

January 12, 2022

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 and press were present.

**(1) Call to Order**

Ms. Chesebrough called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

**(2) Pledge of Allegiance**

**(3) Commendation – SHS Boys Soccer Team**

The Board issued a commendation to the Stonington High School Boys Soccer Team in recognition of winning the CT Interscholastic Athletic Conference Class M Championship. Rep. Greg Howard was also in attendance to provide citations.

**(4) Interviews – Economic Development Commission**

The Board interviewed Dave Brown, Paul Geise, Laura Graham, Donald Fiore and Derek Johnson for the alternate vacancies on the Economic Development Commission.

**(5) Comments from the Public**

Mr. John Norris of Al Harvey Road shared his concerns regarding the conservation of 224 acres of land on Al Harvey Road including wanting a public hearing on the topic prior to the deal being finalized with US Fish and Wildlife. He also shared concerns about the potential for hunting being allowed as well as the proposed parking lot.

Ms. Chesebrough noted that US Fish and Wildlife is a federal agency and they must follow certain guidelines when acquiring open space. She stated that US Fish and Wildlife allow for public comments through their system at some point during the process but they must first determine if the land is a good fit.

Ms. Strunk noted that no taxpayer dollars were spent when the Town contributed funding towards the open space parcel. She added that the open space funds came from developers in lieu of providing open space to the Town. She added that in order for a parking lot to be added approval will be needed by Planning and Zoning and the Police Commission.

**(6) Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made by Ms. Downie, seconded by Ms. Strunk and voted unanimously to approve the regular meeting minutes of December 8, 2021.

**(7) Correspondence**

None.

**(8) Appointment/Reappointment/Resignation**

**Appointment – Climate Change Task Force**

A motion was made by Ms. Downie, seconded by Ms. Strunk and voted unanimously to appoint Micheal Serra and Francis Pandolfi to the Climate Change Task Force.

**Reappointment – Commission on Aging**

A motion was made by Ms. Downie, seconded by Ms. Strunk and voted unanimously to reappoint Norman Erlendson, Ruth Nolder and Joanne Kelly to the Commission on Aging.

**Reappointment – Mystic Harbor Management Commission**

A motion was made by Ms. Downie, seconded by Ms. Strunk and voted unanimously to reappoint Fred Allard and Rodney Cook to the Mystic Harbor Management Commission.

**Reappointment – Economic Development Commission**



A motion was made by Ms. Downie, seconded by Ms. Strunk and voted unanimously to reappoint Virginia Abernathy to the Economic Development Commission.

A motion was made by Ms. Downie, seconded by Ms. Strunk and voted unanimously to reappoint John Godin from an alternate to a regular member of the Economic Development Commission.

**Acknowledgement of Term Expirations/Not Seeking Reappointment - Board of Assessment Appeals**

Pamela Johnstone's term as an alternate member of the Board of Assessment Appeals has expired and she is not seeking reappointment. We will send her an acknowledgement and thank her for her service.

**Acknowledgement of Term Expirations/Not Seeking Reappointment - Mystic Harbor Management Commission**

Michael Lague's term as an alternate member of the Mystic Harbor Management Commission has expired and he is not seeking reappointment. We will send him an acknowledgement and thank him for his service.

**Resignation - Economic Development Commission**

The Board accepted the resignation of Richard Balestracci from the Economic Development Commission with regret.

**(9) Old Business**

None

**(10) New Business**

**Discussion - Project Priorities**

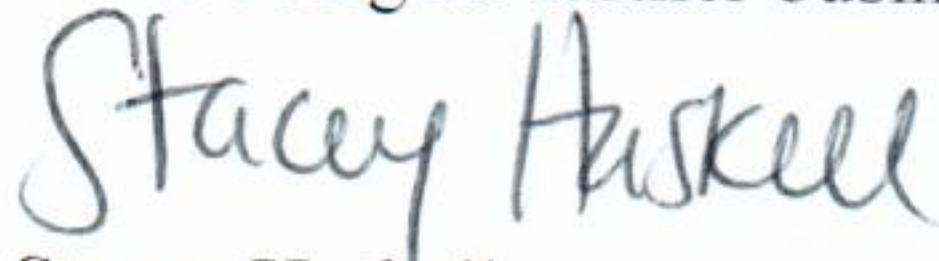
Ms. Chesebrough gave brief overview of the ongoing and potential projects that are being managed through the Office of the First Selectman. The Board will review and discuss priorities at the next meeting.

**(11) Comments from the Selectmen**

- Ms. Downie gave an overview of a meeting she had with the Board of Education Chairperson noting they discuss the superintendent search process. She stated that the Stillman Ave and Boathouse projects continue to move forward.
- Ms. Strunk gave an overview of the Climate Change Task Force meeting noting that they are working on a mission statement as well as a handout to provide to staff regarding ideas on how to be more sustainable in the workplace.
- Ms. Chesebrough gave an overview of the potential solar project at the landfill and added that the Town has received bids on the project. She noted that budget meetings have started and she met with all Department Heads. Lastly, she thanked everyone that helped to distribute PPE supplies and COVID at home tests to residents at several drive through locations including the Human Services Staff, Fire Departments, EMS, Police Department, Public Works, Stacey Haskell and George Brennan.

**(12) Adjourn**

There being no further business to come before this Board, the meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.



Stacey Haskell

Recording Secretary