

TOWN OF STONINGTON
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
June 9, 2015

A Special Town Meeting of the Town of Stonington was called to order at 7:00 p.m. on June 9, 2015 in the Stonington High School Commons, 176 South Broad St., Pawcatuck, CT, by First Selectman George Crouse. Also, in attendance were Selectmen Rob Simmons and Michael Spellman.

Ted Ladwig was nominated Moderator by Selectman Rob Simmons, seconded by Selectman Michael Spellman and was unanimously elected Moderator of the meeting. Town Clerk, Cynthia Ladwig served as Clerk.

There being no objection, the Moderator dispensed with reading the Call recorded immediately preceding these pages and asked for a resolution on the first item on the Call.

The Moderator read a resolution to waive the reading of the first item on the Call.

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, That the reading of the resolution to be presented to this Special Town Meeting under the first item of the Call be waived, and the full text of the resolution, a copy of which has been made available to all those in attendance at this meeting, be incorporated into the text of this meeting.

Below is the full text of the resolution:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF STONINGTON, CT, PROVIDING FOR THE
PARTIAL ABATEMENT OF TAXES FOR THE PORTUGUESE HOLY GHOST SOCIETY.

WHEREAS, the Portuguese Holy Ghost Society has maintained its place in the community at 26 Main Street (hereinafter "subject property") for over ninety (90) years; and

WHEREAS, the structure at the subject property is of historical and architectural significance to the Portuguese Holy Ghost Society and the Town of Stonington; and

WHEREAS, the Portuguese Holy Ghost Society has been an integral part of the Town of Stonington's heritage and history; and

WHEREAS, the Portuguese Holy Ghost Society is having difficulty maintaining the subject property in its present form as a result of the current level of taxation; and

WHEREAS, said level of taxation threatens the Portuguese Holy Ghost Society's ability to maintain the historic structure at the subject property possibly necessitating the demolition or remodeling of the structure which would destroy the historical and architectural value of the subject property; and

WHEREAS, Connecticut General Statute §12-127a provides that any municipality may by ordinance provide for the abatement in whole or in part of real property taxes on structures of historical or architectural merit if the level of taxation is a material factor which threatens the continued existence of the structure, necessitating either its demolition or remodeling in a manner which destroys the historical or architectural value.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE LEGAL VOTERS OF THE TOWN OF STONINGTON IN LAWFUL MEETING DULY ASSEMBLED:

Section 1. That the ordinances of the Town of Stonington be amended by adding the following:

- A. The Portuguese Holy Ghost Society and its building are of historical and architectural significance
- B. That the taxes levied by the Town of Stonington against the real property and improvements currently located at 26 Main Street, Stonington, Connecticut, be partially abated so that the tax burden of said property total not more than SEVEN THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED AND No/100 (\$7,500.00) Dollars for the current assessment year and every subsequent assessment year until and including the assessment year of October 1, 2019, at which time the abatement will be revisited by the Town Meeting.

- C. This abatement shall not apply to any further improvements to the property after June 30, 2010 that would ordinarily increase the assessment of the property.
- D. This abatement shall automatically terminate upon the sale of the property or a change of use of the property, or if the owner of the property does not maintain the historical and architectural features of the property in good repair.

Section 2. That all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with this ordinance are hereby repealed.

This Ordinance shall become effective following approval by Town Meeting and fifteen (15) days after publication in a newspaper having a substantial circulation in the Town of Stonington.

The Moderator asked for a vote on the waiving of the reading of the first item on the Call. Hearing no objection, the waiving of the resolution passed unanimously by voice vote.

The Moderator opened the floor to discussion. Tax Assessor Marsha Standish and Selectman Rob Simmons commented on the resolution. Hearing no further discussion, the Moderator asked for a vote on the resolution. The resolution passed unanimously by voice vote.

First Selectman Crouse read the second resolution:

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE LEGAL VOTERS OF THE TOWN OF STONINGTON IN LAWFUL MEETING DULY ASSEMBLED:

To consider and vote on a resolution to approve the Board of Finance's approval of a \$168,099 additional appropriation from the Undesignated Fund Balance to the Department of Public Works' Snow Removal account.

Being properly seconded, the Moderator opened the floor to discussion. Hearing no discussion, the Moderator asked for a vote on the resolution. The resolution was passed unanimously by voice vote.

First Selectman Crouse read the third resolution:

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE LEGAL VOTERS OF THE TOWN OF STONINGTON IN LAWFUL MEETING DULY ASSEMBLED:

To consider and vote on a resolution to authorize the Stonington Board of Education to apply to the Commissioner of Education and to accept or reject a grant for the Renovation/Extension at the West vine Street School; to establish the Stonington K-12 Building Committee as the building committee with regard to the Renovation/Extension at the West vine Street School and to authorize at least the preparation of schematic drawings and outline specifications for the Renovation/Extension at the West Vine Street School.

Being properly seconded, the Moderator opened the floor to discussion. Bill Sternberg commented on this resolution. Hearing no further discussion, the Moderator asked for a vote on the resolution. The resolution was passed unanimously by voice vote.

First Selectman Crouse read the fourth resolution:

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE LEGAL VOTERS OF THE TOWN OF STONINGTON IN LAWFUL MEETING DULY ASSEMBLED:

To consider and vote on a resolution to authorize the Stonington Board of Education to apply to the Commissioner of Education and to accept or reject a grant for the Renovation/Extension at the Deans Mill School; to establish the Stonington K-12 Building Committee as the building committee with regard to the Renovation/Extension at the Deans Mill School and to authorize at least the preparation of schematic drawings and outline specifications for the Renovation/Extension at the Deans Mill School.

Being properly seconded, the Moderator opened the floor to discussion. Jim Cornell and Bill Sternberg commented on this resolution. Hearing no further discussion, the Moderator asked for a vote on the resolution. The resolution was passed unanimously by voice vote.

First Selectman Crouse read the fifth resolution:

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE LEGAL VOTERS OF THE TOWN OF STONINGTON IN LAWFUL MEETING DULY ASSEMBLED:

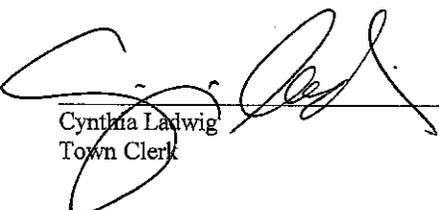
To consider and vote on a resolution to authorize the Stonington Board of Education to apply to the Commissioner of Education and to accept or reject a grant for the roof replacement at the Pawcatuck Middle School; to establish the Stonington K-12 Building Committee as the building committee with regard to the roof replacement at the Pawcatuck Middle School and to authorize at least the preparation of schematic drawings and outline specifications for the roof replacement at the Pawcatuck Middle School.

Being properly seconded, the Moderator opened the floor to discussion. Hearing no discussion, the Moderator asked for a vote on the resolution. The resolution was passed unanimously by voice vote.

The Moderator declared the meeting adjourned at 7:12 p.m.

/s/ Cynthia Ladwig
Clerk of the meeting

Received for record this 10th day of June, 2015.


Cynthia Ladwig
Town Clerk