

July 12, 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 and Selectwoman Debbie Motycka Downie. Selectwoman June Strunk arrived at 5:35 p.m. Members of the public and press were present.

(1) Call to Order

Ms. Chesebrough called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m.

(2) Pledge of Allegiance

(3) Comments from the Public

None

(4) Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Ms. Chesebrough, seconded by Ms. Downie and voted unanimously to approve the regular meeting minutes of June 28, 2023.

(5) Correspondence

Ms. Chesebrough took in correspondence from Jane Dawson in the form of an application for the Climate Change Task Force.

(6) Appointment/Reappointment/Resignation

Appointment – Planning and Zoning Commission

A motion was made by Ms. Downie, seconded by Ms. Strunk and voted unanimously to appoint Bennett Brissette as an alternate member of the Planning and Zoning Commission.

Appointment – Housing Opportunities Commission

A motion was made by Ms. Downie, seconded by Ms. Strunk and voted unanimously to appoint Meredith Bogue, Paul Sartor, Lynn Young, Hannah Creeley Cedermark and Moria Deasy as regular members and Liz Stern and Kevin Halter as alternate members of the Housing Opportunities Commission.

It was noted that Julie Savin, who was an applicant, requested to consult with the commission instead of being considered for appointment.

Appointment – Cultural District Commission

A motion was made by Ms. Downie, seconded by Ms. Strunk and voted unanimously to appoint R. Douglass Rice, Laura Hopkins, Anthony Caporale, Gabriella Radujko, Paul Geise, Elizabeth Wood and Matthew Beaudoin.

The Board noted how challenging it was to seat the members as all of the applicants were impressive. The remaining applicants will be seated as alternates pending approval of the additional seats at the upcoming Town Meeting.

Reappointment – Recreation Commission

A motion was made by Ms. Downie, seconded by Ms. Strunk and voted unanimously to reappoint Stephanie Kindel Hartell to the Recreation Commission.

Reappointment – Architectural Design Review Board

A motion was made by Ms. Downie, seconded by Ms. Strunk and voted unanimously to reappoint Christopher Delaney to the Architectural Design Review Board.

Resignation – Economic Development Commission

The Board acknowledged the resignation of Derek Johnson from the Economic Development Commission.

Resignation – Stonington Housing Authority

The Board acknowledged the resignation of Debora Lee from the Stonington Housing Authority.

(7) **Old Business**

None

(8) **New Business**

Discussion – Policy for Building Permit Fee Waiver Requests from Non-Profit Organizations

Ms. Chesebrough gave an overview noting the importance of non-profits and what they provide to the community. The long-standing tradition of waving permit fees for non-profit organizations smaller scale improvement projects has been a good practice but an official policy had not been in place to guide the process. Ms. Chesebrough reviewed the draft policy discussing the purpose, background, policy and submittal procedure to assist non-profits and current/future administrations as to how/when the fees should be waived. The policy also notes the Board of Selectmen's ability to approve or deny any request.

A motion was made by Ms. Downie, seconded by Ms. Strunk and voted unanimously to approve the policy to include capped the building fee waiver at a total of \$10,000 per twenty-year time period from the date of their first fee waiver approval effective July 12, 2023.

The Board discussed the amount of money that should be waived for non-profits and agreed that capping the amount of money over a twenty-year timeline made sense since new projects may arise for the organizations in the future. After meeting the \$10,000 threshold, the non-profit can reapply again after the twenty-year time period has passed. They also agreed the intent was always to assist small scale projects. Ms. Strunk noted that non-profits are tax exempt and that they should be paying some portion of their permit fees. Ms. Chesebrough stated that the building department would oversee the list of permits granted per non-profit organization.

With no further discussion, the motion carried.

Set Call for Special Town Meeting on July 24, 2023 to consider and vote upon:

- *FIRST: A resolution to adopt an Ordinance of the Town of Stonington, Connecticut, providing for the waiving of outstanding tax balances in amounts less than two (\$2.00) dollars*
- *SECOND: A resolution to revise and modify an Ordinance of the Town of Stonington, Connecticut, amending the hours that Town recreational areas shall be open to the public, by changing closing time from sunset to 10:00PM.*
- *THIRD: A resolution to revise and modify an Ordinance of the Town of Stonington, Connecticut, to provide for the appointment of alternate members to the Town's Cultural District Commission.*
- *FOURTH: A resolution to revise and modify an Ordinance of the Town of Stonington, Connecticut, providing for an update to the Parking and Traffic Regulation to include Town right-of-ways, to authorize the Board of Police Commissioners to implement policies for electronic aided paid parking, to authorize the Town of Stonington to receive and utilize funds from the electronic aided paid parking to maintain the electronic aided paid parking and to support bicycle and pedestrian safety enhancement projects and to increase the fines for violation of the ordinance from Twenty-Five Dollars (\$25.00) to Fifty Dollars (\$50.00).*

Ms. Chesebrough read the following resolution:

Be it hereby resolved that pursuant to Section 3-3 of the Charter, the Board of Selectmen calls a Special Town Meeting for Monday, July 24, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. at the Stonington High School, 176 South Broad St., Pawcatuck, CT to consider and act upon resolutions as outlined in the Notice of Special Town Meeting which will be attached to the Minutes of this meeting as Appendix "A".

A motion was made by Ms. Downie, seconded by Ms. Strunk and voted unanimously to approve the resolution.

(9) Comments from the Selectmen

- Ms. Downie stated that she attended the DECD webinar kick off regarding the Brownfield Assessment Grant for the 21 Pawcatuck Ave Thread Mill Project. She noted the Boathouse Park project continues to move forward and the demolition permit will be pulled soon for the shed on the property.
- Ms. Strunk noted that the Pawcatuck Neighborhood Center is hosting a luncheon speaker series on Thursdays. She gave an overview of different legislative actions being considered that would assist the elderly in areas such as air conditioning units being provided in all nursing home rooms, support for grandparents raising grandchildren and aging in place. The Blessing of the Fleet walk/run will be held on July 27th.
- Ms. Chesebrough noted that the Planning and Zoning Commission would be hosting a pre-application workshop for the Thread Mill project on July 18th. One hundred tons of food waste has been diverted by residents utilizing the curbside composting program. The SCCOG and has created a committee on solid waste to bring together municipal leaders and discuss how they can proactively work together as a region to bring forth more policies at the State level. A follow up meeting regarding the Alpha Ave viaduct will occur in the coming weeks.

(10) Adjourn

There being no further business to come before this Board, the meeting adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

Stacey Haskell

Stacey Haskell

Recording Secretary


RESOLUTION TO CALL A SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that, pursuant to Section 3-3 of the Charter, the Board of Selectmen calls a Special Town Meeting for Monday, July 24, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. at the Stonington High School, 176 South Broad St., Pawcatuck, CT to consider and act upon resolutions as outlined in the Notice of Special Town Meeting which will be attached to the Minutes of this meeting as Appendix "A", which Notice is hereby approved.

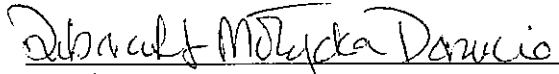
Signed and dated this 12th day of July, 2023 by the Stonington Board of Selectmen.



Danielle Chesebrough, First Selectman



June Strunk, Selectwoman



Debbie Motycka Downie, Selectwoman

APPENDIX "A"
NOTICE OF SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
TOWN OF STONINGTON

The Special Town Meeting of the electors and citizens qualified to vote in Town Meetings of the Town of Stonington, Connecticut, will be held at Stonington High School, 176 S Broad St., Pawcatuck, CT 06379 on **Monday, July 24, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.** Check-in will begin at 6:30 p.m. Please bring your identification.

To consider, discuss, and vote upon the following:

FIRST: A resolution to adopt an Ordinance of the Town of Stonington, Connecticut, providing for the waiving of outstanding tax balances in amounts less than two (\$2.00) dollars. A copy of the complete text of the proposed Ordinance is on file in the Town Clerk's office during normal business hours and online at www.stonington-ct.gov.

SECOND: A resolution to revise and modify an Ordinance of the Town of Stonington, Connecticut, amending the hours that Town recreational areas shall be open to the public, by changing closing time from sunset to 10:00PM. A copy of the complete text of the proposed revision is on file in the Town Clerk's office during normal business hours and online at www.stonington-ct.gov.

THIRD: A resolution to revise and modify an Ordinance of the Town of Stonington, Connecticut, to provide for the appointment of alternate members to the Town's Cultural District Commission. A copy of the complete text of the proposed revision is on file in the Town Clerk's office during normal business hours and online at www.stonington-ct.gov.

FOURTH: A resolution to revise and modify an Ordinance of the Town of Stonington, Connecticut, providing for an update to the Parking and Traffic Regulation to include Town right-of-ways, to authorize the Board of Police Commissioners to implement policies for electronic aided paid parking, to authorize the Town of Stonington to receive and utilize funds from the electronic aided paid parking to maintain the electronic aided paid parking and to support bicycle and pedestrian safety enhancement projects and to increase the fines for violation of the ordinance from Twenty-Five Dollars (\$25.00) to Fifty Dollars (\$50.00). A copy of the proposed Ordinance is on file in the Town Clerk's office during normal business hours and online at www.stonington-ct.gov.

At this hearing electors and residents may appear and be heard.

All ordinances and amendments thereto shall become effective following approval by Town Meeting and fifteen (15) days after publication in a newspaper having a substantial circulation within the Town of Stonington.

Dated at Stonington, Connecticut this 12th day of July, 2023.


Danielle Chesebrough, First Selectman


June Strunk, Selectwoman


Debbie Motycka Downie, Selectwoman