

**Borough of Stonington
Board of Warden and Burgesses
Regular Monthly Meeting - July 16, 2018**

NOTE: The meeting was preceded at 6:30 by a public hearing to receive input on the revised draft charter revision. Six residents attended.

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 Robert Scala, Karen von Ruffer Hills, Amanda Barnes, Michael Adair, and Amy Nicholas. Also present was Tiffany Cook, serving as Clerk-Treasurer.

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

On a motion by Burgess Scala, seconded by Burgess Nicholas, the minutes of the regular meeting held on June 18th were unanimously approved.

3. REPORT OF ADMIN ASSISTANT

Received property taxes from Town: \$401.75 (FY-18) & \$80,000.00 (FY-19 first batch)
Sent request to Town for FY 18/19 disbursement of street reimbursement
Received FY-18 State Town Road Aid: \$7,722.05

4. CORRESPONDENCE

Informational:

Chief Hoadley: email with SBFD proposed Chief Officer appointments
Town Planning: notice of 8/7 public hearing

Other:

Stonington Historical Society: thank you letter for July 4th parade donation
Peyton Horne: letter requesting stop sign on corner of High & Main

Requests:

Portuguese Holy Ghost Society: application and insurance for 9/1 & 9/2
Stonington Historical Society: application and insurance for 10/13 House Tour Events

5. REPORT OF CLERK-TREASURER: None

6. REVIEW OF BILLS/YTD FINANCIALS

Bills for month ending July 12th totaled \$85,681. Main expenses were \$11,000 to repair ladder truck and \$33,000 for work done on Main Street.
FY-18 YTD ordinary income as of July 12th is \$96,463.

7. WARDEN'S REPORT

1. Met with Morin Associates agent concerning Borough health insurance plan
2. Reviewed/edited Charter Revision Commission draft

8. COMMISSIONER REPORTS

a. Streets (Callahan)

1. Assisted with installation of rain garden at Wayland's Wharf
2. Painted yellow curbs
3. Put out flags for July Fourth
4. Weekly park mowing

BOROUGH CLOCK –

No activity

b. Fire & Emergency Management (Adair/Hoadley)

There were 12 Alarms in June 2018, they were as follows:

- 1) 6-2-18 9:28am Fire Alarm Activation 15 Coveside Lane (Faulty Smoke Detector)
- 2) 6-13-18 9:06pm Alarm Activation 8 Water St. (Bat Light Lighthouse Museum)
- 3) 6-14-18 12:21pm Water Emergency 15 Bayview Ave. (Contractor broke water line)
- 4) 6-15-18 5:09pm MVA Rt. 1 at N. Main St. (1 injury to Hospital)
- 5) 6-18-18 8:51am Box 15 Velvet Mill (filling Summit St. tank)
- 6) 6-18-18 2:04pm Smell of Smoke in area of 11 Water St. (nothing found)
- 7) 6-20-18 10:47am Medical Assist with SAC Dodson Boat Yard (fall on sailboat)
- 8) 6-20-18 5:06am Smell of smoke 41 Langworthy Ave.Lords Pt. (Nothing found)
- 9) 6-21-18 6:05pm Fire Alarm Activation 1 Broad St. (Burnt food)
- 10) 6-22-18 7:56am Box Alarm (1 Tap on tape,fault in system)
- 11) 6-24-18 2:40pm Fire Alarm Activation 11 East Neck Rd. (Workers)
- 12) 6-25-18 9:08pm Lift Assist with SAC 95 Main St. (Fall victim)

Also, SBFd is trying to add a fire hydrant by Salt Acres Farms, as the property has recently changed hands and hydrant needs to be replaced. This is no expense to the Borough.

The fire marshal reported that he continues to pursue inspections of a few buildings whose owners have not responded to his repeated attempts to meet with them.

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

Resident of 53 Main Street has requested pruning of sycamore outside her home. Waiting to hear back from Barlett Tree Removal.

d. Public Buildings & Charter Revision Commission (Mastroianni)

Nothing to report, other than small amount of work being done to Firehouse concrete apron.

e. Sidewalks (Scala)

Proposal was received for repair of sidewalk on east side of the footbridge. Burgess Scala is sending out acceptance to contractor.

f. Police (Nicholas)

During the month of June 2018 there were 61 incidents in the police report for the Borough including 17 Motor Vehicle Stops/Infractions, 7 Parking/Motor Vehicle Complaints, 7 Check Buildings, 5 Suspicious Activities, 4 Medical Assists, 3 Animal Control, 3 Welfare Checks, 3 Fire Related Calls, 2 Motor Vehicles Abandoned, 2 Burglar Alarms both false and 2 Assist Citizens. There was one incident each of Traffic Enforcement, Open Door, Disturbance, Suspicious Motor Vehicle, Accident No Injury, and 911 Misdialed.

Like May, the large number of Motor Vehicle Stops were a result of a request for increased enforcement of the 20 MPH Speed limit on Main Street.

On July 3rd an individual from outside Stonington approached residents soliciting money. He, at times, became aggressive. Stonington Police made sure he left the area immediately. As a reminder, please report any incidents to the Dispatcher to ensure matters are dealt with quickly.

g. Sanitation and Utilities (von Ruffer Hills)

- Met with John Phetteplace, Head of Town of Stonington Solid Waste Dept to review options regarding Velvet Mill
- Followed up with Town Hall on Streetlight addition & removal requests
- Followed up on redundant utility poles on Bayview Ave.
- Addressed non compliance with trash ordinance with Church Street Condo Assoc.

9. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment

10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a. Burgess Nicholas expressed confusion over the proposed wording in the revised charter regarding "Senior Burgess". After the warden explained the text, It was decided that the wording would remain as is.

Following this discussion about the draft revised charter, Warden Callahan moved to send the Board marked-up version dated July 16, 2018 to the Commission. Burgess Nicholas seconded. Approved unanimously.

11. NEW BUSINESS

a. On a motion by Warden Callahan and seconded by Burgess Adair, the request to use Borough property for the Stonington Historical Society House Tour, was approved unanimously. Warden Callahan then moved approval of the PHGS processions on September 1 and 2, pending receipt of a corrected certificate of liability insurance. The motion was seconded by Burgess Nicholas. Motion approved with five in favor and one abstention (Scala).

b. Warden Callahan moved to approve Chief Hoadley's recommendations to appoint Theresa Hersh assistant chief and to reappoint Harold Mitchell as deputy chief, both for two-year terms. Burgess Scala seconded. Both were approved by unanimous vote.

c. General discussion was had about Borough facilities being used by outside non-profit organizations. This topic was spurred by a request from Calvary Church Music School to use Borough Hall for the purpose of teaching music. This would involve students, teachers and the instruments using the space for lessons. Warden Callahan brought up the potential issue of separation of church and state due to the fact that even though the music school is its own entity, it does reside under the Calvary Church umbrella. Burgess Adair offered to draft a policy that will allow the Board to evaluate requests to use Borough facilities (i.e., firehouse and hall) by non-profit groups.

d. Discussion of speeding problems on Main Street at corner of High Street was prompted by a letter submitted by a resident requesting a stop sign be placed on the corner. Stonington Chief of Police made it clear that a stop sign should not be used to control speed. Alternative measures will be considered to slow traffic, such as yellow striping, a speed bump or crosswalk. Burgess Nicholas will discuss with the SPD and report back.

e. Warden Callahan moved waiving the bid requirement for the purchase of a new street leaf vacuum from RI Harvesting Company for \$8,400. Burgess Nicholas seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

12. OTHER BUSINESS

a. Regarding the pending Town Ordinance for a slow-no-wake zone at Sandy Point, Warden Callahan proposed endorsing the proposal at the Town Meeting on July 17th. Burgess Nicholas seconded the proposal. All in favor; none were opposed.

b. Warden Callahan moved a resolution acknowledging and thanking Robert Montgomery for his work on the ZBA and for the Borough overall. Burgess Scala seconded. Resolution was approved unanimously.

13. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Burgess Scala, seconded by Warden Callahan, adjournment of the meeting at 7:47 p.m. was unanimously approved.

Respectfully Submitted,
Tiffany Cook, Clerk-Treasurer
July 21, 2018