

January 11, 2023

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 were present. There was no press present.

**(1) Call to Order**

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

**(2) Pledge of Allegiance**

**(3) Comments from the Public**

- Mr. Ben Tamsky of Mystic noted appointments to Board/Commission and that residency and conflicts of interest should be a factor when appointing. He added that the short-term rental ordinance should go to a referendum.
- Ms. Tracy Swain of Pawcatuck stated her agreement with Mr. Tamsky. She discussed the yellow trash bag and composting programs. She noted the yellow bag program may be in need of price increase and requested an improved bag that will fit better in a receptacle. She requested that the Board not continue to provide building fee waivers for nonprofits.

**(4) 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 14, 2022.
- A motion was made by Ms. Downie, seconded by Ms. Strunk and voted unanimously to approve the special meeting minutes of December 20, 2022.

**(5) Correspondence**

- Ms. Chesebrough took in correspondence from Christopher Morren in the form of an application for the Commission on Aging.

**(6) Appointment/Reappointment/Resignation**

**Appointment – Economic Development Commission**

A motion was made by Ms. Downie, seconded by Ms. Strunk and voted unanimously to appoint Donald Fiore, Elsie Bissett, Charles Glew and Hannah Creeley Cedermark as regular members of the Economic Development Commission.

The Board members thanked Jim Lathrop and Jeffrey Light for interviewing. They also noted and thank Jim Lathrop for the five years of service he provided as a member of the Economic Development Commission.

**Reappointment – Commission on Aging**

A motion was made by Ms. Downie, seconded by Ms. Strunk and voted unanimously to reappoint Susan Sedensky and Stacy Cassata to the Commission on Aging.

Ms. Chesebrough noted that the term for Louise Bray ended and she was not seeking reappointment.

**Reappointment – Beautification Committee**

A motion was made by Ms. Downie, seconded by Ms. Strunk and voted unanimously to reappoint Carole Nossek, Stacy Cassata, Julie Holland, Kit Hartford, Ann Marie Castagno-Clark and Eric Beverly to the Beautification Committee.

Ms. Chesebrough noted that the terms for Ayo Bryant, Kristin Parson and Dan Oliverio have ended and they would not be seeking reappointment.

**Reappointment – Ledge Light Health District Board of Trustees**

A motion was made by Ms. Downie, seconded by Ms. Strunk and voted unanimously to reappoint Erin Gregor to the Ledge Light Health District Board of Trustees.

**Reappointment – Waterfront Commission**

A motion was made by Ms. Downie, seconded by Ms. Strunk and voted unanimously to reappoint Michael Grimshaw to the Waterfront Commission.

**Reappointment – Mystic Harbor Management Commission**

A motion was made by Ms. Downie, seconded by Ms. Strunk and voted unanimously to reappoint Kenneth Scoot as a regular member and Matthew Beaudoin as an alternate member of the Mystic Harbor Management Commission.

**Resignation – Recreation Commission**

The Board acknowledged the resignation of Frank Prachniak after serving more than 25 years on the Recreation Commission and thanked him for his service and dedication.

**(7) Old Business**

None

**(8) New Business****Discussion – Additional Appropriation for Residential Trash Collection**

A motion was made by Ms. Downie, seconded by Ms. Strunk and voted unanimously to approve the additional appropriation in the amount of \$61,424 for residential trash collection. This item has been approved by the Board of Finance.

**Request – Building Permit Fee Waiver for Sylvestre Foundation**

Mr. Alan Sylvestre, Vice President of the Sylvestre Foundation, requested a building permit fee waiver of \$442.10 associated with a renovation project at 100 West Broad Street that will help with handicap accessibility.

A motion was made by Ms. Downie, seconded by Ms. Strunk and voted to unanimously to approve the building permit fee waiver in the amount of \$442.10.

**Request – Building Permit Fee Waiver for Denison Homestead Museum**

Mr. Jess Brown of the Denison Homestead Museum, requested a building permit fee waiver of \$289.60 associated with fence project on the museum grounds.

A motion was made by Ms. Downie, seconded by Ms. Strunk and voted unanimously to approve the building permit fee waiver of \$289.60

**(9) Comments from the Selectmen**

- Ms. Downie stated that she attended the Inland Wetlands Watercourses meeting and is helping to get information from the State regarding a project on Rte. 1. She stated she would be reviewing the draft remedial action plan for the Mystic River Boathouse Park. She noted she toured the boathouse in Glastonbury and had information to share with the boathouse committee on different revenue sources.
- Ms. Strunk noted that she appreciated the slideshow that was created by the First Selectman highlighting all that went on in town in 2022.
- Ms. Chesebrough gave an overview on the upcoming community conversation regarding short term rental ordinance noting an updated draft will be shared on January 13th. As a requirement of the federal funding, an environmental review for the water loop project has been posted on the town website. Internal budget meetings with departments have started. There was an error in the Westerly Sun article stating that the Town had purchased the Circus Lot. The newspaper will be

issuing a correction. A community conversation will occur in February regarding the potential purchase of the Circus Lot to create a park. Ms. Chesebrough attended a Groton Town Council meeting where they discussed the joint group effort between both Towns to review parking in Mystic. Building on the two years of work that has taken place, she shared that Stonington plans to move ahead with the recommendation from the parking study for paid parking in downtown Mystic pending final approvals. In coordination with Groton, an in-person meeting will be scheduled in February to allow further resident and business engagement.

**(10) Adjourn**

There being no further business to come before this Board, the meeting adjourned at 6:34 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