August 10, 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 the press.

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CYNTHIA LADWIG
TOWN CLERK

(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 July 27, 2016 Board of Selectmen regular meeting minutes.

(5) Correspondence

- Mr. Simmons took in correspondence from Elaine Schmidt, Executive Director of Edythe K. Richmond Homes thanking the Town for arranging the dredging and weed cleaning of the pond at 45 Sisk Drive.
- Mr. Simmons took in correspondence from Theodore Nezames, Manager of Bridges for the State of Connecticut Department of Transportation regarding the bridge at North Stonington Road over Whitford Brook.

(6) Appointments

Stonington Beautification Committee

A motion was made by Mrs. Rotella, seconded by Mr. Spellman and voted unanimously to appoint Carol Nosek to the Committee.

K-12 School Building Committee

This item was tabled.

(7) New Business

Bid Award – Bayview Avenue Drainage Project

This item was tabled.

Bid Award – Commissioning Agent Services for School Projects

A motion was made by Mrs. Rotella, seconded by Mr. Spellman and voted unanimously to award the bid to Horizon Engineering Inc.

Bid Award – Hazardous Building Materials Survey for Dean's Mill School and West Vine Street School Projects

A motion was made by Mrs. Rotella, seconded by Mr. Spellman and voted unanimously to award the bid to Langen.

Income & Expense Report Penalty

Marsha Standish, Director of Assessment gave the Board background information regarding this matter and stated that Mr. Rick Fiore, 116 South Broad Street, Pawcatuck, Connecticut needs to go before the Board of Assessment Appeals to appeal the penalty for not filing his Income & Expense Report. After further discussion a motion was made by Mr. Spellman, seconded by Mrs. Rotella and voted unanimously that Mr. Simmons would send a letter to Mr. Fiore referring him to the Board of Assessment appeals and offer to assist him with the form and also suggest that the ultimate appeal is to the courts pursuant to the Charter and Connecticut General Statutes.

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(8) Comments from the Public

- Mr. Tom Fiore stated that the pond at the West Vine Street School has flooded in the past and the Town needs to remove some of the vegetation.
- Mr. Charles Ballato stated that the Town needs to clear the pond so that the kids can ice skate in the winter.

(9) Comments from the Selectmen

- Mrs. Rotella stated that the Beautification Committee is growing.
- Mr. Spellman stated he would recommend that they speak with the Department of Public Works to see what needs to be done to get the pond cleaned up. He stated that the Stonington Volunteer Ambulance Corps. deserves a lot of credit. Mr. Spellman stated that they applied for Heart Safe Community status for Stonington.
- Mr. Simmons stated that on August 12, 2016 in Old Lyme Senator Richard Blumenthal and possibly Congress Courtney will be convening a meeting of citizens to hear their concerns about the Amtrak Bypass that has captured the headlines in recent weeks. He stated that they invited him to go down and join them to speak about the project on the basis of the fact that he sent them and Chris Murphy letters objecting to the delineation of the bypass through the Town of Stonington. Mr. Simmons stated that what we really need is better commuter rail, Shoreline East to Mystic and Westerly. He stated that what we really need is reliable service where it goes on time and to fix bridges like the Connecticut River Bridge which is close to 100 years old and operates very irregularly. Mr. Simmons stated that after decades of failure to fix the safety problems on the Walker Dock and Elihu Island crossings wouldn't it be nice if they put in loop detectors so that the engineers could know whether or not there was a car on a track and they could stop the train and not just blow the whistle.

(10)Adjourn

There being no further business to come before this Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:31 p.m.

Kristine Bell
Recording Secretary