RECEIVED FOR RECORD
STONINGTON, CT.
16 FEB -2 PM 2:03
CYNTHIA LADWIG
TOWN CLERK

January 27, 2016

The Stonington Board of Selectmen held a regular meeting on this date at the Stonington Police Department at 7:00 p.m. Present were First Selectman Rob Simmons, Selectman Mike Spellman and Selectwoman Kate Rotella. Also present were members of the public and press.

(1) Call to Order

Mr. Simmons called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

(2) Pledge of Allegiance

(3) Comments from the Public

None

(4) Approval of the Minutes

- A motion was made by Mrs. Rotella, seconded by Mr. Spellman and voted unanimously to approve the January 13, 2016 Board of Selectmen special meeting minutes.
- A motion was made by Mr. Spellman, seconded by Mrs. Rotella and voted unanimously to approve the January 13, 2016 Board of Selectmen regular meeting minutes.

(5) Correspondence

- Mr. Simmons took in correspondence from Stuart Schwartzstein regarding the Permanent Committee to Study the Needs and Use of Town Public Buildings.

(6) Appointments

STEP Ad Hoc Committee – Jeff Callahan

A motion was made by Mr. Spellman, seconded by Mrs. Rotella and voted unanimously to appoint Jeff Callahan as an ex-officio member of the STEP Ad Hoc Committee.

Capital Improvement Program Committee

A motion was made by Mr. Spellman, seconded by Mrs. Rotella and voted unanimously to appoint Jason Vincent, Director of Planning to the CIP Committee.

(7) New Business

Resolution of the Board of Selectmen Regarding the Town's Solid Waste Department

A motion was made by Mr. Spellman and seconded by Mrs. Rotella to adopt the resolution. Discussion: Mr. Simmons stated that there would be no change in salaries or responsibilities. He stated that the only change would be that the Solid Waste Department would fall under the First Selectman's Office rather than the Department of Public Works. The vote was 3-0 in favor of adopting the resolution.

Discussion – Town Clerk, Tax Collector, First Selectman Longevity

A motion was made by Mrs. Rotella and seconded by Mr. Spellman to approve the Town Clerk, the Tax Collector and the First Selectmen receiving longevity payments. Discussion: Mr. Spellman stated that Cindy Ladwig has tremendous institutional knowledge. Mrs. Rotella agreed. The vote was 2-0-1 in favor of approving the longevity with Mr. Simmons abstaining.

Promotion of Leanne Theodore to Director of Human Services

A motion was made by Mr. Spellman and seconded by Mrs. Rotella to promote Leanne Theodore to Director of Human Services. Discussion: Mr. Spellman stated that Leanne should be a role model for the community. He stated that she is committed to our community and she cares about the community. Mrs. Rotella stated that she just recently met Leanne and

that she is very deserving of the promotion. She stated that Leanne has done a great job for the town. The vote was 3-0 in favor of promoting Leanne Theodore.

The meeting was recessed at 7:14 p.m.
The meeting was reconvened at 7:16 p.m.

Discussion – All Purpose Field Release Agreement
Mr. Simmons asked for a motion to table the matter or agree to release a portion of the funding. A motion was made by Mr. Spellman and seconded by Mrs. Rotella to table the matter. Discussion: Mr. Spellman stated that diverse dates have been promised to the parents. He stated that he wants to see kids on the field and he doesn't want the town to incur any more costs. He stated that tabling this matter gives us more time to look at it. Mrs. Rotella agreed that it should be tabled until they look at it a little further. She stated that she agrees that they shouldn't be signing off on anything that is not completed. Mr. Simmons stated there was a motion to table which means they will take this action and simply hold it until such a time that the Board of Finance, Recreation Commission and some of the other entities including the Director of Finance have an opportunity to examine carefully whether they should release a portion or whether the Release Agreement should have language in it that reflects the e-mail communication that the Director of Public Works had with the surety company and the contractor so that we really know what we're signing off on in detail. The vote was 3-0 in favor of tabling the matter.

Approval of Solar Program for Stonington
Mr. Simmons stated that last fall he was approached by the Connecticut Green Bank an organization that is involved in running solar workshops in various town around the State of Connecticut. He stated what they try to do generate local interest in solar power. Mr. Simmons stated that they provide their services, he believes, free of charge. He stated it does involve a certain commitment on behalf of the community where such a project or program is conducted. Mr. Simmons stated that he felt it was a good idea at the time but has since found out that working the budget process and working with some of the issues that stand before us this timeframe isn't going to work. Mr. Simmons stated that his suggestion to the Board is that they communicate with Connecticut Green Bank that the town would like to participate but the time schedule for this particular program is not going to work out and that they postpone this until later in the year or next year when things aren't quite as busy. A motion was made by Mrs. Rotella, seconded by Mr. Spellman and voted unanimously to communicate with Connecticut Green Bank and voted unanimously to not go forward with the solar program at this time.

A motion was made by Mr. Spellman, seconded by Mrs. Rotella and voted unanimously to add new business to the agenda.
Mr. Simmons presented a request from Elaine Schmidt, Executive Director of the Stonington Housing Authority to waive the building permit application fee in the amount of $7,202.00 for the upgrades to Edythe K. Richmond Homes. A motion was made by Mrs. Rotella, seconded by Mr. Spellman and voted unanimously to waive the building permit application fee.

A motion was made by Mr. Spellman, seconded by Mrs. Rotella and voted unanimously to add new business to the agenda.

Mr. Simmons stated that the last item to be added is an action they took with regard to the CIP budget schedule. He stated that they met for an hour and a half and went through the schedule of capital improvements by department for the Town. He stated that they made 3 changes to the recommendation of the Capital Improvement Program Committee. Mr. Simmons stated that one was for the athletic field ADA moving it from a C to a B. He stated that the second for the COMO from a C to a B and the third for the Stonington Free Library from a D to a C. He stated that the Board neglected to move their work product. A motion was made by Mr. Spellman and seconded by Mrs. Rotella to accept the CIP budget schedule. Discussion: Mr. Spellman explained that on the athletic fields they discussed moving that from a C to a B from as risk management perspective and to be in compliance with the law. Mr. Simmons stated that what that dealt with is ADA accessibility for people who are handicapped are in wheelchairs with canes or walkers. He stated that it has a public safety dimension to it. Mr. Simmons stated that C does not involve public safety issues and a B does so they thought it was appropriate to move it to a B. The vote was 3-0 in favor of accepting the CIP schedule.

(8) ***Executive Session*** – The Board of Selectmen will meet in executive session to discuss the status of pending and/or threatened claims and litigation, namely Gabrysch, et ux. Vs. Town of Stonington, et al., pursuant to C.G.S. Section 1-200(6)(B), strategy and negotiations with respect to pending claims or pending litigation involving the Town of Stonington.

A motion was made by Mr. Spellman, seconded by Mrs. Rotella and voted unanimously to into executive session at 7:27 p.m.

A motion was made by Mrs. Rotella, seconded by Mr. Spellman and voted unanimously to come out of executive session at 7:55 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 7:57 p.m.

(9) Comments from the Public

None

(10)Comments from the Selectmen

(11)Adjourn

There being no further business to come before this Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:59 p.m.

Kristine Bell
Recording Secretary