

**Borough of Stonington  
Board of Warden and Burgesses  
Regular Monthly Meeting - May 21, 2018**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Warden Jeff Callahan called the monthly meeting of the Borough of Stonington Board of Warden and Burgesses to order in Borough Hall at 7:00p.m. Present were Burgesses Amanda Barnes, Shaun Mastroianni, and Robert Scala.

**2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

On a motion by Burgess Scala, seconded by Burgess Barnes, the minutes of the regular meeting held on April 16th were unanimously approved.

**3. REPORT OF ADMIN ASSISTANT**

Received property taxes totaling \$1,518.19; received dumpster fees totaling \$1,100; processed quarterly reports to state.

**4. CORRESPONDENCE**

Stonington Ambulance: letter regarding upcoming major projects  
Stonington Police Dept: copy of letter granting permission for Blessing of the Fleet procession  
Town of Stonington Planning Dept: notice of public hearing for amendment to zoning regs  
Warden Callahan: copy of certification to State for Municipal Grants-in-Aid  
Requests: Stonington Garden Club- rain garden in Wayland's Wharf  
CT Special Olympics – parade and dinner dance on September 8th

**5. REPORT OF CLERK-TREASURER: None**

**6. REVIEW OF BILLS/YTD FINANCIALS**

Bills for month ending May 17<sup>th</sup> totaled \$156,867. The large total included the annual fire truck lease payment of \$113,013. YTD net income is \$180,283. Reserve stands at about \$294k.

**7. WARDEN'S REPORT**

1. Began repairs to Wayland's Wharf dock and sidewalk
2. Met with Town Engineer and consultant regarding storm water management program.
3. Submitted required certification in order to receive FY-18 Municipal Grants-in-Aid from State
4. Met with consultant regarding Borough boundary.

## **8. COMMISSIONER REPORTS**

### **a. Streets (Callahan)**

1. Completed Main Street repairs.
2. Graded parking area and filled sinkhole at Wayland's Wharf
3. Repaired guard rail on Summit Street.
4. Swept streets and filled potholes
5. Filled in abandoned manhole on Water Street
6. Cleared clogged storm water outfall on Main Street with assistance from Fire Dept.

### **b. Fire & Emergency Management (Adair/Hoadley)**

Chief Hoadley reported that the fire department responded to 15 alarms in April, a number of which were medical assists at the same address. There have been no Velvet Mill calls in months. In his fire marshal role he continues to be busy inspecting properties, some of which had never been inspected before.

### **c. Parks, Trees, Rights of Way (Barnes)**

Elm trees are going to be planted on Elm Street. One is a donation from Nick Vallas of Bartlett, the other by Holly Unruh. Copper Beech is going to be planted in Wad Square on Tuesday.

### **d. Public Buildings & Charter Revision Commission (Mastroianni)**

Landscaping done at fire house and under footbridge. Painting ongoing at fire house.

### **e. Sidewalks (Scala)**

Getting estimates for repairing sidewalk near footbridge. Chasing owners of 1 Cannon Square. Wall Street between Water and Main needs to be redone.

### **f. Police (Nicholas)**

During the month of March 2018 there were 36 incidents in the police report for the Borough including 12 Check Buildings, 5 Medical Assists, 2 Motor Vehicle Accidents, 2 Burglar Alarms, 2 Motor Vehicle Stops, 2 Assist Citizens and 2 Fire Related Calls. There were one incident each of Red Tag, DUI, Keys in Vehicle, 911 Misdialed, Forgery, Alarm Panic, Suspicious Activity, Protective Order Violation, and Parking Complaint. There was an arrest related to one of the accidents which was a hit and run. Another arrest was for the DUI.

### **g. Sanitation and Utilities (von Ruffer Hills) No report.**

## **9. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Joe Williams inquired about the broken chain at Wayland's Wharf. Warden Callahan informed him that repair of the stanchion, chain and sidewalk has been added to the tasks for the contractors repairing the dock.

A member of the ambulance corps stated that the letter we received from them was not a funding request, just an explanation of their needs. Warden Callahan suggested a similar letter be sent next year before the budget process begins.

## **10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

As noted under correspondence, we have now officially received the Charter Revision Commission's draft revised charter. The Board has sixty days to respond. We must hold a public hearing, probably preceding the June W&B meeting. Board will vote at its July meeting and send the report back to the Commission. If the Board ultimately accepts the final revised charter, it goes to referendum, perhaps in October. The Warden urged all burgesses to read the draft carefully and bring their comments to the June/July meetings.

## **11. NEW BUSINESS**

a. Burgess Scala moved approval of the application by CT Special Olympics to use Borough streets and the Borough Fire House for the annual Special Olympics parade and dance on Saturday September 8<sup>th</sup>. Burgess Barnes seconded. Approved by unanimous vote.

Warden Callahan moved approval of the request by the Stonington Garden Club to install a rain garden at Wayland's Wharf. Burgess Barnes seconded. Approved unanimously after some clarification by Kirby Williams, who is heading up the project for the Garden Club. The rain garden will be installed between the parking area and the grass area. Native plant material will be provided at no cost by the Eastern CT Conservation District. The Garden Club and SVIA have pledged money to pay for installation and support ongoing maintenance. Warden Callahan advised Kirby that any signage has to be approved by P&Z.

b. A note soliciting a volunteer to serve on the Town Stormwater Task Force has been placed on the Borough website. No one has stepped forward yet. Item moved to June meeting.

c. Warden Callahan moved appointment of PKF O'Connor Davies as Borough auditors for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018. Burgess Mastroianni seconded. Approved by unanimous vote.

d. Warden Callahan explained that as a consequence of the Borough being in the NFIP, any resident/owner who builds a new house or makes "substantial improvements" to an existing house that is in the flood plain has to comply with federal flood prevention regulations. Substantial improvement is defined as improvements that exceed 50% of the pre-construction assessed value. In the Borough, there is a three-year "lookback" period imposed by our zoning regs, meaning the owner cannot spend more than 50% over the three year period without complying with flood prevention regulations. The Town recently changed their zoning regs to

reduce the lookback from 5 years to one year. Borough P&Z is considering a proposal to do the same, and they have asked for input from this Board. After some discussion, the Board of Warden & Burgesses reached a consensus that a two-year lookback is a reasonable compromise. Warden Callahan will advise the chair of P&ZC of this conclusion.

**13. ADJOURNMENT**

On a motion by Burgess Scala, seconded by Burgess Barnes, adjournment of the meeting at 7:52 p.m. was unanimously approved.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jeffrey Callahan, Warden  
May 22, 2018