

**Board of Warden and Burgesses**  
**Regular Monthly Meeting - March 19, 2019**

**MINUTES**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Warden Jeff Callahan called the monthly meeting of the Borough of Stonington Board of Warden and Burgesses to order at the Borough Hall at 7:01 p.m. Present were Burgesses Robert Scala, Amanda Barnes, Karen Von Ruffer-Hills and Shaun Mastroianni. Also present was Tiffany Cook, serving as Clerk-Treasurer.

**2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

On a motion by Burgess Scala, seconded by Burgess Von Ruffer Hills, the minutes of the regular meeting held February 19, 2019 were unanimously approved.

**2. REPORT OF ADMIN ASSISTANT**

Received property taxes from the Town: \$393.91  
Processed quarterly reports

**4. CORRESPONDENCE**

Certificate of Insurance from Brick and Basil LLC for pizza truck at PHGS  
Letter to SVAC from Warden Callahan, formally accepting donation of the Ford Explorer for the use by the Borough Fire Department.

**5. REPORT OF CLERK-TREASURER:**

- Ballot question regarding Charter revisions has been approved by the Secretary of State
- Ballot template is complete
- Working with Sec of State on next steps in election process protocol

**6. REVIEW OF BILLS/YTD FINANCIAL REPORT**

Bills paid through March 14 totaled 35,137.85. Total expenses \$922,558.91 and Net Income was \$349,628.43

**7. WARDEN'S REPORT**

1. Continued drafting FY2019-20 budget
2. Presented Borough CIP request for footbridge repair funds before Town Board of Finance
3. Met with Waldron trustees regarding possible merger of Waldron and Williams funds
4. New cannon carriage wheels have been installed by Howard Park
5. Continued preparing for CRS verification visit in June 2019

## **BOROUGH CLOCK –**

Tower clock technician installed new switches to control bell. Bell now striking on the hour.

### **8. COMMISSIONER REPORTS**

#### **a. Street Commissioner's Report**

1. Dealt with snow/ice events on Feb 17 & 20; March 1, 2, 3
2. Reset large stone in Bayview crosswalk
3. Filled pot holes
4. Street Dept attended tick bite prevention seminar

#### **b. Fire & Emergency Management (Hoadley/Adair)**

- 1) 2-5-19 11:23am Fire Alarm Activation 53 Church St. (workers)
- 2) 2-9-19 8:21pm Box 29 Stonington Commons (water flow malfunction)
- 3) 2-12-19 6:34pm Box Alarm SBFD (fault in alarm system)
- 4) 2-15-19 7:56am Mutual aid for SAC 48 Collins Rd. (lift assist)
- 5) 2-16-19 11:20am Fire Alarm Activation 149 Wampassuc Pt. Rd. (lit fire in fireplace with damper closed)
- 6) 2-16-19 1:08pm Odor in house 137 Elm St. (nothing found)
- 7) 2-16-19 4:14pm Fire Alarm Activation 77 Briar Patch Rd. (nothing found)
- 8) 2-20-19 11:30pm Box Alarm SBFD (fault in alarm system)
- 9) 2-23-19 7:09pm Mutual Aid for SAC (man fell off sea wall onto rocks Omega & Hancox St.)
- 10) 2-25-19 4:00pm Eversource pole snapped IFO 25 Wolcott Ave. Lords Pt. (heavy winds)
- 11) 2-28-19 7:31am Box Alarm SBFD (fault in alarm system)

#### **c. Parks, Trees, & Rights of Way (Barnes) –**

We received notice from a property owner on the corner of Cliff and Denison about a tree that lost limbs during the recent ice storm. Nick from Bartlett Tree Experts looked at the sycamore, which, he says, is in overall good health and will likely have a long life ahead. Nick recommended pruning and cabling. This work is scheduled to happen this month.

#### **d. Public Buildings (Mastroianni) – Nothing to Report**

**e. Sidewalks (Scala):** Nothing to report, with the exception of letters being distributed for spring repairs

#### **f. Police & Public Affairs (Nicholas)**

During the month of February 2019 there were 43 incidents in the police report for the Borough including 10 Check Building/Business Checks, 7 Medical Assists, 6 Burglar Alarms 5 of which were false, 3 Alarm Panic, 3 Fire Related Calls and 2 Alarm not Registered. There was one incident each of Animal Control, Animal Bite, Dead Injured Animal, 911 Hang Up, Harassment,

Order to Repossess, Phone Scam, Parking Complaint, Assist Other Agency, Burglary, Criminal Mischief and Motor Vehicle Abandoned.

**g. Utilities & Sanitation (von Ruffer Hills):** Nothing to report

**9. PUBLIC COMMENT** -- None

**10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

a. Burgess Mastroianni moved to revise as proposed and re-pass SBO-11 (Purchasing, formerly Bids). Burgess Barnes seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously. Under the revised ordinance commissioners who have a budget don't need to come to the Board for purchasing approval unless request is over \$10,000.

**11. NEW BUSINESS**

- a. Burgess Scala moved, and Burgess Mastroianni seconded, approval of the request from Ms. Frankie Maderia to allow a pizza truck to park in front of the Portuguese Holy Ghost Society during her wedding reception on December 7, 2019. The truck may not remain on Main Street for more than six (6) hours total. Motion passed unanimously.
- b. In the discussion on FY 2019-20 budget, 3 significant increases were noted: 1) Zoning Officer salary increase due to making the position part time/day time; 2) Cost of medical physicals for firefighters due to stringent OSHA regulations; 3) Increase in medical insurance cost for employees due to age and also added spouse coverage. It was also suggested by Burgess Mastroianni that Burgess salaries stay flat; however Warden Callahan said if the pay increases don't happen now, it will be another 2 years – after the 2021 election--- before it can happen. There has been no change in pay in six years. Warden Callahan noted that the public hearing on the budget is scheduled for April 8<sup>th</sup>.
- c. Warden Callahan moved that the Borough petition the Court of Probate to permit the merger of the Williams and Waldron Funds. Burgess Scala seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

**12. OTHER BUSINESS**

Michael Schefers suggested a "Meet the Candidates" night at Boro Hall, giving the community an opportunity to be part of the election and get the word out. Date TBD

Resident Sibby Lynch mentioned that Ellie Casey, formerly of the Borough, passed away. She was a Burgess for the Borough for twenty years.

**13. ADJOURNMENT**

On a motion by Burgess Scala, seconded by Burgess Von Ruffer Hills, adjournment of the regular meeting at 7:35 p.m. was unanimously approved

Respectfully Submitted,  
Tiffany Cook, Clerk-Treasurer  
March 25, 2019