

Board of Warden and Burgesses
Minutes of Regular Monthly Meeting ~ November 16, 2015

CALL TO ORDER

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

- Warden Callahan mentioned the flags are at half-staff through Thursday because of the events in Paris. He noted the passing of Emily Lynch, age 96, a resident of the Borough since the 1960's. He also noted the swift actions of Burgess Park who saved the life of a young boy at the Velvet Mill pond two weeks ago.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- On a motion by Burgess Scala, seconded by Burgess Park, the minutes from the Board meeting held on October 19, 2015, were unanimously approved.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT'S REPORT (PERRY):

- Received Tax collection payment: \$2,834.66
- Processed payroll audit reports

CORRESPONDENCE: NONE

CLERK-TREASURER'S REPORT (COLEMAN):

- None

REVIEW OF BILLS:

The 10/19/2015 through 11/12/2015 report was reviewed and is on file in the Borough Office. Bills for the period totaled \$132,916.03.

REVIEW OF PROFIT/LOSS STATEMENT:

The July 2015 through November 12, 2015 Budget vs. Actual P&L Report was reviewed and is on file in the Borough Office. Net income as of November 12, 2015 is \$534,539.67.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Resident Richard Easton asked for update on the P&Z and ZBA lawsuits and what the expenses incurred to date have been. Warden Callahan said the parties are still talking and so far there have not been significant expenses to the Borough.
- Resident Richard Easton also asked if there is any potential litigation pertaining to the expenses for repair of the sidewalk at 9 Main Street. Burgess Scala said the owner of 9 Main St. verbally agreed to pay for the sidewalk repairs, and when the bill is received from the contractor Burgess Scala will send the sidewalk part to the owner. The Borough is paying for the new granite curb.

WARDEN'S REPORT:

- Dog Park: A lawsuit was filed on October 14th over the dog park. The Town of Stonington and First Selectman Crouse are named as defendants.

- Informed PURA and Frontier that fire alarm boxes and wires had been moved from redundant poles.
- Worked with Town Engineer and other members of Climate Change Task Force in preparing a grant application to the State for climate change resiliency planning funds.
- Attended Fisher's Island evacuation drill at Town Dock on October 27th.
- Worked with Tree Commissioner, Brad Painter, and Tom Moore to coordinate installation of two new trees on Main Street.
- Assisted historical survey team from Goodwin & Associates as they conducted the survey of the Village on October 20/21.

SANITATION/UTILITIES REPORT

- None

BOROUGH CLOCK

- Reset clock to Eastern Standard Time

STREETS (BURGESS PARK):

- Flags were put out for Veterans Day.
- Lawn mowing and leaf pick up were the largest part of the crew's workload. Add to that 6 loads of brush and machinery maintenance, they have been very busy.
- The crew painted the yellow curb east end of Church St. and replaced Borough sign on Cutler Ave. The footbridge was swept off and an attempt was made to make sure drains were clear in order to work during inclement weather. This is almost impossible to maintain because the use of a metal snake is terribly dangerous around the abundant high voltage electric lines. Air pressure doesn't seem to work. We have found replacement covers for the drains and will continue to monitor so that there will be safe passage on the footbridge.
- Sinkhole on Hancox Street has been patched.
- I was asked to paint a yellow line on the curb across the street from the driveway of #2 Summit Street. That street has "parking only" on the south side opposite of the driveway and one parking place would be lost. After pulling into the driveway and backing out again with my large car I thought it wasn't necessary. I conferred with the crew and they were of the same opinion.

FIRE AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT (BURGESS BLAIR/CHIEF HOADLEY):

- There were 8 alarms in October 2015

10-3-15	6:42 a.m.	Wires down 46 Trumbull Ave.
10-7-15	9:43 a.m.	Alarm activation Velvet Mill
10-10-15	8:40 p.m.	Alarm activation 40 Grand St.
10-10-15	10:06 p.m.	Alarm activation 40 Grand St.
10-20-15	9:35 a.m.	Wire down IFO St. Mary Church
10-24-15	4:15 p.m.	Child in water Velvet Mill
10-30-15	9:49 a.m.	Alarm activation Stonington Pizza
10-31-15	10:58 a.m.	Alarm activation 12 East Neck Rd. Wamphassuc Pt.
- Chief Hoadley mentioned the town dock fire this past week. One lobster boat was destroyed and a 20-foot section of the dock was badly damaged. The State Fire Marshall is still investigating.
- The ladder truck is still out for bodywork.

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

- I have received and approved requests to put signs up in Wadawanuck Square in the coming weeks -- one for the Christmas Stroll, the other for the Soup-a-Thon.
- I have contacted Bartlett Tree Experts and Acorn Tree Services for estimates on what it will cost to remove the maple tree on the southwest corner of Wadawanuck Square. The tree will be posted for removal.
- We are planning to place a tree in Wadawanuck Square in memory of Nick Reardon. The Ogden family would like to make a contribution to the tree and/or plaque. I will be speaking with Alix Ogden about the tree for Nick as well as, perhaps, the fund for tree maintenance in Wad Square. Damian Reardon and I have been in touch about what the plaque might say and will confirm in coming weeks.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS (BURGESS ADAIR):

- **Borough Hall Roof and Chimney:** One bid has been received on both roof leakage and boiler chimney repair. Two others are being prepared and should be ready to be evaluated in a week or two. We can then discuss and proceed. The bids are from General Contractors who will supervise both situations as laid out by Architect Peter Springsteel.
- **Removal of the Norway Spruce on the Cormac O'Malley property:** Bartlett has successfully removed the huge Spruce tree overhanging the O'Malley garage and Borough Hall. The other tree on the north side of Borough property has been trimmed to give the scaffold for the chimney work unfettered access. The delicate and tricky project was completed professionally and safely. Bartlett cleaned up the site, repaired the fence they had to remove, and generally did a great job in one day, pleasing both the O'Malley's and your public buildings commissioner. In recognition of the benefit to Borough Hall of having the spruce tree removed (and other trees trimmed), the Borough is contributing \$2,000 to the cost of the project.

SIDEWALKS (BURGESS SCALA):

- 9 Main St. sidewalk has been repaired. As soon as the bill for the repairs is received, I will pass the part for the sidewalk on to the owner.

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

- **Police Incident Report**
During the month of October 2015 there were 71 incidents in the police report for the Borough including 27 Building Checks, 12 Burglar Alarms (8 were false), 6 Medical Assists, 4 Accidents No Injury, 3 Assist Other Agency, 3 Fire Alarm/Box Calls, 3 Animal Control, 2 Suspicious Activities, 2 Scam Reports, 2 Parking Complaints and 2 911 Misdials. There were one incidence each of Disturbance, Found Item, Alarm Panic, a Missing Person and a Public Information Notice.
- Burgess Park mentioned there is a boat parked under the viaduct. Chief Hoadley will call Fire Marshall George Brennan about this.
- **Website/Communications**
No report

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Designate Borough Rights-of-Way**
Borough Right-of-Way signs have been ordered. The first to be put up will be the one at Water Street and Wayland's Wharf.

Rights of Way can be viewed on the Town of Stonington GIS site.

Resident Richard Easton asked if these Rights of Way are mentioned in property deeds. Warden Callahan responded that those shown on the Town GIS are; other “traditional” Borough ROW may be but need to be researched to confirm.

- **Consider removing failing dogwood tree on Main St.**
A motion by Burgess Adair, seconded by Burgess Barnes, to remove the failing dogwood tree near 53 Main Street, passed unanimously. Brad Painter will follow up.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Consider requests to use Borough property: None**
- **Shift funds within Capital & Nonrecurring Fund to cover anticipated roof repair cost**
A motion by Warden Callahan, seconded by Burgess Scala, to shift funds from the undesignated portion of Capital & Nonrecurring Fund in the amount of the balance (\$11,978.30) and \$25,000 from the Truck Fund into the Building Fund, passed unanimously. This was done in anticipation of unbudgeted repairs to Borough Hall roof.
- **Consider moving Jan Lindberg from Alternate to Full Member of P&Z**
A motion by Warden Callahan, seconded by Burgess Nicholas, to move Jan Lindberg from Alternate to Full Member of Planning and Zoning Commission passed unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS:

- Burgess Scala encouraged residents to shop for flood insurance, he found varying prices from private insurers.

ADJOURNMENT:

On a motion by Burgess Scala, seconded by Burgess Barnes, adjournment of the meeting at 8:15 PM was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa M. Coleman
Clerk-Treasurer
November 18, 2015