

**Board of Warden and Burgesses
Minutes of Monthly Meeting ~ April 17, 2017**

Warden Jeffrey Callahan called the monthly meeting of the Borough of Stonington Board of Warden and Burgesses to order in Borough Hall at 7:30 pm. Present were Burgesses Howard Park, Karen von Ruffer Hills, Robert Scala, Michael Adair, Amy Nicholas, and Amanda Barnes; and Clerk-Treasurer Lisa Coleman.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion by Burgess Scala, seconded by Burgess Park, the minutes from the regular monthly meeting held on March 20, 2017; the minutes of the Budget Public Hearing held on March 20, 2017; and the minutes from the Ledge Light joint special meeting with Town of Stonington Selectmen and Borough Warden and Burgesses held on March 27, 2017, were unanimously approved.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT'S REPORT (PERRY):

- Received March collections: \$1,681.38
- Received telephone property tax: \$853.19

CORRESPONDENCE:

Other:

- Copy of letter from State of CT re Ledge Light Health District

Request:

- Banners: Stonington Garden Club & Stonington Sounds Summer Music Festival
- Use of Property/Streets: Lady of Fatima; Stonington Village Fun Runs & Battle of Stonington 5K; Blessing of Fleet 5K

Meetings:

- None

CLERK-TREASURER'S REPORT (COLEMAN):

Reminder that the Borough elections will be held from 6 am to 8 pm on May 1, 2017 at the Borough Fire House. Absentee ballots are available until April 28. Deadlines have been met, ballots have been printed, the voting machine will be tested on April 24. There was one request to the Williams Fund.

REVIEW OF BILLS:

- The 3/20/2017 through 4/13/2017 report was reviewed and is on file in the Borough Office. Bills for the period totaled \$30,646.50.

REVIEW OF INCOME AND EXPENSES:

- The July 01, 2016 through April 13, 2017 Income and Expenses - Budget vs. Actual was reviewed and is on file in the Borough Office. Net income as of March 16, 2017, is \$284,174.64.

WARDEN'S REPORT:

- Dog Park: Settlement discussions continue
- Attended Town's CRS certification review in Town Hall.
- Attended meetings in Town Hall concerning restoration of old stone breakwater/wharf. Contributed to writing of proposal to CT Port Authority for funding for engineering design.
- Finalized draft FY17-18 budget and five-year capital improvement program.
- Attended Climate Change Task Force meeting and Resiliency Plan review.

- Met with consulting engineers to finalize draft stormwater management plan. Plan is posted on Borough website and has been submitted to DEEP.
- Met with Ledge Light Health District director regarding the possibility of the Town and Borough joining the district.

FIRE COMMISSIONER REPORT –

- SBFD March calls: 10
- Chief Hoadley successfully completed fire marshal training.

BOROUGH CLOCK – None

**COMMISSIONER REPORTS:
STREETS (BURGESS PARK):**

- The usual weekly trash and 3 loads of brush were typical for this time of the year.
- There was a large piece of asphalt on Cross Street, and various other bits of debris that need cleaning up.
- Replaced missing boards Wayland's Wharf and this was done several times. The extreme high tide pushed up against them. The fastenings have rusted and will have to be refastened alongside the older ones.
- There was a large limb down in Wadawanuck square which the crew cut up and removed along with various other dead fall and they also picked up branches LaGrua park. There was a large branch (half a tree) which fell on the East side of Wimpfheimer Park. This was cut up and cleaned up.
- Several years ago, we placed screens on the drains of the foot bridge in an attempt to keep debris out of the downspouts which have a fairly sever angle to them, where the slightest amount of twigs and leaves obstruct drainage. This in turn will freeze in the winter and flood in warmer conditions they must be removable so the crew checked and re-glued covers on drains this month
- The crew replaced “2 hr. parking” sign and post, on Water Street. This was put back into its existing hole in the pavement
- The “one way” sign on Trumbull Street need a new bolt and the twisted sign “East Grand Street” was straightened out. The crew also repaired the “Water Street” sign at the base of the viaduct
- Sweeper has arrived and we will be able to start cleaning up the streets as soon as the weather permits
- I met with Hastead Brothers Paving and will have them repair Cross Street and cut and patch the north end of Front Street. I plan to have Sullivan Paving do the Granite crosswalks on Summit Street and the head of Bayview Avenue

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

- There were 10 alarms in March 2017 they were as follows:

3-1-17 12:17 pm	Fire Alarm Activation 25 Orchard St.
3-5-17 2:41 pm	mutual aid to Weq. FD Structure Fire Farmholme Rd.
3-13-17 1:36 am	Box 15 American Velvet
3-14-17 1:32 pm	Wires down IFO 9 Omega St.
3-15-17 12:36 pm	Water emergency 87 Water St.
3-16-17 8:37 am	Fire Alarm Activation Town Highway garage
3-22-17 9:29 am	Box 15 American Velvet
3-24-17 7:16pm	Wires arcing IFO 17 Water St.
3-28-17 4:51pm	Box 15 American Velvet
3-29-17 9:42am	Fire Alarm Activation 194 Water St. Dodson Boat Yard

- Chief Hoadley got the water company, the sprinkler company and Velvet Mill management together to discuss the alarm calls to the Velvet Mill. The problem is from within the Mill, not from outside. The problem is being worked on.
- Resident Richard Easton suggests that we also impose fees to the Velvet Mill.
- After the annual meeting and the election, the board will bring up the issue of contacting the Mill manager again.
- Resident Carol Martin inquired into the Main Street alarms. Chief Hoadley will begin with checking at Richard Easton's house. By the next meeting Chief Hoadley will have completed this task.

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

- We are awaiting a written report from Bartlett on the trees in front of 25 Main St.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS (BURGESS ADAIR):

- **Firehouse Door Problems**

We have received one Recommendation and Estimate from Overhead Door Company. On April 4 Jeffrey Callahan. Chief Jeffrey Hoadley and I met with Scott Browning, the President of Parma Doors of Smithfield, Rhode Island and discussed alternative possible solutions. He delivered his recommended alternatives and estimates on April 11. On April 18 Tuesday, we are meeting at our firehouse with Bob Smith in Sales of Overhead Door Co. We have received an estimate earlier from Joe Corron their head estimator. We then will have to decide on our course of action in terms of both construction methodology, materials, cost and timing relative to budget availability.

SIDEWALKS (BURGESS SCALA):

- Warden Callahan asked Burgess Scala to look at the sidewalk on Wall Street between Main and Water.

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

- **Police Incident Report**

During the month of March 2017 there were 54 incidents in the police report for the Borough including 7 Burglar Alarms (all false), 5 Parking/Motor Vehicle Complaints, 5 Fire Related Calls, 5 Medical Assists, 3 Motor Vehicle Infractions, 3 Alarms not Registered, 3 Suspicious Activity, 2 Assist Citizens, 2 911 Misdialed, 2 Business Checks and 2 Disturbances. There were one incident each of DUI, Welfare Check, Traffic Enforcement, Identity Theft, Disabled Motor Vehicle, Found Item, Harassment, Water Emergency, Minor Traffic Service, Alarm Panic, Keys in Vehicle, Escort, Larceny, Order to Repossess and One Accident which was a Hit and Run.

There was an arrest related to the DUI.

Website/Communications: No report

SANITATION/UTILITIES REPORT – (BURGESS VON RUFFER HILLS)

- Delivered letters to residents in Borough who are not complying with Ordinance SBO-07 - reminding them that their yellow bags must be in secured/sealed containers if left out the day prior to collection.
- Advised Eversource of various streetlight outages.
- Attended Ledge Light Health District Public Meeting presentation to Town of Stonington.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Resident Richard Easton noticed we have an amendment to an existing ordinance on the agenda. Requested that we publish the proposed change along with the ordinance on the agenda so the public will have advanced notice.
- Resident Mardi Mitchell also expressed that she would have liked advanced notice to read the changes to the Tree policy.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Dog park update**
None

- **Review program for annual meeting**

The annual meeting will be held at 10 am on Saturday, April 22 in Borough Hall. The format will be the same as past years. The warden will give his annual report, there will be a vote on the budget for FY-17/18 and consider the capital improvement program, and reports on Williams and Waldron Funds.

- **Consider joining Ledge Light Health District (LLHD) along with Town**

Stonington First Selectman Simmons reported on the joint meeting with the Warden and Burgesses. Dr. Blefeld and Karen Weiss are retiring, and to replace them would cost approximately \$50,000 more, due to new state qualifications, than joining Ledge Light. Bids were solicited from three local health districts, one of which was Ledge Light Health District. He encouraged the Warden and Burgesses to replicate the decision the Town made and join Ledge Light Health District.

A motion by Warden Callahan, seconded by Burgess Park, to join Ledge Light Health District along with the Town of Stonington, passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Consider requests to use Borough property:**

On a motion by Burgess Park, seconded by Burgess Barnes, the request by St. Mary Church/OLOFS to use Borough Streets on Sat. June 3, 2017 from 8:30 to 9:30 pm and on Sunday, June 4, 2017 from 11:30 am to 12:30 pm for Our Lady of Fatima Feast, was unanimously approved.

On a motion by Burgess Park, seconded by Burgess Barnes, the requests by Stephen Bessette to use Borough Streets on Tuesdays from June 20 through August 22 (no Fun Run on July 4, 2017) from 6:00 to 6:45 pm for weekly Fun Runs and to use Wadawanuck Square on Tuesday August 22 for the Battle of Stonington 5K Run, contingent on receiving certification of insurance, were unanimously approved.

On a motion by Burgess Park, seconded by Burgess Barnes, the request by Blessing 5K Race Committee to use Borough Streets on July 27, 2017 from 4 to 8 pm, for the 3rd annual Blessing of the Fleet 5K Road Race, contingent on receiving certification of insurance, was unanimously approved.

- **Consider appointment of new Borough Fire Marshal, Jeff Hoadley**

A motion by Burgess Scala, seconded by Warden Callahan, to appoint Jeffrey Hoadley as the new Borough Fire Marshal effective May 1, 2017, was unanimously approved.

- **Consider revision to SBO-09 (Dogs)**

Warden Callahan stated that he is proposing adding the Town-owned dock and STEP parcels to the parts of the Borough where dogs must be on-leash. Several residents pointed out that there had not been much notice of the proposed change. Warden Callahan suggested tabling the item, and the board agreed.

- **Appoint representative to LLHD Board**

A motion by Warden Callahan, seconded by Burgess Barnes, to appoint Burgess von Ruffer Hills as the Borough's representative to LLHD Board, was unanimously approved.

- **Consider appointing auditor for FY ending June 30, 2017**

A motion by Warden Callahan, seconded by Burgess Adair, to appoint PKF O'Connor Davies as the auditor for FY ending June 30, 2017, was unanimously approved.

OTHER BUSINESS:

- Election day is Monday May 1
- Wednesday, April 19, there is a meet the candidates forum at LaGrua Center

ADJOURNMENT:

- On a motion by Burgess Scala, seconded by Warden Callahan, adjournment of the meeting at 8:52 pm, was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa M. Coleman, Clerk-Treasurer
April 25, 2017