

September 14, 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 Debbie Motycka Downie. No members of the public and press were present.

(1) Call to Order

Ms. Chesebrough called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.

(2) Pledge of Allegiance

(3) Condolence

The Board issued a condolence regarding the recent passing of Shellfish Commission member, Robert Hollis. The Board of Selectmen extended their sympathies to the family and friends of Mr. Hollis as well as to the Shellfish Commission members that served with him. Ms. Chesebrough asked for a moment of silence.

(4) Comments from the Public

None

(5) Approval of Minutes

- A motion was made by Ms. Downie, seconded by Ms. Strunk and voted unanimously to approve the joint Mystic River Boathouse Park Implementation Committee and Board of Selectmen special meeting minutes of August 1, 2022.
- A motion was made by Ms. Downie, seconded by Ms. Strunk and voted unanimously to approve the special meeting minutes of August 25, 2022.
- A motion was made by Ms. Downie, seconded by Ms. Strunk and voted unanimously to approve the special meeting minutes of August 30, 2022.
- A motion was made by Ms. Downie, seconded by Ms. Strunk and voted unanimously to approve the special meeting minutes of September 7, 2022.

(6) Correspondence

- Ms. Chesebrough took in correspondence from Jessica Mills in the form of an application for the Board of Police Commission.
- Ms. Chesebrough took in correspondence from Frances Hoffman in the form of an application for the Conservation Commission.
- Ms. Chesebrough took in correspondence from Julia Parry, a member of the Climate Change Task Force, asking for support from the Board for a resolution regarding climate change, resiliency and sustainability.

(7) Appointment/Reappointment/Resignation

Appointment - Planning and Zoning Commission

- A motion was made by Ms. Downie, seconded by Ms. Strunk and voted unanimously to reappoint Lynn Conway to the Planning and Zoning Commission.
- A motion was made by Ms. Downie, seconded by Ms. Strunk and voted unanimously to reappoint Gary Belke as an alternate to the Planning and Zoning Commission.

The Board members thanked Bill Middleton and Hannah Cedermark for also interviewing noting it was a difficult decision to make as they were also great candidates and encouraged their continued participation with Planning and Zoning as well as other boards/commissions.

Reappointment – Mystic River Boathouse Park Implementation Committee

A motion was made by Ms. Downie, seconded by Ms. Strunk and voted unanimously to reappoint Farouk Rajab to the Mystic River Boathouse Park Implementation Committee.

Reappointment – Conservation Commission

A motion was made by Ms. Downie, seconded by Ms. Strunk and voted unanimously to reappoint Stephanie Hayes-Houlihan to the Conservation Commission.

(8) Old Business

None

New Business

Discussion – ARPA Grant Budget line-item transfer from SECOG line to contingency line

Mr. James Sullivan, Director of Finance, requested a line-item transfer of \$25,749 from the SECOG line to the contingency line within the ARPA grant budget. The funding was set aside for the general assistance with grant administration through SECOG. The Town was provided minimal assistance through this program but as only a few towns were participating SECOG closed the program.

A motion was made by Ms. Downie, seconded by Ms. Strunk and voted unanimously to transfer \$25,749 from the SECOG line to the contingency line within the ARPA grant budget.

Discussion – Consolidation of Defined Retirement Contribution Plan Vendors

Ms. Patti Burmahl, Director of Administrative Services, gave an overview stating that the Retirement Board voted in August to recommend the consolidation of defined contribution plan vendors to one plan vendor, Voya. The current plan utilizes Nationwide for the 457(b) plan which is voluntary and entirely employee funded and Voya for the 401(a) plan which is shared between the Town, Board of Education and a small number of Fire District participants and includes employee and employer contributions. The Town 401(a) plan is the retirement plan for all new hires since January 2014. The consolidation to one vendor will provide a reduction in recordkeeping cost, increased education, enhanced investment platform and streamlined administration for town departments.

A motion was made by Ms. Downie, seconded by Ms. Strunk and voted unanimously to approve the consolidation of defined contribution plan vendors to a single vendor, Voya as recommended by the Retirement Board.

Request – Use of 49 North Stonington Road Parking Lot

A motion was made by Ms. Downie, seconded by Ms. Strunk and voted unanimously to approve Clyde's Cider Mill the use of the parking lot at 49 North Stonington Road from September 1-November 30, 2022.

(9) Comments from the Selectmen

- Ms. Downie stated that they are fine tuning the timeline regarding the permitting for the Mystic River Boathouse Park with the goal of remediation occurring next summer. She stated that she will be attending a meeting in the next few weeks regarding the preliminary conclusions regarding Stillman Ave.
- Ms. Strunk stated that she supports the resolution from Julia Parry and believes some edits will be needed before it goes before the board for approval.
- Ms. Chesebrough gave an overview of several events that she attended including Overdose Awareness Day, Special Olympics opening ceremony and the 9/11 ceremony. She noted the Veteran Monument is moving forward with the hopes of a potential groundbreaking ceremony in October. A public hearing will occur in October regarding CDBG funds for a project to create a self-contained green septic system specifically designed for environmentally sensitive waterfront locations located on Ender's Island. This project is not to enhance capacity but to fix the septic issue. The

Commissioner of Housing reached out to Eastern CT Housing Opportunities (ECHO) who has helped to raise \$600,000 of the 1.2 million needed for the project to let them know that they had excess funding available for the project. ECHO reached out to the Town to request a public hearing be held at a future date. If approved, the Town would be a pass through for the project.

(10) Adjourn

There being no further business to come before this Board, the meeting adjourned at 6:32 p.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stacey Haskell". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Stacey Haskell

Recording Secretary