

June 14, 2023

The Stonington Board of Selectmen held a regular meeting on this date at the Stonington Police Department at 5:30 p.m. Present were First Selectman Danielle Chesebrough, Selectwoman June Strunk and Selectwoman Debbie Motycka Downie. Members of the public were present. There was no press present.

(1) Call to Order

Ms. Chesebrough called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m.

(2) Pledge of Allegiance

(3) Public Hearing – 2023 Neighborhood Assistance Act Tax Credit Application

Ms. Chesebrough called the public hearing to order at 5:34 p.m. Mr. James Sullivan, Director of Finance, gave an overview of the program citing that it provides funding for municipal and tax-exempt organization by permitting corporation business tax credits to the business that make cash contributions to the entities. He noted that money goes directly to the entities and is not filtered through the Town. One application was submitted from the Stonington Community Center.

We did not receive any written communication in advance of the meeting for or against the 2023 Neighborhood Assistance Act Tax Credit Application.

Ms. Chesebrough asked if anyone wished to speak for or against the 2023 Neighborhood Assistance Act Tax Credit Application. No one spoke.

Ms. Chesebrough adjourned the public hearing at 5:37 p.m.

(4) Discussion - 2023 Neighborhood Assistance Act Tax Credit Applications

A motion was made by Ms. Downie, seconded by Ms. Strunk and voted unanimously to approve the 2023 Neighborhood Assistance Act Tax Credit Applications from the Stonington Community Center.

(5) Interview – Housing Opportunities Commission

The Board interviewed Liz Stern, Meredith Bogue, Moira Deasy, Hannah Cedermark and Julie Savin for the Housing Opportunities Commission. Paul Sartor and Lynn Young will be interviewed at a future meeting. Kevin Halter was interviewed previously for a different Board and his responses focused heavily on housing opportunities.

(6) Comments from the Public

None

(7) Approval of Minutes

- A motion was made by Ms. Downie, seconded by Ms. Strunk and voted unanimously to approve the regular meeting minutes of May 24, 2023.

(8) Correspondence

- Ms. Chesebrough took in correspondence from Stephen Bessette in the form of an application for the Economic Development Commission.
- Ms. Chesebrough took in correspondence from Jennifer Lackner in the form of an application for the Plan of Conservation and Development Implementation Committee.
- Ms. Chesebrough took in correspondence from Bennett Brissette in the form of an application for the Planning and Zoning Commission.
- Ms. Chesebrough took in correspondence from Gary Belke requesting to be moved from an alternate to regular member of the Planning and Zoning Commission.
- Ms. Chesebrough took in correspondence from Paul Sartor and Lynn Young in the form of an application for the Housing Opportunities Commission.

(9) Appointment/Reappointment/Resignation

Appointment – Emergency Management Director

Mr. George Brennan, will be stepping down as the Emergency Management Director effective June 30th. He has served the Town in different capacities over the years including time with Public Works as well as the Town Dog Warden. He is currently a Fire Marshall and most notably has been the Emergency Management Director for almost two decades. The Board shared their appreciation for his years of dedicated service in this role.

The role will be transition to Captain Bryan Schneider of the Stonington Police Department. Ms. Chesebrough stated that Captain Schneider's knowledge and experience will be a great asset to this role. It was noted that the Emergency Management Director will continue to report to the First Selectman. Ms. Chesebrough shared her appreciation for Captain Schneider taking on this additional responsibility for our community.

A motion was made by Ms. Downie, seconded by Ms. Strunk and voted unanimously to appoint Captain Bryan Schneider as Emergency Management Director effective July 1, 2023.

Resignation – Ledge Light Health District Board

The Board acknowledged the resignation of Erin Gregor from the Ledge Light Health District Board effective September 14, 2023.

Resignation – Planning and Zoning Commission

The Board acknowledged the resignation of Fred Deichmann from the Planning and Zoning Commission.

Resignation – Architectural Design Review Board

The Board acknowledged the resignation of Christopher Thorp from the Architectural Design Review effective June 30, 2023.

(10) Old Business

None

(11) New Business**Discussion - Authorization of LOCIP Grant for Road Paving and Restoration on High Ridge Road, High Ridge Court, Fairway Court, and Woodland Court**

Mr. Jim Sullivan, Director of Finance gave an overview of the request noting the Town has submitted and receive approval of the project from the Office of Policy and Management. The project is included in the 23/24 CIP line-item authorizations for road pavement. The project is expected to exceed the LOCIP grant funds and is anticipated that the excess be funded through the same CIP accounts.

A motion was made by Ms. Downie, seconded by Ms. Strunk and voted unanimously to approve the use of LOCIP grant funds for the road paving and restoration on High Ridge Road, High Ridge Court and Woodland Court in the amount of \$471,812.82.

Request – Use of Donahue Park

A motion was made by Ms. Downie, seconded by Ms. Strunk and voted unanimously to approve the use of Donahue Park for River Glow on August 5, 2023 with a rain date of August 6, 2023.

Request – Street Number Assignment: Map 153, Block 1, Lot 3A, Street Number 17 Old Stonington Road, Stonington CT 06378

A motion was made by Ms. Downie, seconded by Ms. Strunk and voted unanimously to approve the request.

(12) Comments from the Selectmen

- Ms. Downie noted that she attended the Flag Day ceremony in Mystic and shared her appreciation for all that were involved with the Veterans Monument dedication. She gave an updated of the Mystic River Boathouse project as well as the Flood Prevention, Climate Resilience and Erosion Control Board.

- Ms. Strunk stated she would like to provide the Climate Change Task Force with a list of specific tasks that they can focus on moving forward. She shared her thanks to all that worked to create the Veterans Monument and for arranging the dedication ceremony.
- Ms. Chesebrough shared her thoughts on the Veterans Monument dedication and her appreciation for all who were involved including Stacey Haskell. She stated that the water loop project is moving forward and a draft RFQ is being created. A very positive meeting was held with the DOT regarding the proposed viaduct project on Alpha Ave. She noted they were very receptive to the Town and Borough's concerns and the DOT will follow up in a month with updated details. She shared her appreciation for the Board of Finance approving the lighting project in Downtown Pawcatuck. The Mystic River Boathouse Park project received approval through Planning and Zoning.

(13) Adjourn

There being no further business to come before this Board, the meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.


Stacey Haskell
Recording Secretary