

**Borough of Stonington
Board of Warden and Burgesses
Regular Monthly Meeting
November 14, 2022
MINUTES**

Warden Jeffrey Callahan called the monthly meeting of the Borough of Stonington Board of Warden and Burgesses to order at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was held in Borough Hall. Present in Borough Hall in addition to Warden Callahan were Burgesses Amy Nicholas, Kevin Rogers, Shaun Mastroianni and Amanda Barnes; and Clerk-Treasurer Lisa Coleman.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

On a motion by Burgess Mastroianni, seconded by Burgess Nicholas, the minutes of the regular meeting of October 17, 2022, were unanimously approved.

PRESENTATION FOR FY 2022 FINANCIAL REPORT

Joseph Centofanti of PKF O'Connor Davies, LLP presented the annual financial report for the fiscal year ending 30 June 2022. Mr. Centofanti noted that it is a "clean" audit. Long term debt (fire truck leases/purchase) was reduced to \$225,000 and the unassigned fund balance (rainy day fund) increased to \$491,000. The audited financial statements of the Borough of Stonington, CT are available at Borough Hall and on the State website.

CORRESPONDENCE

- a. Child and Family Agency, request to hold a fun run/walk on May 6, 2023.
- b. Joe Williams, applying for position on ZBA.
- c. Matthew Ferrier, request to hold Cub Scout food drive on Wad Square.
- d. Carl Peterson, applying for position on ZBA.

REVIEW OF BILLS/YTD FINANCIAL REPORT

Bills for the period October 16, 2022 through November 11, 2022 totaled \$72,132.61. Large bills of note were for the annual audit, contribution to Stonington ambulance and ARPA payment to NESS. Revenue for the current fiscal year is about \$17,000 ahead of budget. Net income for the current fiscal year through November 11, 2022 is \$672,629.71.

WARDEN'S REPORT

1. Picked up Borough ordinance violation notification forms.
2. Met with Borough attorney re: cannabis ordinance and other matters.
3. FY-22 audit process complete, Annual Financial Report received and available for public viewing.
4. Local Covid statistics: New London County cumulative deaths now total 730. State and county positivity rate steady at 6-7%.
5. Responded to FOIA request.
6. Attended quarterly SCWA Representative Advisory Board meeting.
7. Sue mentioned that the wheels on the eastern cannon are in bad shape. Brian Cooper has been contacted.

BOROUGH CLOCK – Adjusted clock and lights for standard time.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Streets & Sidewalks (Callahan)

1. Conducted monthly brush pickup
2. Watered new trees.
3. Completed Denison paving project.
4. Started fall leaf collection.
5. Checked Harbor Edge outfall.
6. Borough catch basins cleaned in compliance with State MS4 guidelines.

Fire & Emergency Management (Nicholas/Hoadley)

SBFD responded to 11 Alarms (6 of which were in the Borough) in October 2022, they were as follows:

- 1) 10-1-22 12:43pm Smoke detector activation 9 Bradley St. (detector got wet)
- 2) 10-2-22 10:22am Wires down power out IFO 3 Briar Patch Rd.(tree down)
- 3) 10-3-22 2:47pm MV into guard rail Rt. 1 @ Elm St. (no injuries)
- 4) 10-5-22 7:43am Tree & wires down IFO 193 Flanders Rd. (road blocked, power out, EVERSOURCE enroute)
- 5) 10-5-22 1:40pm Structure Fire 193 Flanders Rd. (when EVERSOURCE turned power back on house started filling with smoke, most appliances burned up when tree came down across wires earlier in day, turned power off & waited for electrician)
- 6) 10-14-22 7:59am CO detector activation 19 East Grand St. (dirty detector)
- 7) 10-19-22 7:19am Wires down IFO 55 Lindberg Rd., Lord's Pt. (truck hit wire ?)
- 8) 10-21-22 8:36pm Motorcycle v Car, @ Broad & Water St. (1 injury to hospital)
- 9) 10-24-22 9:33am Fire Alarm Activation 107 Water St. (accidental)
- 10) 10-26-22 7:44am Wires down IFO 20 School St. (cable tv, Comcast enroute)
- 11) 10-31-22 5:21pm Medical assist With MRA 28 Watch Hill Ave. (lift assist)

No police report received in time for the meeting.

Parks, Trees & Rights of Way (Barnes)

The new owner of 4 Broad was given permission to trim a public zelkova tree, and instead of trimming the tree it was topped, which could kill the tree. The owner has been advised that this is unacceptable. The pre-topped value of the tree will be determined by arborist Brad Painter. Mr. Morris is interested in planting more trees. The tree in front of 88 Water Street has branches intertwining with power lines. The tree is going to be removed by Eversource.

Public Buildings (Mastroianni) – No report

Utilities & Sanitation (Rogers)

Ten letters concerning trash being put out in yellow bags overnight were mailed out. Burgess Rogers expressed concern about trees that are involved with power lines. Warden Callahan suggests that we have a Strategic Tree Plan, rather than piecemeal actions, and is aware this could be a rather expensive undertaking. Burgess Rogers brought up the issue of speed humps. Burgess Nicholas will approach the new police chief in the Spring. Burgess Nicholas will take the speed sign to police department to have it activated. There is no update on the electric vehicle charging station.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Discuss memorial plaques, trees, etc.

Remove from agenda

Consider cannabis retail ordinance

A motion by Warden Callahan, seconded by Burgess Nicholas, to approve SBO-28, Cannabis Retail Ordinance, passed unanimously.

Consider appointing hearing officer under SBO-27

Warden Callahan continues to search for a candidate. Item tabled.

NEW BUSINESS

Consider requests to use Borough property

A motion by Burgess Rogers, seconded by Burgess Nicholas, to approve the request by Matthew Ferrier for Cub Scout Pack 37 to use Wadawanuck Square for a food drive on November 19, 2022 from 9:00 a.m. to noon, was unanimously approved.

The request from Child and Family Agency was tabled until certain aspects are clarified.

Consider appointments to Borough P&ZC and ZBA

A motion by Warden Callahan, seconded by Burgess Rogers, to reappoint Kevin Bowdler, Jean Fiore, Sandra Murray, and Betsy Carr to three year terms ending December 31, 2025 on Borough Planning and Zoning Commission passed unanimously.

A motion by Warden Callahan, seconded by Burgess Nicholas, to reappoint Richard Larkin to ZBA for a three year term ending December 31, 2025 and Rowland Stebbins to a one year term ending December 31, 2023; and appoint new alternate members Joseph Williams and Carl Peterson to three year terms ending December 31, 2025, all on Borough Zoning Board of Appeals, was unanimously approved.

OTHER BUSINESS - None

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Burgess Nicholas, seconded by Burgess Mastroianni, adjournment of the meeting at 8:02 pm, was unanimously approved.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa M. Coleman
November 27, 2022