

**Borough of Stonington
Board of Warden and Burgesses
Regular Monthly Meeting – February 20, 2018
MINUTES**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Warden Jeff Callahan called the monthly meeting of the Borough of Stonington Board of Warden and Burgesses to order in Stonington Borough Fire House at 7:11 p.m. Present were Burgesses Michael Adair, Amanda Barnes, Shaun Mastroianni, Amy Nicholas, Karen von Ruffer-Hills and Robert Scala. Clerk-Treasurer Tiffany Cook also was present.

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

On a motion by Burgess Nicholas, seconded by Warden Callahan, the minutes from the regular meeting held on January 16 were unanimously approved with one name correction under Adjournment. The name Michael Blair was replaced with Michael Adair.

3. REPORT OF ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

All W-2s and 1099 Forms have been distributed.

4. CORRESPONDENCE

David Luce: email volunteering for ZBA (see new business)

Tiffany Cook: email resigning from ZBA, as she is now the clerk-treasurer

Stonington PD: copy of letter approving the Blessing of the Fleet 5k race on July 26

5. REPORT OF CLERK-TREASURER

An application was received in February for hardship assistance from the Williams Fund. The Clerk-Treasurer and the Warden approved the request.

6. BILLS/YTD FINANCIALS

- February bills totaled \$44,220.49
- Net Income for fiscal year 2017-18 is \$395,789

7. WARDEN'S REPORT

- Prepared input for Charter Revision Commission to consider
- Provided MS4 annual report input to Town Engineer; draft report is posted on Town and Borough websites.
- Submitted CRS recertification package to FEMA and received confirmation of recertification @ 10 percent discount level.

- Co-signed Stonington Free Library site plan application to P&ZC. SFL plans to build a small addition on the east side where the handicapped ramp is located. Addition will be on Borough-owned land.
- Borough Clock- investigated problem with bell. Problem resolved. Scheduled clock service in mid-March.

8. COMMISSIONER REPORTS

a) Streets

- Requested cost estimates for 2018 street repair projects.
- Responded to snow/ice events on January 30th, February 2nd and 7th
- Repaired crack in tractor bucket arm
- Filled potholes with cold patch

b) Fire & Emergency Management

We responded to 15 Alarms in January 2018, they were as follows:

- 1) 1-2-18 8:12pm Box 29 Stonington Commons (broken water pipes)
- 2) 1-3-18 10:02am Fire Alarm Activation 9 East Neck Rd. Wampassuc Pt. (broken pipe)
- 3) 1-6-18 1:37am Assist SAC (lift assist)
- 4) 1-6-18 6:06pm Car Fire 107 Elm St. (Fire confined to engine compartment)
- 5) 1-8-18 7:52am Alarm sounding in area of 7 Cliff St. (nothing found)
- 6) 1-8-18 8:41am Mutual Aid to Deans Mill School (School evacuated for propane leak)
- 7) 1-8-16 6:04pm Box 29 Stonington Commons (more broken water pipes)
- 8) 1-11-18 1:43pm Box 15 Velvet Mill (spike in water pressure)
- 9) 1-11-18 3:42pm Fire Alarm Activation 24 Water St. (broken water pipe)
- 10) 1-11-18 6:18pm Broken water main 15 East Grand St. (pump out basements,3 hours)
- 11) 1-14-18 12:55pm Fire Alarm Activation 6 Union St. (low temperature alarm)
- 12) 1-16-18 10:35am Box 43 Stonington Como (pull station accidentally hit)
- 13) 1-22-18 1:29am Fire Alarm Activation 166 Elm St. (dirty alarm head)
- 14) 1-25-18 6:48pm Chimney Fire 229 North Main St. (working chimney fire)
- 15) 1-26-18 4:53pm Fire Alarm Activation 140 Briar Patch Rd. (accidental by worker)

c) Parks, Trees & Rights of Way

An oak tree near the bus stop on Wad Square was pruned because of safety concerns due to a broken limb. A large plane tree on the northwest corner of Wad Square (across from the post office) was stabilized. It is a healthy tree, but an old crack in the tree had re-opened recently in bad weather. Tulip trees in front of 176 Water Street were pruned.

d) Public Buildings & Charter Revision Commission

The Charter Revision Commission is nearly half-way finished with revision proposals. The meeting on 2.2.18 was anticipated to be the most challenging, with Town Planner attending. Also on the table was discussion regarding options for what to do with P&Z, relative to Charter Revisions. Additionally, upon approval of revised Charter, certain ordinances may require changes. Burgess Mastroianni will send proposed revisions to the Board. November is the target date of revision completion, coinciding with elections.

e) Sidewalks

There was nothing to report for February.

f) Police & Public Affairs

During the month of January 2017 there were 61 incidents in the police report for the Borough including 9 Fire related calls, 8 Burglar Alarms (6 of which were false), 7 Business Checks, 7 Medical Assists, 7 Parking/Motor Vehicle Complaints, 5 Keys in Vehicle, 3 911 Hang Ups/Misdial, 2 Animal Control, 2 Red Tagged Vehicles, 2 Suspicious Activities, 2 Minor Traffic Service and 2 Motor Vehicle Stops. There were one incident each of Forgery, Accident (hit and run), Animal Bite, Larceny and Assist Other Agency.

G) Utilities & Sanitation

A few street lights were fixed. Street light repair will be addressed at upcoming budget meeting. Also mentioned was revising trash removal language in revised Charter, as there are no repercussions for sanitation violations. The warden stated that the Garbage and Recycling ordinance (SBO-07) is the appropriate manner of dealing with this situation. Burgess von Ruffer-Hills said she would propose changes to the ordinance.

9) PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments at the February meeting.

10) UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was discussion of the possibility of making a park of the small space on the east side of the foot bridge. Currently the space is vacant and appears neglected. It was mentioned that research on drainage would need to be done, as snow and water issues would need to be addressed. Burgess Mastroianni has received quotes from architects. No trees would be taken down and the garden club would consider contributing to the project in the way of plantings. There was comment as to what the neighbors next to park would want. Overall thought was that P&Z would be the most appropriate platform for this proposed project. Burgesses Barnes and Mastroianni will meet to consider viable options.

11) NEW BUSINESS

- a.) There were no requests to use Borough property.

b.) Warden Callahan moved the appointment of David Luce as an alternate member of the Zoning Board of Appeals. Motion was seconded by Burgess Mastroianni. The appointment was approved unanimously.

c.) Warden Callahan moved to set dates for both the budget public hearing and the Borough annual meeting. Callahan proposed that the budget public hearing be held on March 19, 2018 at 6:30 p.m., preceding the Board of Warden and Burgesses regular monthly meeting. He moved that date for the public hearing and that the Annual Budget Meeting be held in Borough Hall on Saturday April 21, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. Burgess Mastroianni seconded. Passed unanimously.

d.) Warden Callahan moved appointment of Albert Razzano, currently an alternate member of P&Z, as a regular member of P&Z Commission, filling the vacancy created by the departure of Doug Lyons. Burgess Scala seconded and motion was approved unanimously.

12) OTHER BUSINESS

Chief Hoadley thanked the Board for attending the annual visit to the Borough Fire House.

13) ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Burgess Scala, seconded by Burgess Nicholas, adjournment of the meeting at 8:05 p.m. was unanimously approved.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tiffany Cook, Clerk-Treasurer

February 26, 2018