



**BOROUGH OF STONINGTON  
226TH ANNUAL MEETING  
April 25, 2026**

**AGENDA**

Item 1. Call to Order

Item 2. Opening remarks and election of moderator (V)

Item 3. Approve Minutes of 2025 Annual Meeting. (V)

Item 4. Warden's Report (V)

Item 5. Public Comment

Item 6. Budget Presentation, Discussion, and Vote. (V)

Item 7. Capital Improvement Plan. (V)

Item 8. Report of the Waldron-Williams Fund. Elect trustees. (V)

Item 9. Other Business.

Item 10. Adjourn

**Borough of Stonington  
Board of Warden and Burgesses  
Annual Meeting – April 26, 2025  
MEETING MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Warden Michael Schefers called the 225<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Borough of Stonington Board of Warden and Burgesses to order at 10:00 a.m. The meeting was held at Borough Hall. Present in Borough Hall in addition to Warden Schefers were Burgesses Amy Nicholas, Kevin Rogers, and Kevin Bowdler; and Clerk-Treasurer Lisa Coleman. Burgess Amanda Barnes was absent. Seventeen residents were in attendance.

**ELECT MODERATOR**

On a motion by Burgess Nicholas, seconded by Burgess Rogers, the election of Kathryn Burchenal as the moderator for the annual meeting, was unanimously approved.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

On a motion by Janet McClendon, seconded by Warden Schefers, to approve the minutes of the April 27, 2024, Annual meeting, was unanimously approved.

**WARDEN'S REPORT**

BOROUGH OF STONINGTON  
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE WARDEN

APRIL 26, 2025

**OPENING REMARKS –**

Welcome to the two hundred and twenty-fifth annual meeting of the Borough of Stonington.

It is important to remind you about the Borough website...stoningtonboroughct.gov. Our Business Manager, Ann Fiore, keeps it up to date. I encourage you all to use it. We are currently working to enhance our ability to notify residents of important information and events utilizing Constant Contact and request that you provide your info on the website to sign up directly.

**ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATORY ACTIVITY—**

The Borough passed this year's Elevation Certificate Review under the FEMA's Community Rating System and thereby preserved the 10 percent discount our residents receive on flood insurance policies. In May we will have a Compliance Audit conducted by FEMA and I anticipate no issues or concerns. Participation in the CRS program is

voluntary, over half of the Borough is within the 100-year flood zone and about 35% of the Borough's homes and structures carry flood insurance. We successfully completed our financial audit for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024. The Borough's net position—or net worth -- was \$4,755,146 an increase of \$249,957 over the previous year. We currently have approximately \$500,000.00 in reserves.

#### AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) –

All ARPA related funds have been expended including those utilized in the completion of our new Public Restrooms here at Borough Hall.

#### FIRE DEPARTMENT –

The volunteers of the Borough Fire Department continue to keep our residents and those of surrounding communities safe. In 2024 the Borough fire department responded to 117 alarms, a decrease of 16 from 2023. Many of the calls are due to medical assists, which means supporting the Stonington Ambulance Corps when necessary.

We are currently working with the three outside fire districts where we provide Fire Protection Services to implement new service agreements. The current ones expire on June 30th. The new proposed agreements are based on actual audited Fire Department expenses incurred in the 2023-2024 and will be in effect for 5 years, with an option to extend 5 more.

#### ZONING –

Given the concerns expressed about Planning and Zoning Board approvals of the 11 Water Street property project and other constituent concerns, and in discussions with our Borough Attorneys and P&Z Chairman we have conducted a limited review of our P&Z regulations and administrative procedures. Recommendations have been made by an Independent Consultant to the Board.

#### INFRASTRUCTURE –

Streets and Sidewalks – During the last twelve months Water Street has been repaired/patched in numerous places, Cliff Street was repaved from Temple to High, and 3 aspects of Cannon Square have been paved. Where historical granite crosswalks are discovered under

existing paving, we are revealing them. We have completed sidewalk repairs and added new handicapped accesses across from the Post Office and St. Mary's, at Wadawanuck Square, and in front of Borough Hall. Additionally, we have initiated sidewalk repairs and leveling from Broad Street to High Street.

Footbridge and Viaduct Bridge - CLA Engineering has prepared a detailed scope of work and preliminary design to address maintenance needs and rehabilitation of the existing structure. We worked with the CT DOT to add handicap ramps and requested that work be included as part of the viaduct project, which is due to removal of sidewalks for public safety during new construction (allowing for 2 lanes of vehicular traffic during an emergency). We will know in June if it will be a part of the Viaduct project. The Public Comment Meeting is now scheduled for

Storm Water Management –

We continue to work with the Town, DEEP and CT

Emergency Management on Borough flood mitigation and resilience issues.

Public Restrooms - A long-standing deficiency in the Borough has been the lack of public restrooms. Last year we contracted with Julia Leeming and Yankee Remodeling to accomplish that work.

Cannon Square – The one cannon has been refurbished and painted, however more restoration repairs have to be made.

RECOGNITION –

I have been blessed to have an engaged and hardworking Burgess team. I want to recognize my colleagues on the Board, Senior Burgess Amy Nicholas our Public Safety Commissioner, Amanda Barnes our Trees, Parks and Rights of Ways Commissioner, Kevin Rogers our Buildings Commissioner and Kevin Bowdler, our Utilities and Sanitation Commissioner and clerk-treasurer and tax assessor Lisa Coleman for all their service to the community. All have contributed in special ways. addressing Public Safety issues with the Stonington

Police Department, overseeing the design and construction of the Public Restrooms, Park and Tree maintenance, working with the Town on our trash collection issues and drafting needed revisions to existing ordinances.

I would like us to recognize our fellow citizens who serve our Borough on the following boards. Planning & Zoning, chaired by Chris Errechetti; the Zoning Board of Appeals, chaired by Alan Vaskas; and the five Borough members of the Harbor Management Commission, a joint commission with the Town.

Also, Chief Hoadley, Deputy Hersch and our magnificent volunteer fire fighters, who respond not only to fires but also to ambulance assistance calls, floods, motor vehicle accidents, and other emergency events.

Our paid staff includes the office Business Manager Ann Fiore; part-time zoning enforcement officer Tom Zanarini, Fire Chief and Marshal Jeff Hoadley. Our Highway Foreman Sue Cordeiro and Emerson MacDonald, who keep the streets clear and clean, as well as maintaining our roads, rights of ways, public squares, parks, parking lots, and responding to storm debris, clogged storm drains, and other situations of all sorts.

Sue is now in her 43rd year of service to the Borough.

Jeff Hoadley (who is not with us due to a previous commitment) has been a member of the fire department for 51 years and our Chief for 34.

A thanks as well to Borough Attorneys Nick Kepple and Rob Avena who continue to provide wise counsel on a range of legal matters.

Let us give them a round of applause

On a somber note, I ask you to remember those members of the community that are no longer with us, friends who gave in all their various ways to make the Borough a better place for us all.

WALDRON-WILLIAMS FUND –

The Fund has three trustees, one of whom is appointed by the Board of Warden & Burgesses. The other two will be nominated later in this meeting. Their report will follow as well.

**IN CONCLUSION -**

We live in a very special place this Borough. We are blessed with a wonderful community with a deep feeling for our history and culture. As Jeff said last year "there is a level of civility and reason here that sadly is lacking in much of America today. I attribute those qualities to the type of people who live here, some of whose families have been here for generations, others who recently moved to the Borough because of its special qualities."

Amen!

Any questions????

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Resident Janet Vaskas 102 Water Street question about recycling being only every two weeks. It is due to costs.

**BUDGET PRESENTATION, DISCUSSION AND VOTE (requested from Michael)**

The Burgesses have met over this budget and the report is in the meeting package. I'm just going to give some highlights here.

**INCOME:**

Line 1: Town of Stonington increase by \$150,000 to \$439,933.00

Line 21: Stonington Fire District reduce by 5% to \$69,604

Line 22: Wamphassuc Fire District reduce by 5% to \$29,106

Line 23: Lord's Point Fire District reduce by 5% to \$27,842

TOTAL REVENUE: \$1,614,676.

THE NET ASSESSMENT IS \$452,445,110

**EXPENSES:**

Line 612: Stormwater Management increased to \$40,000

Line 802: Tree Maintenance increased to \$25,000

Line 2100: Police Public Safety increase to \$10,000

TOTAL EXPENSES: \$1,614,676

**ALLOCATIONS BY SPECIAL FUND:**

Infrastructure Reserve: \$210,000

Truck Fund: \$10,000

Building Fund: \$77,000

Fire Dept. Major Equipment: \$30,000

MIL RATE: 0.0021643

A motion by Annabelle McClennahan, seconded by Jesse Diggs to approve the FY 2024-25 budget, was unanimously approved.

**CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM**

FY 25-26 Pave Broad Street, Main Street to Northwest, and Diving (\$130,000)

Continue Borough Tree-related Slate and Asphalt Sidewalk Repairs (\$50,000)

Complete Wayland's Wharf Repairs (\$30,000)

FY 26-27. Pave Northwest Street from High to Cross (\$80,000)

Continue Borough Tree-related Slate and Asphalt Sidewalk Repairs (\$50,000)

Elm Street Bridge Repairs (matching grant funds) (TBD)

Omega Street Dead-end repairs (matching grant funds) (TBD)

FY27-28. Pave Front Street, North from Broad Street to the cul de sac (\$60,000)

Continue Borough Tree-related Slate and Asphalt Sidewalk Repairs

FY 28-29 TBD due to Bridge Replacement

Previously Water Street Dodson Boatyard to Alpha

A motion by Warden Schefers, seconded by Anne Fix, to approve the proposed capital improvement program as amended to read Pearl St. rather than Broad St under FY 25-26, was unanimously approved.

**REPORT OF THE WALDRON-WILLIAMS FUND, ELECT TRUSTEES**

The Waldron - Williams Fund, Inc. Annual Report

Fiscal Year (FY) April 1, 2024, to March 31, 2025

April 2025

Our history:

The Fund was established by a local Judge of Probate and the State of Connecticut, approving the merger of two previous Borough charitable trust funds, in August 2021. The Fund received final IRS approval of 501c3 status in April of 2022.

Our financials:

End of the FY 2023/2024 total assets: \$203,680.51

This report covers operations and finances for FY 2024/2025:

Safe Deposit, USPS Mailbox, State and Bank Fees totaled \$453.00

Fund donations totaled \$200.00

Fund grants totaled \$9,087.39 (assisting 4 Families and 2 Individuals)

Big Y is now extending the fund a 5% Discount on all Food Cards given

End of the FY 2024/2025 total assets were: \$200,529.22

This included:

Cash on hand at Dime Bank \$9,321.11

22 Month Dime Bank CD \$26,264.57

Money Market at Charles Schwab \$164,943.54

Respectfully submitted:

Michael E. Schefers, Treasurer

Penny Duckham, Chair

Amy Nicholas, Secretary

A motion by Betsy Carr, seconded by Janet McClendon to nominate and approve Penny Duckham and Michael Schefers as Trustees of the Waldron-Williams Fund, was unanimously approved.

Penny Duckham encouraged the residents in attendance to encourage those in need to apply for assistance. Forms are available in Borough Hall and on line.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

May 5<sup>th</sup> is our election.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

On a motion by Warden Schefers, seconded by Burgess Rogers adjournment of the meeting at 11:00 a.m. was unanimously approved.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa M. Coleman

March 22, 2026







<b>53000 Street Department</b>	<b>\$ 305,755.00</b>	<b>\$ 323,404.00</b>	<b>\$ 405,977.00</b>	<b>\$ (82,573.00)</b>
53100 Parks, Trees & ROWs Expenses	\$ 27,000.00	\$ 44,000.00	\$ 14,168.00	\$ 29,832.00
53101 Park Utilities	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 622.00	\$ 378.00
53102 Tree Maintenance	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 7,692.00	\$ 17,308.00
53103 Park Maintenance	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 9,000.00	\$ 1,455.00	\$ 7,545.00
53104 Signs & Surveys	\$ 500.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00
53105 Sanitation/ Mutt Mitts	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 4,399.00	\$ 3,601.00
<b>53200 Street Dept. Personnel Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 1,000.00</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 1,000.00</b>	<b>\$ (1,000.00)</b>
53201 Medical	Future \$	- \$	- \$	-
53202 Training	Future \$	- \$	- \$	-
53203 Clothing Allowance	\$ 1,000.00	-	\$ 1,000.00	\$ (1,000.00)
<b>53300 Street Dept. Operating Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 78,500.00</b>	<b>\$ 97,500.00</b>	<b>\$ 235,258.00</b>	<b>\$ (137,758.00)</b>
53301 Vehicle Fuel	\$ 5,000.00	-	\$ 3,010.00	\$ (3,010.00)
53302 Truck & Equipment Maintenance	\$ 2,500.00	-	\$ 4,958.00	\$ (4,958.00)
53303 New Tools & Equipment	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 6,217.00	\$ 1,283.00
53304 Supplies	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 5,007.00	\$ 4,993.00
53305 Street Repairs	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 1,773.00	\$ 3,227.00
53306 Sidewalk Repairs	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 8,773.00	\$ 6,227.00
53307 Snow Removal	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 192,985.00	\$ (172,985.00)
53308 Stormwater Management	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 12,535.00	\$ 27,465.00
53309 Street Signs	\$ 1,000.00	-	-	-
<b>53400 Street Department Salaries &amp; Wages</b>	<b>\$ 199,255.00</b>	<b>\$ 181,904.00</b>	<b>\$ 155,551.00</b>	<b>\$ 26,353.00</b>
53401 Foreman	\$ 97,323.00	-	-	-
53402 Truck Driver/ Laborer	\$ 64,932.00	-	-	-
53403 Overtime	\$ 12,500.00	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 1,238.00	\$ 13,762.00
53404 Summer/ Temporary Laborer	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 4,153.00	\$ 847.00
53405 Deferred Compensation <b>MATCH</b>	\$ 13,000.00	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 8,650.00	\$ (4,150.00)
53407 Street Commissioner	\$ 6,500.00	\$ 6,500.00	\$ 4,875.00	\$ 1,625.00
Labor - Regular	N/A	\$ 150,904.00	\$ 136,635.00	\$ 14,269.00
<b>1501 Deposits to Funds</b>	<b>\$ 200,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 327,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 327,000.00</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>\$ 1,532,931.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,577,980.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,397,031.00</b>	<b>\$ 180,949.00</b>
<b>OTHER FUNDS</b>	<b>Proposed</b>	<b>Rollover amount</b>		
1501 Infrastructure Fund	\$ 130,000.00	\$ 45,924.37		
1502 Building Fund	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 32,899.27		
1503 Truck Fund	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 14,837.60		
1504 Fire Dept. Major Equipment Fund	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 38,316.34		
	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 131,977.58	\$ -	\$ -
<b>MILL RATE</b>	<b>Proposed</b>	<b>Current</b>		
	2.4889	2.1643		
<b>EXAMPLE: \$500,000.00 Assessment</b>	\$1,244.00	\$1,082.00		
		Difference of \$162.00		

## PROPOSED

### 3 YEAR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN: 2026-2029

#### FY 26-27:

- Pave Ash Street (\$27,000)
- Pave and Recurb Northwest Street High to Cross (\$85,000)
- Continue Borough Tree-related Slate and Asphalt Sidewalk Repairs (\$8,000.00)

#### FY 27-28:

- Pave Front Street North from Broad Street (\$65,000)
- Pave Chesebro Pentway (\$16,000)
- Pave Union Street (\$23,000)
- Continue Borough Tree-related Slate and Asphalt Sidewalk Repairs (\$10,000)

#### FY 28-29:

- TBD due to Bridge Replacement
- Previously Water Street Dodson Boatyard to Alpha
- Elm from Cutler to Bayview (\$112,000)

#### FY 29-30:

- Ongoing Assessment of Needs and Priority

The Waldron - Williams Fund, Inc. Annual Report

Fiscal Year (FY) April 1, 2025 to March 31, 2026

April 2026

Our history:

The Fund was established by a local Judge of Probate and the State of Connecticut, approving the merger of two previous Borough charitable trust funds, in August 2021. The Fund received final IRS approval of 501c3 status in April of 2022.

Our financials:

End of the FY 2024/2025 total assets: \$203,680.51

This report covers operations and finances for FY 2025/2026:

Overhead Costs totaled \$279.00

Fund donations totaled 200.00

Fund grants totaled \$7128.53 (assisting 2 Families and 1 Individual)

End of the FY 2024/2025 total assets were: \$200,731.27 (net positive \$202.05)

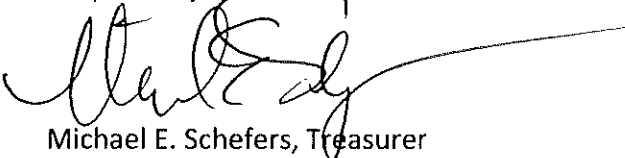
This included:

Cash on hand at Dime Bank \$2,017.38

22 Month Dime Bank CD \$27,377.68 (12/11/2026 Maturity)

Money Market at Charles Schwab \$171,336.21

Respectfully submitted,



Michael E. Schefers, Treasurer

Penny Duckham, Chair

Amy Nicholas, Secretary