

July 13, 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 Mr. Spellman, seconded by Mrs. Rotella and voted unanimously to approve the June 22, 2016 Board of Selectmen regular meeting minutes.
- A motion was made by Mr. Spellman, seconded by Mrs. Rotella and voted unanimously to approve the June 29, 2016 Board of Selectmen special meeting minutes.

(5) Correspondence

- Mr. Simmons took in correspondence from Danny Macri, Research Fellow from the Yale Data-Driven Environmental Solutions Group.
- Mr. Simmons took in correspondence from Maria Di Maggio, Membership Director of the Ocean Community Chamber of Commerce thanking the town for the renewal of its membership.
- Mr. Simmons took in correspondence from Shaun Mastroianni expressing his interest in serving on the Planning and Zoning Commission.

(6) New Business

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

Discussion: UConn Family and Community Development Disaster Preparedness Team

Maryellen Welch briefly explained that there would be upcoming workshops in Stonington to help better prepare the community in emergency situations.

Dissolution of the Affordable Housing Advisory Committee

Mr. Simmons stated that in May of this year the advisory committee met and the members all resigned because they felt that the work of the committee is done. He stated that the work of the committee has been taken over by other entities in the community. He stated that the quest for the board is do they formalize the dissolution of the Affordable Housing Advisory Committee by moving to accept the resignation of the members and dissolve the committee. Mr. Spellman stated that he had no problem dissolving the committee and he thanked them for their service. Mrs. Rotella stated that the funds for this committee need to go back into the general fund and not transferred to the Stonington Realty Group. Mr. Simmons asked Jim Sullivan, Director of Finance to establish where the funds came from. A motion was made by Mr. Spellman, seconded by Mrs. Rotella and voted unanimously to dissolve the committee.

Coastal Resiliency Plan Bid Award

A motion was made by Mr. Spellman and seconded by Mrs. Rotella to award the coastal resiliency plan bid to Arup. Discussion: Keith Brynes, Town Planner stated that 9 firms submitted proposals and 3 were interviewed by the selection committee. Mr. Brynes stated that the choice to award the bid to Arup was made based on their project approach, relevant experience, technical expertise regarding modeling of coastal flooding, experience in communicating complicated information to the public in understandable ways and its

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experience with HUD's Community Development Block Grant process. Mrs. Rotella asked Mr. Brynes if he was asking the Board to award a bid. Mr. Brynes stated yes. Mrs. Rotella asked what the value is. Mr. Brynes stated that it is \$150,000 funded by a grant from the Department of Housing. The vote was 3-0 in favor of awarding the bid to Arup.

Request for the Use of the Town Dock for the Blessing of the Fleet

Request for the Use of the Town Dock for the 2nd Annual Blessing of the Fleet Road Race

A motion was made by Mrs. Rotella, seconded by Mr. Spellman and voted unanimously to approve both requests.

Stonington Community Center request for permit application fee waivers

A motion was made by Mr. Spellman, seconded by Mrs. Rotella and voted unanimously to approve the request by the COMO for a building permit application fee waiver in the amount of \$506.00.

Pawcatuck Fire District request for permit application fee waivers

A motion was made by Mr. Spellman, seconded by Mrs. Rotella and voted unanimously to approve the request by the Pawcatuck Fire District for a zoning permit application fee waiver in the amount of \$78.80 and a building permit application fee waiver in the amount of \$482.00.

Discussion: Mystic River Boathouse Park

Mr. Simmons stated that the principle objective at this point in time is to provide access to the public to the Mystic River as a park. He stated that the secondary objective should the property be secured is to build a boathouse for the Stonington High School Crew and for the public use. Mr. Simmons stated that this not a Mystic park this is a Stonington park. He stated that it is a park that provides Stonington residents with access to the Mystic River.

- A motion was made by Mrs. Rotella, seconded by Mr. Spellman and voted unanimously to call a special town meeting to be held on September 20, 2016 to consider whether or not the town should purchase the property at 123 Greenmanville Avenue, Mystic for the purpose of establishing a public park; and furthermore refers said potential purchase to the Planning & Zoning Commission for a report pursuant to General Statute §8-24.
- A motion was made by Mr. Spellman, seconded by Mrs. Rotella and voted unanimously to request from the Board of Finance a supplemental appropriation not to exceed \$2,230,000 for the purchase, remediation and project construction of the property located at 123 Greenmanville Avenue, Mystic for the purpose of establishing a public park.

Westerly Water Restriction

A motion was made by Mr. Spellman, seconded by Mrs. Rotella and voted unanimously to request Pawcatuck residents who use Westerly water to voluntarily restrict their water usage.

(7) Comments from the Public

None

(8) Comments from the Selectmen

- Mrs. Rotella stated that with regard to the train station in Mystic it has been a joint cleanup effort. She stated that she has received a lot of calls and e-mails. She thanked Public Works Department and the Mystic Garden Club for helping to get involved in it and the new owner of the coffee shop for getting involved. She stated that it looks fantastic. Mrs. Rotella stated the Beautification Committee could not be more happy about this. She stated that the K-12 Building Committee is moving along. Mrs. Rotella said the section from Mystic Cycle Center to Hewitt Road needs to have sidewalks put in.
- Mr. Spellman praised the Stonington Police Department. He stated that there was incident with children at a camp ground in town. He stated that they went above and beyond the

call of duty. He stated that there is a video that has gone viral. He said they served cake and made sure a little 7 year old's birthday party went off without a hitch. Mr. Spellman stated that apparently there was a possibility of night shade that is an invasive berry that looks a lot like a blueberry that grew dramatically close to an actual blueberry plant. He stated someone that so concerned that they posted it on the Stonington Community Forum. Mr. Spellman stated it has been completely taken care. He stated that he spoke with State Representative Diana Urban and she will approach Congressman Joe Courtney sidewalks in Pawcatuck and in the area of the Mason's Island light. Mr. Spellman stated that she will pursue State funding for the two.

- Mr. Simmons thanked the Beautification Committee for the train station cleanup. He said the train station is the entry point to Mystic which is a tourist attraction and a source of a huge amount of revenue for the town. He stated making that look makes us look good. Mr. Simmons stated that Davis Standard received a grant award of 1.3 million dollars to assist in bringing Gloucester Manufacturing from Massachusetts to Connecticut to Pawcatuck to Davis Standard. He stated that there will be anywhere from 35 to 40 new jobs. Mr. Simmons stated that there will be a 15 thousand square foot building being built. He stated that this is what we need to do. Mr. Simmons stated e need to grow businesses to grow the grand list.

(9) Adjourn

There being no further business to come before this Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

Kristine Bell
Recording Secretary