

**Board of Warden and Burgesses
Minutes of Board Meeting ~ June 16, 2014**

CALL TO ORDER:

- The Board Meeting of the Borough of Stonington Warden and Burgesses was called to order in the Borough Hall at 7:30 PM by Warden Jeffrey Callahan. Present were Burgesses Michael Blair, Sibby Lynch, Amy Nicholas, Howard Park, Robert Scala, and Clerk-Treasurer Lisa Coleman. Burgess Michael Adair was absent.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- On a motion by Burgess Scala, seconded by Burgess Park, acceptance of the minutes from the Board Meeting held on May 19, 2014 was unanimously approved.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT'S REPORT (PERRY):

- Received May Tax collections: \$1,261.86
- Received dumpster permit renewal fees (in advance): \$100.00
- Received donation to Williams Fund: \$250.00
- Worked with Warden to shift some expenses to Contingency Fund (attached P&L reflect these changes)
- Moved income from VFIS insurance claim to Building Fund as per passed appropriation by ordinance: \$47,317.87 (attached P&L reflect this change)
- Moved expenses related to insurance claim to Building Fund (attached P&L reflects these changes)
- Adjusted the budget to reflect the employee bonus pool distributions for FY 13/14 (attached P&L reflects these changes): \$193.00 under budget
- Met with auditors for pre-audit field work; they will return in the fall to complete

CLERK-TREASURER'S REPORT (COLEMAN):

- Williams Fund application

REVIEW OF BILLS:

- The 5/19/2014 through 6/13/2014 report was reviewed and is on file in the Borough Office. Bills for the period totaled \$16,485.89.

REVIEW OF PROFIT/LOSS STATEMENT:

- The July 2013 through June 13, 2014 Profit and Loss Budget vs. Actual Report was reviewed and is on file in the Borough Office. Net income as of June 13, 2014 is \$103,513.76.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Informational:
None
- Requests:
None
- Other:
Alicia Lazaro: Letter regarding parking on lower Water Street.
Eliza Griscom: Letter regarding concern over possible curb cut on High Street. (Warden Callahan responded.)

- Invitations/Meetings
None

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Question by Beth Ladwig on Ash Street cove cleanup. Warden Jeff Callahan explained that we have a permit; further permission from the DEEP will be required. URI School of Oceanography scientists are coming down next week to see if something other than the eelgrass is causing the smell.

WARDEN'S REPORT:

- Worked with Battle Bicentennial Committee for August commemoration.
- Two generator bids received - awarded to R. Collelo for \$101.
- Met with scientists from URI Grad School of Oceanography to discuss seaweed problem in Ash Street Cove. Contacted DEEP on the same subject.
- Continued working with Borough Attorney on agreement between Fire Company and Borough.
- Responded to residents who expressed concern about proposed changes to parking rules on lower Water Street and the food truck at the Point.
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SANITATION/UTILITIES REPORT

- Water main replacement projects: Wall Street trenching began June 3rd; all new pipe in ground on June 13th. Chlorination and connection of new main to homes to follow.

BOROUGH CLOCK

- No activity

STREETS (BURGESS PARK):

- Wheel stops placed at the point, painted stops on Main St, painted Water St. at base of the Viaduct had Aquarion replace broken shut off valve cover on Summit St, on going pot hole work, fixed man hole cover on Harmony St, replaced sign at the point fixed sign at Broad and Main Streets, hung new I-95 sign, (did not put up new "2 hour parking" signs.)
- Notices went out for two hour parking zone on west side of Water St.
- Highway department. Cutting lawns weekly, new blades put on the Cub Cadet, swept the streets, more to do, garbage 3 times weekly, flags out for Memorial Day (the new 16 Stars and Stripes, every other flag.) 6 loads of brush, removed wood chips from Waylands Wharf, cut tree branches back at borough sign on Viaduct, reseeded lawn east side of Borough Hall, put out barriers and cone and garbage buckets for the Garden Club.
- Kyle has been a big help with spraying weeds and cutting lawns. He also keeps an eye out for overflowing garbage cans on Water St on the weekends. He took in the flags Saturday.
- The water main on Broad St is laid and covered over with gravel. We will wait, at the suggestion of Joey Hastedt, for this to settle before. This will greatly reduce the chance of the new road surface from cracking. Aquarion also concurs and states that a gradual settling around the new pipe will greatly minimize the risk of a break. A case in point was Rt 27 in Mystic, which was repaved immediately and suffered numerous breaks. Wall St. is in an equally disrupted state. Paving is planned for early September.
- Must move on purchase of new highway department truck. The board gave the go-ahead.

FIRE AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT (BURGESS BLAIR):

There were nine alarms in May 2014. They were as follows:

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|--------------------|--|
| 5/4/14 10:26 a.m. | MVA with injuries Route 1 at Coveside Lane |
| 5/8/14 8:36 a.m. | Odor of gas Water and Diving St. |
| 5/9/14 7:24 p.m. | Fire Alarm Activation 48 Collins Road |
| 5/13/14 11:28 a.m. | Lift Assist 34 Broad St. |
| 5/14/14 9:12 a.m. | Fire Alarm Activation 455 Stonington Road |
| 5/26/14 4:29 p.m. | Elevator entrapment Unit 36 Stonington Commons |
| 5/27/14 9:13 p.m. | Fire Alarm Activation 137 Water St. |
| 5/31/14 7:22 p.m. | Structure Fire 8 Water St. |
| 5/31/14 9:49 p.m. | Odor of Gas 66 Water St. |

Fire Marshal's report from 04-21-14 to 6-13-14. (George P. Brennan)

- Sea Village Apartments-walk through. Owner a no-show.
- Swooner Restaurant-meeting
- Town Dock-meeting re boat fueling
- 43 Main Street-gas inspection
- 25 Water Street-gas inspection
- 5 Boulder Avenue-gas inspection, underground tank
- 5 Boulder Avenue-gas inspection, inside piping
- Swooner Restaurant-c/o inspection
- Stonington Como-inspection
- 5 Boulder Avenue-inspection, underground line to propane generator
- 55 Church Street-gas inspection
- Dog Watch Café-inspection
- Meeting with insurance rep-re Dodson Boatyard fire
- Wadawanuck Square-tent inspection

- Fire Chief Jeff Hoadley reported that the wall between the two rooms is being squared away.

- Burgess Blair said that a bid package pertaining to the repairs to the fire station will be put together on 6/17/2014 in Borough Hall.

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

- The lampposts in Wadawanuck Square are in need of what should be an annual cleaning, application of rust treatment, and paint touch up. I have an estimate from The O'Brien Company, who completely refurbished them a few years ago, for a total of \$1,430. I would like to move forward with this as they were last treated in August 2012.
- The degradation of the fountain at Dewey Square is next to be considered.
- The Garden Club set up a large tent and a few small ones in Wadawanuck Square for the Garden Club Tour, and luckily for the Garden Club they were heavily used, but the lawn was badly compacted and may need to be aerated. The Garden Club is aware of this, and the ruts in the lawn made delivering the porta potties. The Garden Club accepts the responsibility of lawn repair if, given a few weeks to recover, it doesn't.
- About the use of plastic bags on brush pick-up day, I propose leaving a note at the houses of the few residents who still use plastic bags, asking them to switch to paper lawn bags.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS (BURGESS ADAIR):

- Repair of water damage in Borough Hall: The roof work has been done after a series of warm sunny days. The interior repairs can proceed, and I will check on those when I come back.
- Gutter and downspout work: The estimate for A-1 gutters was approved and sent to the company to commence the job. The project, including the topographical work, is set to begin.

SIDEWALKS (BURGESS SCALA):

- Proposal for repairs to sidewalk and curbs alongside the Water Street side of the U.S. Post Office presented under New Business.
- Waiting for Harrison quote regarding sidewalks in Wadawanuck Square.

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

- **Police Incidents Report**
During the month of May 2014, there were 54 incidents in the police report for the Borough. This included 11 Door/Building Checks, 11 Medical Assists, 6 Animal Control Calls, 6 Burglar Alarms/Calls, and 4 Fire Related Calls. There were 2 Motor Vehicle Accidents, a Motor Vehicle Stop and a Red Tag was issued. There were 2 incidents of Larceny, 1 Nuisance call and 1 Threatening Call.
- A reminder to all that night scavengers are out and that yellow bags must not be put out prior to Tuesday morning unless properly secured.
- Installation of a permanent post for the electronic speed detector.
- **Website/Communications**
No report.

OLD BUSINESS:

Parking on Lower Water Street

- Approximately 47 residents attended and many voiced concerns about the proposed changes to parking regulations along lower Water Street. No one spoke in favor of the proposed changes. A petition opposing the changes with over 100 signatures was submitted.
- A motion by Burgess Park, seconded by Burgess Blair, to rescind the decision (passed in May) to change parking regulations on lower Water Street was unanimously approved.

Fire Department Ordinance/Fire Company Agreement

- Warden Jeff Callahan met with Borough Attorney Nick Kepple who has made corrections to his draft. It will be sent to Fire Department Attorney Mark Block.

Firehouse Repairs

- Meeting 6/17/2014 at Borough Hall

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Consider applications for use of Borough property**
None

- **FY 2015 bonus pool**
A motion by Burgess Blair, seconded by Burgess Park, to adopt a 2% raise in salary for all Borough staff and Fire Department officers, effective July 1, 2014, was unanimously approved. The raise does not apply to elected officials, the fire marshal, or the newly appointed fire company officers.
- **Consider reappointing Johnstone and Smith to 3-year Harbor Management Commission terms**
A motion by Warden Callahan, seconded by Burgess Nicholas, to reappoint Rodney Johnstone and Edward Smith to 3-year Harbor Management Commission terms was unanimously approved.
- **Sidewalks and curbs alongside Water Street side of U.S. Post Office**
- A proposal from Hastedt Brothers, LLC was presented to the Board.
- Burgess Scala sent a letter to the Postmaster, Stonington ten days ago.
- Burgess Blair suggested we send a letter to the regional facility manager stating that the Borough has an ordinance that sidewalks are the responsibility of the property owner.
- Defer action on Hastedt Brothers proposal until future meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS

- Warden Jeff Callahan has received feedback on the new food truck. There have been complaints regarding the generator and the food. Warden Jeff Callahan has emailed the police chief to measure the noise level and report back.

ADJOURNMENT

- On a motion by Burgess Scala, seconded by Burgess Nicholas, adjournment of the meeting at 8:34 PM was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa M. Coleman
Clerk-Treasurer
June 30, 2014