Borough of Stonington
Board of Warden and Burgesses
Regular Monthly Meeting – December 20, 2021

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER
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 at Borough Hall and also
by way of Zoom conferencing video. Present were Kevin Rogers, Shaun Mastroianni, and Clerk-Treasurer Lisa Coleman. Burgesses Amy Nicholas and Amanda Barnes participated via Zoom.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES
On a motion by Burgess Mastroianni, seconded by Burgess Rogers, the minutes of the regular meeting of November 15, 2021, were unanimously approved.

REPORT OF ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
Ann is working on both the mailing and email lists. There were few returns from the mailing in November.

CORRESPONDENCE
Alden Alexander, request to hold New Year's Eve event at Point.
Chief Stewart, comments on Water Street speed bumps
MEETINGS: None
OUTGOING: None

REPORT OF CLERK-TREASURER: None

REVIEW OF BILLS/YTD FINANCIAL REPORT

Bills for the period November 11, 2021, through December 15, 2021 totaled $46,438.97. Net income as of December 15, 2021 (FY-22) is $579,718.25.

WARDEN'S MONTHLY REPORT
1. Attended Town Hall department head meeting
2. New Borough website has gone live. Go to STONINGTONBOROUGHCT.GOV
3. Received two ARPA grant requests from local NFPs: NESS and La Grua.
4. Local Covid statistics: New London County hospitalizations have climbed to 50 plus, while total deaths have increased to 513. Stonington Town deaths are 42 and total cases equal 1711. As of tonight, the NL County hospitalizations are at 56.
5. FEMA issue has been resolved.
6. Rotary Club Foundation awarded $1,000 grant to Borough for comfort station.
7. Attended (via Zoom) SCCOG annual meeting.
8. John Burke, traffic consultant, submitted draft report at end of November.
9. Met with representatives from CLA engineers about storm water study. No proposal yet from Cherenzia.
10. Began preparing 2022 CRS recertification report

BOROUGH CLOCK – None

COMMISSIONER REPORTS
STREET & SIDEWALKS (CALLAHAN)
1. Conducted monthly brush pickup
2. Cleaned outfall at Harbor Edge
3. Cleaned up leaves on sections of Main and Water Streets and Wad Square
4. Plinth at entrance to Wad Square repaired by Buzzi Memorials
5. Issued 1 dumpster permit
6. Town public works expects to install 2 new viaduct lights this month.

FIRE & EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT (NICHOLAS/HOADLEY)
During the month of November 2021 there were 38 incidents in the police report for the Borough including 7 Medical Assists, 3 Fire Related Calls, 3 Burglar Alarms 2 of which were false, 3 911 Misdials, 2 Found Items, 2 Suspicious Activities, 2 Parking Complaints, 2 Check Building and 2 Raffle Applications. There was one incident each of School Check, Missing Person, Domestic Disturbance, Pistol Permit, Landlord/Tenant Dispute, Accident with no injury, Open Door/Window, Assist Citizen, Animal Bite, Threatening, Disturbance and Alarm Panic which was a False Alarm.

Fire
SBFD responded to 14 Alarms in November 2021 (most were outside the Borough) they were as follows:

1) 11-9-21 8:10pm Burning electrical odor 24 Harbor View Terrace (hot water heater)
2) 11-12-21 1:28pm Powerline down N. Water St. @ Oak Dr. (call EVERSOURCE)
3) 11-12-21 3:10pm Tree, Wires down 270 N. Main St. (call EVERSOURCE)
4) 11-12-21 4:16pm Wires down Flanders Rd. @ Rt. 1 (nothing found)
5) 11-12-21 9:49pm Fire Alarm Activation 28 Harbor View Terrace (high CO)
6) 11-13-21 4:57pm Tree limb, wires down 206 N. Water St. (high winds)
7) 11-13-21 5:02pm Large tree onto a house 244 Elm St. (high winds)
8) 11-13-21 5:41pm Wires down Cutler @ N. Main St. (high winds)
9) 11-13-21 8:39pm Furnace malfunction 43 Quanaduck Rd. (leaking water)
10) 11-14-21 9:41am Tree on wires 188 Water St. (from previous day)
11) 11-19-21 3:24am Water coming through roof 39 Water St. (heavy rain)
12) 11-22-21 12:50pm Tree branch on wires 224 N. Main St. (nothing found)
13) 11-24-21 2:24am Medical Assist 34 Shawondassee Dr. (lift assist)
14) 11-26-21 8:32am CO Detector Activation 151 Wamphassuc Pt. Rd. (high CO, basement)

Chief Hoadley asked if Burgess Barnes has made a decision on the tree on Denison Ave. She will make a decision in early January 2022.

PARKS, TREES & RIGHT OF WAY (BARNES)
Nick continues to prune.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS (MASTROIANNI):
Distributed a quote on updating the AV system in Borough Hall. Discussion to be held at January meeting.

UTILITIES & SANITATION (ROGERS)
Six to eight letters regarding trash each week. Three people replied.
Made calls to Eversource about transformers and electric car charging stations. In order to have car charging stations, the transformers would need to be replaced.

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PUBLIC COMMENT:
Resident Pam Mola complained that trash pick-up has been earlier again. She was advised to email Danielle Chesebrough at Town Hall.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS
Status of COVID-19 in region and State: See the Warden's report above.

Consider revised banner policy
A motion by Burgess Mastroianni, seconded by Warden Callahan, to approve the revised banner policy with the additions of banner size to be no larger than 4' width x 12' long and a limit of no more that 3 banners at one time (exceptions up to the discretion of the Borough Fire Chief), passed unanimously.

Cannabis use on public/Borough property (SBO-08)
Tabled.

Borough traffic and parking
John Burke, traffic consultant, had presented his draft proposal and it was distributed to Board members. There were some factual mistakes about the Borough. The Warden asked Board members to send him their ideas in writing and he will consolidate them.

Discuss venue for next W&B meeting
Hybrid meetings on Zoom and in person with masks will be continued.

NEW BUSINESS
Consider requests to use Borough property
A motion by Warden Callahan, seconded by Burgess Rogers, to approve Alden Alexander's request to use the Point from 11:30 pm until 12:30 am for New Year's Eve ball drop, passed unanimously.
Warden Callahan will ask Alden if she plans on a bonfire.
In anticipation of receiving a formal request from the Stonington Historical Society, the Board discussed the possibility of allowing approximately 10 historical guides to be placed on sidewalks, parks, etc. The Board felt this would be a positive thing, but no decision will be made until a detailed proposal has been made.
Discuss memorial plaques, trees, etc. on Borough property
Perhaps a sidewalk with bricks that can be personalized, locations to be considered.

Discuss allowing Noah's Restaurant to permanently expand seating onto Church Street
Owner of Noah's, Andrew Field, presented a rough drawing. Permission will be needed from Planning and Zoning and the Board of Warden and Burgesses. Warden had spoken with the Borough Attorney and one concern the Atty raised was setting the precedent of granting property owners (businesses and homeowners) permission to encroach on public land.

Consider extending expiring ordinances
SBO-03 Parking
Burgess Mastroianni moved, seconded by Warden Callahan, to let SBO-03 (Parking) expire, passed by majority. Burgess Rogers abstained.
SBO-21 Harbor Management
A motion by Warden Callahan, seconded by Burgess Mastroianni, to extend SBO-21 (Harbor Management), passed unanimously.

Warden Callahan will request a Harbor Management proposed annual budget be sent to the Board each year, per the ordinance.

SBO-25 Borough Personal Property
A motion by Burgess Nicholas, seconded by Burgess Rogers, to extend SBO-25 (Borough Personal Property), passed unanimously.

Consider reappointing Alan Vaskas to Zoning Board of Appeals
A motion by Warden Callahan, seconded by Burgess Barnes, to reappoint Alan Vaskas to Zoning Board of Appeals, passed unanimously. Term ends December 31, 2024.

Discuss additional ARPA fund appropriations
Tabled

OTHER BUSINESS AND DISCUSSION
None

ADJOURNMENT
On a motion by Burgess Rogers, seconded by Burgess Barnes, adjournment of the meeting at 8:15 p.m., was unanimously approved.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lisa M. Coleman
December 29, 2021