.

Don Maranell feels like East Borough is not being treated like the rest of the Borough. The only two granite sidewalks in the East Borough have been removed. He stated that this action is not consistent with the Borough Plan of Conservation and Development. Sidewalk Commissioner needs to take a walk through the East Borough. Wants granite curbs put on Bayview when it is repaved.

Joan Rowley remarked that Borough East residents were not consulted and should have been regarding an important part of the history. She thinks the stones should have not been removed. They should have been resealed instead. She requested this item be left on the Borough Warden and Burgesses agenda until it is resolved.

Ray Lewicki asked when the potholes on Bayview will be repaired. (The Borough Street Department patched potholes throughout the Borough two days later.)

Craig Rowley read aloud his letter dated October 4, 2016 that accompanied the petition.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- **Discuss possible transfer of 17 Temple Street parcel**  
Jeff Callahan met with Henri Gourd. An appraisal of the 17 Temple Street parcel has been received. He will meet with the Borough attorney tomorrow.  
**Dog Park:** Discussed under Warden's report

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- **Consider requests to use Borough property**  
A motion by Burgess Park, seconded by Burgess Nicholas, to approve the application made by Stonington Garden Club to use Wadawanuck Square and parking areas at the Point and town docks on June 9-10, 2017 from 10 am – 4 pm for the triannual Gardens by the Sea Tour, was unanimously approved.  
  
A motion by Burgess Barnes, seconded by Burgess Nicholas, to approve the application made by Stonington Village Improvement Association to use Wadawanuck Square, Water Street, and Main Street from 5:15 to 8:15 on December 2, 2016, for the annual Holiday Tree Lighting and Stroll, was unanimously approved, pending receipt of insurance documents.
- **Consider removal of gingko tree at 168 Main St.**  
Action on the gingko tree was tabled when resident Richard Easton pointed out that the removal was not supported by the tree commissioner, which is not consistent with Borough tree policy. The tree commissioner stated that maple tree on Wadawanuck Square on Water Street needs to be posted for removal.
- **Crosswalks.**  
Warden Callahan reiterated his statement that the granite crosswalk on Summit Street will be reinstalled after Aquarion Water completes its water main project on Summit. If Aquarion's project is unreasonably delayed, the crosswalk will be reinstalled sooner. He also pointed out that the Borough is planning to repave Bayview Street next year and will coordinate with residents regarding installing granite crosswalk as part of the paving project.
- **Discuss hiring a consultant to assist in preparation of new storm water management plan as mandated by DEEP.**  
Under federal EPA, states are required to issue regulations controlling discharge of storm water. Connecticut has issued a new general permit that takes effect in July 2017. Warden Callahan has been talking with the Town of Stonington engineer about having a joint storm water management plan and sharing the cost of engaging a consultant who can assist in developing a new stormwater management plan.. The new plan must be submitted to the state by April 1, 2017.
- **Consider appointment of Tiffany Cook as alternate on ZBA**  
A motion by Burgess Scala, seconded by Burgess Park, to appoint Tiffany Cook as an alternate on ZBA with her term ending December 2019, was unanimously approved.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

- Firehouse window replacement discussion. See Commissioner Adair report.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

- On a motion by Burgess Scala, seconded by Burgess Park, adjournment of the meeting at 9:30 pm, was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa M. Coleman, Clerk-Treasurer  
October 22, 2016