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SALLY DUPLICE
TOWN CLERK

TOWN OF STONINGTON

152 Elm Street • Stonington, Connecticut 06378

BOARD OF FINANCE MEETING

Wednesday, June 07, 2023

Police Department Meeting Room

7:15 PM

Call to order

Pledge of Allegiance

Comments from the Public

Approval of Previous Minutes

- 05/04/23 Minutes
- 05/18/23 Special Meeting Minutes

Old Business

- Request from First Selectman to transfer \$33,702 from Highway department "Snow Removal Materials" account to the Donahue Park Security Lighting CIP project to fund the installation of six lighting projects in and around Donahue Park.

New Business

Chief of Police DelGrosso will introduce the new fleet manager, Lieutenant Marley, who will be taking over from Captain Schneider, who will give a brief update on the status of new vehicle acquisition.

Line-Item Transfer Requests:

- Request from Deputy Chief of Police to transfer \$70,000 from Officers' Regular Salary a/c#10161-80045 to Regular Overtime account, a/c#10161-80082 to cover anticipated deficit at fiscal year-end in overtime account.

Bid Waiver Requests:

- Request from BOE IT Director for a bid waiver to purchase laptops from Apple, for \$113,295.00. Apple is the sole source supplier.
- Request from the Director of Public Works for bid waivers for DPW annual services from various vendors.

Review of ARPA Grant funded projects

Discussion Item:

- Request from First Selectman to discuss potential of appropriation for local match for two potential grant applications through "Complete Streets" grant program.
- Board of Finance Chairman to update members on the status of the proposed Viaduct replacement project.

Correspondence:

- Letters in support of Pawcatuck/Donohue Park lighting project.

Liaison Reports

- CIP Liaison Report
- WPCA Liaison Report
- BOE Liaison Report
- Other Liaison Reports

Adjourn

DRAFT

TOWN OF STONINGTON
BOARD OF FINANCE SPECIAL MEETING
DISTRICT OFFICE BOARD ROOM
40 FIELD STREET, PAWCATUCK
Thursday, May 04, 2023
7:15 PM

A meeting of the Board of Finance was held on this date at the District Office Meeting Room. Members present were Tim O'Brien, Bryan Bentz, Chris Johnson, and Lynn Young. Michael Fauerbach, Deborah Norman, and Bob Statchen were not in attendance.

Mr. O'Brien called the meeting to order at 7:15 pm.

Public Comments: No comments from the public.

Previous Minutes: The Chairman requested a motion to approve the April 05, 2023, meeting minutes. Ms. Young motioned, and Mr. Bentz seconded it. The Chairman asked members for any discussion or corrections pertaining to the minutes. No edits or corrections were noted. The Chairman called for a vote to approve the minutes, and the motion was unanimously approved.

Line-item Transfer Requests

Chris Greenlaw, Town Engineer, requested the Board approve two-line item transfers with the ARPA grants budget to help fund the Town Hall HVAC project, a/c#248515-88346, which is being undertaken using ARPA grant funds. The first is for a transfer of \$247,485 from the ARPA Town Hall Parking Lot Paving and Drainage project line-item, a/c#248515-82705, and the second is a transfer of the remainder of the ARPA Contingency line-item of \$87,838, a/c#248515-80435. The Chairman called for a motion to approve the two line-item transfer requests. Mr. Bentz motioned, and Ms. Young seconded the motion. The Chairman asked for questions and discussion. There was some discussion between the Board and Town Engineer regarding the total cost of the project and project timeline. The Town Engineer responded that the project had to start soon because heating season starts in October so the project has to be done by then, and that the sole bid for the project came in at \$2,039,896. Member Johnson, inquired as to why only one company bid. The Town Engineer responded that they had had four firms at the walkthrough but didn't know why three of them didn't submit a bid. The Chairman requested a vote, and the line-item transfers were passed unanimously.

Chris Greenlaw, Town Engineer, requested a second line-transfer, also to complete the funding of the Town Hall HVAC project, in the total amount of \$226,112.50, from the following CIP accounts: a/c's # 4022021-88323 WBSS for \$19,843.24, a/c#4022022-88323 WBSS for \$30,000, a/c#4022023-88323 WBSS for \$50,000, a/c#4022023-88255 Human Services HVAC replacement, and a/c#4022021-88344 Town Hall Roof Replacement.

The Chairman called for a motion to approve the two line-item transfer requests. Mr. Bentz motioned, and Ms. Young seconded the motion. The Chairman asked for questions and discussion. The Town Engineer explained to the Board that this second transfer would provide the project with a \$230,000 contingency balance that he believes a project of this size demands. The Chairman requested a vote, and the line-item transfers were passed unanimously.

Approval of the 2023 Tax Collector's Suspense Listing

The Chairman requested a motion to approve the 2023 Tax Collector's Suspense Listing as presented. The Chairman called for a motion to approve the listing, Ms. Young motioned, Mr. Fauerbach seconded. The Chairman called for discussion. Several Board Members inquired as to why these accounts are being suspended. Mr. Sullivan explained that this list represents uncollectible accounts, that could not be collected even if they were sent to collections, for various reasons. The Chairman called for a vote; the request was passed unanimously.

Ms. Norman commented that in one of the sentences on the suspense listing, the line read, "Gentlemen: The following list of uncollectible uncollected taxes for transfer to the suspense tax book is respectfully submitted for your examination and approval". She noted that this sentence presupposes that all the Members of the Board are men. If possible, she would like to have that sentence changed to something more neutral such as "Members". The Director of Finance said he would look into whether or not the language could be changed, or whether it is a mandated state form.

Liaison Reports

Highway Department Liaison Report: The Chairman noted that the interviewing process for the Director of Public Works is continuing, and based on the interviews held to date, he is optimistic that the position will be filled shortly.

Not for Profit Liaison Report: Ms. Young expressed her thought, that someone from the Board of Finance, should follow up with the Pawcatuck Neighborhood Center (PNC), about the PNC allowing a representative from the Town to join the PNC's board of directors, and that with the amount of funding that the Town provides to the PNC, the Town should have some say and oversight of how the Center is run and managed.

The Chairman called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Young motioned, and Mr. Statchen seconded. The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:38 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

James Sullivan

Director of Finance

DRAFT

TOWN OF STONINGTON
BOARD OF FINANCE SPECIAL MEETING
DISTRICT OFFICE BOARD ROOM
40 FIELD STREET, PAWCATUCK
Thursday, May 18, 2023
7:15 PM

A special meeting of the Board of Finance was held on this date at the District Office Meeting Room. Members present were Mike Fauerbach, Bob Statchen, Chris Johnson, and Debra Norman by phone. Tim O'Brien, Bryan Bentz, and Lynn Young were not in attendance.

Mr. Fauerbach called the meeting to order at 7:15 pm.

Mr. Fauerbach called for a motion to set the mil rate for the 23/24 fiscal year at 17.45 mils. Mr. Statchen made the motion, and Ms. Norman seconded. Mr. Fauerbach asked if there was any discussion, there was none. Mr. Fauerbach called for a vote to approve the motion; the motion passed 4 – 0.

Mr. Fauerbach called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Norman motioned, and Mr. Fauerbach seconded. The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:17 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

James Sullivan
Director of Finance



TOWN OF STONINGTON

SELECTMAN'S OFFICE
DANIELLE CHESEBROUGH
FIRST SELECTMAN

152 Elm Street • Stonington, Connecticut 06378
(860) 535-5050 • Fax (860) 535-1046

May 2, 2023

Board of Finance
152 Elm Street
Stonington, CT 06378

Dear Members of the Board:

The beautification committee has been working to enhance lighting in downtown Pawcatuck for years. Their due diligence, passion and research has brought us to this point. We now have a quote for six separate lighting projects that will include Donahue Park, public spaces near the Amtrak bridge, and the entrance to Donahue Park from Route One. The Stonington Police Department and Department of Public Works have also lent their knowledge and support to these projects.

The First Selectmen, in partnership with the Beautification Committee and Human Services, are requesting \$33,702.00 for these projects. If funded, these projects will be completed over the coming months, with support from Public Works. So, at this time we are requesting a transfer of \$33,702.00 from the Snow Removal Materials account #10151-80241, to the existing Donahue Park Security Lighting CIP project, account #402022-88352, which was funded at \$1.00 in the 21/22 CIP budget.

We would appreciate the Board of Finance approval of this line-item transfer request so we can begin this work and ensure it can be done as efficiently as possible.

Respectfully,

Danielle Chesebrough
First Selectman



Town of Stonington
Board of Finance
Apple bid waiver request

May 31, 2023

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Farouk Rajab
Board Chair

Heidi Simmons
Board Secretary

ADMINISTRATORS

Mary Anne Butler
Superintendent

Timothy Smith
Assistant Superintendent

Allison Van Etten
Director of
Special Services

Alisha Stripling
Director of
Finance & Personnel

Peter Anderson
Director of
Facilities & Operations

Chris Williston
Director of Technology

Stonington Public Schools Department of Technology requests a bid waiver for \$113,295.00 for the purchase of 105 Mac Air laptops on July 1, 2023 as part of the upcoming staff device refresh. This will cover approximately 50% of the district staff refresh for the 2023-2024 fiscal year, the remainder of which will be requested in the 2024-2025 CIP.

There will be \$110,171 in the CIP account as of July 1, 2023, the remaining balance of this purchase will come out of the Board of Education technology budget.

As an educational institution, we are required to purchase Apple products solely from Apple, as outlined in the enclosed sole source agreement letter.

Thank you for your consideration,

Chris Williston

Director of Technology
40 Field St., Pawcatuck, CT 06379
chris.williston@stoningtonschools.org | 860.572.0506



APPLE CONFIDENTIAL

May 11, 2022

RE: Apple Sole Source Letter

Stonington Public Schools
Chris Williston, Director of Technology
40 Field Street
Pawcatuck, CT 06379

Dear Chris:

The purpose of this Apple Sole Source Letter is to inform you and your organization that Apple Inc. ("Apple") is the sole source provider of Apple Products for private and public K-12 education institutions in the United States with a few limited exceptions.

"Apple Products" refers to Services, CTO Products, hardware and software products manufactured, distributed, or licensed under an Apple-owned or licensed brand name that an Apple customer has paid to acquire or has properly licensed from Apple for its own use, but excluding any third-party software and all other third party products.

"Services" means collectively, the standard, price-listed services, support, and/or training products sold under the Apple brand name. "Configure-To-Order Products" or "CTO Products" means Products that Apple modifies from its standard configurations and that are available to an Apple customer only by special order.

The only source of Apple Products for private or public K-12 education institutions is Apple with a few limited exceptions. Only a handful of strategic resellers, such as AT&T, Sprint, T-Mobile, and Verizon, are authorized to sell Apple Products to private and public K-12 education institutions in the United States.

Apple will continue to have a direct sales and purchasing relationship with K-12 education institutions and, aside from a very small number of exceptions, will continue to be the sole source for all of the Apple Products sold to K-12 education institutions.

Apple may change or update this letter in its sole discretion.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Vanessa Boenig".

Vanessa Boenig
Apple Inc.
U.S. Bids and Sales Contracts Management



Proposal

Proposal Number

2111216912

Account Number/Name

25090

STONINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Created On

05/30/2023

Created By

Chris Williston

Thank you for creating your proposal, details are provided below. You can access this proposal from your Apple Store for Education Institution by searching proposal number 2111216912.

Comments from Proposer:

Staff laptop refresh for FY '23-24 for DMS, WVS, Traveling Staff, and DO

Item	Product / Description	Total Quantity	Unit Price	Total Price
1	MLYE3LL/A 13-inch MacBook Air: Apple M2 chip with 8-core CPU and 8-core GPU, 256GB – Midnight (Packaged in a 5-pack)	105	1,079.00	113,295.00 USD

Specifications

- System on a Chip (Processor): Apple M2 chip with 8-core CPU, 8-core GPU, 16-core Neural Engine
- Memory: 8GB unified memory
- Storage: 256GB SSD storage
- Power Adapter: 30W USB-C Power Adapter
- Camera: 1080p FaceTime HD camera
- Thunderbolt: Two Thunderbolt / USB 4 ports
- Input: MagSafe 3 charging port
- Display: 13.6-inch Liquid Retina display with True Tone
- Pro Apps Bundle for Education: None
- Keyboard Language: Backlit Magic Keyboard with Touch ID - US English
- Accessory Kit: Accessory Kit

Subtotal	113,295.00 USD
Estimated Tax	0.00 USD

Please note that your order subtotal does not include sales tax or rebates. Sales tax and rebates, if applicable, will be added when your order is processed. Your order total may include estimated sales tax that is subject to change at the time your order is processed.

How to Order

If you would like to convert this Proposal to an order, log into your Apple Store for Education Institution and select 'Proposal' from the pull-down menu. Search for this Proposal by entering the Proposal Number referenced above.

Note: A Purchaser login is required to order. Visit your Apple Store for Education Institution to login or create your Purchaser Apple ID.

The prices and specifications above correspond to those valid at the time the Proposal was created and are subject to change. Purchases are subject to the terms and conditions of your agreement with Apple and the Apple Store for Education Institution.

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TOWN OF STONINGTON
ARPA GRANT BUDGET- AGENCY FUNDING REQUESTS
APPROVED AT TOWN MEETING OCTOBER 18, 2021
YTD EXPENDITURES/ENCUMBRANCES AS OF May 31, 2023

5/31/2023

LINE #	Implementation Agency	Expenditure Classification	Approved Budget	Board of Selectmen/ Finance Adjustments 2021-22/22-23	Adjusted Project Budget	Expended/ Encumbered to Date 03-01-23	Balance of Project as of 03/01/23
1		FACILITIES					
2	Town	Town Hall HVAC	1,200,000	775,323	1,975,323	(1,975,323)	-
3	Town	Human Services HVAC	340,000	(340,000)	-	-	-
4	Town	Salt Dome	600,000	362,425	962,425	(924,106)	38,319
5	School	SMS HVAC	100,000	(100,000)	-	-	-
6	Outside Agency	Inclusion Foundation (Old Mystic Site)	-	-	-	-	-
7	School	Child and Family Stonington Office	-	-	-	-	-
8	Town	Contingency	1,000,000	(1,000,000)	-	-	-
9	Town	Tennis Courts Project	-	499,333	499,333	(499,333)	-
10	Town	Spellman Park Pavilion Roof	-	19,975	19,975	(19,975)	-
11		TOTAL FACILITIES	3,240,000	217,056	3,457,056	(3,418,737)	38,319
12		INFRASTRUCTURE					
13	Town		-	-	-	-	-
14	Town	Fourth District Voting Hall drainage and paving	150,000	-	150,000	(19,000)	131,000
15	Town	Town Hall drainage and parking lot	375,000	(332,910)	42,090	(14,700)	27,390
16	Town		-	-	-	-	-
17	Town		-	-	-	-	-
18	Town	Paving	706,668	-	706,668	(591,043)	115,625
19	Town	Veterans Memorial	-	86,420	86,420	(86,420)	-
20		TOTAL INFRASTRUCTURE	1,231,668	(246,490)	985,178	(711,163)	274,015
21		HOUSING					
22	Outside Agency	Stonington Housing Fund-AWP Project Manager	150,000	-	150,000	(38,171)	111,829
23	N/A		-	-	-	-	-
24			-	-	-	-	-
25		TOTAL HOUSING	150,000	-	150,000	(38,171)	111,829
26		TRANSPORTATION					
27	Town	Stonington Transportation Fund	-	-	-	-	-
28	Town	General Assistance	50,000	-	50,000	(39,215)	10,785
29		TOTAL TRANSPORTATION	50,000	-	50,000	(39,215)	10,785
30		ECONOMY					
31	OSCC	Ocean Community Chamber of Commerce	75,000	-	75,000	(60,234)	14,766
32	SCCC	Southeastern CT Cultural Coalition	52,000	-	52,000	(52,000)	-
33	Mystic Chamber	Mystic Chamber	13,000	-	13,000	(13,000)	-
34			-	-	-	-	-
35		TOTAL ECONOMY	140,000	-	140,000	(125,234)	14,766

TOWN OF STONINGTON
 ARPA GRANT BUDGET- AGENCY FUNDING REQUESTS.
 APPROVED AT TOWN MEETING OCTOBER 18, 2021
 YTD EXPENDITURES/ENCUMBRANCES AS OF May 31, 2023

5/31/2023

LINE #	Implementation Agency	Expenditure Classification	Approved Budget	Board of Selectmen/ Finance Adjustments 2021-22/22-23	Adjusted Project Budget	Expended/ Encumbered to Date 03-01-23	Balance of Project as of 03/01/23
36		SERVICES					
37	Town	Mental Health 911/211 campaign and counseling	22,480	-	22,480	-	22,480
38	Outside Agency	Libraries-COVID Expenses	40,000	-	40,000	(40,000)	-
39	Outside Agency	New Heights- Program Van	41,000	-	41,000	(41,000)	-
40	Outside Agency	Como- HVAC	80,000	-	80,000	-	80,000
41	Outside Agency	Always Home- Stonington Assistance Fund	10,000	-	10,000	(10,000)	-
42	Outside Agency		-	-	-	-	-
43	Outside Agency	Edythe K Richmond PPE	10,138	-	10,138	-	10,138
44	Outside Agency		-	-	-	-	-
45		TOTAL SERVICES	203,618	-	203,618	(91,000)	112,618
46		SECURITY/HEALTH					
47	Outside Agency	Ambulances					
48		Mystic	11,500	-	11,500	(11,500)	-
49		Westerly	7,500	-	7,500	(7,500)	-
50	Town		-	-	-	-	-
51	Town	Cyber	110,000	54,000	164,000	(164,000)	-
52	Outside Agency	LLHD	52,309	-	52,309	(52,309)	-
53			-	-	-	-	-
54		TOTAL SECURITY/HEALTH	181,309	54,000	235,309	(235,309)	-
55		GENERAL ASSISTANCE WITH GRANT ADMINISTRATION					
56	Outside Agency	SECOG	34,332	(24,566)	9,766	(9,766)	-
57	Town	Administration	-	-	-	-	-
58		TOTAL GENERAL ASSISTANCE	34,332	(24,566)	9,766	(9,766)	-
59		TOTAL	5,230,927	-	5,230,927	(4,668,595)	562,332
60		Unrestricted Use Funds-1.9million available	1,416,668	416,425	1,833,093	(1,679,149)	153,944
61		Restricted by Interim Rule Guidance	3,814,259	(416,425)	3,397,834	(2,989,446)	408,388
62		TOTAL	5,230,927	-	5,230,927	(4,668,595)	562,332



Town of Stonington
Economic Development Commission
152 Elm Street
Stonington, Connecticut 06378

Tim O'Brien
Stonington Board of Finance
152 Elm St
Stonington CT 06378

May 26th, 2023

COMMISSIONERS

Kevin Bowdler
Chairman

Cullen Hagan
Vice Chairman

Virginia Abernathy
Member

Elsie Bisset
Member

Hannah Cedermark
Member

Charles Clew
Member

Don Fiore
Member

Suzanne Lane
Member

Christopher Smith
Member

Derek Johnson
Alternate

Sarah Welch
Alternate

The EDC's mission is to advance the Town's economic prosperity; foster equitable and sustainable growth; and champion a thriving community.

Dear Board of Finance,

Re: Pawcatuck Lighting Project

The Stonington Economic Development Commission has been focusing on the revitalization of downtown Pawcatuck for many years. This broad scope has included zoning changes and the encouragement of investors and developers to invest in the aging and decrepit mill buildings. Beautification is an important part of revitalization. A town that shows civic pride and love for itself will encourage further investment. The largest developer in West Hartford, when asked "why did you decide to invest in West Hartford?" answered "Because the Town has demonstrated that it loves itself by the flower baskets and other landscaping completed by the Town." Stonington can demonstrate that it loves Pawcatuck by investing in all or most of these proposed lighting projects.

Stonington's goal should be to make Pawcatuck look as nice as Westerly so that visitors do not notice a difference between the two towns. The Starry Lights Christmas display helps to synthesize the look and feel the two downtown areas. Small things like improved lighting can have a profound effect on how people feel safe and comfortable when moving around at nighttime. A longtime goal of the EDC is to establish a Riverwalk from the Route 1 bridge to Donahue Park. This lighting project could be a catalyst to help build momentum for that project.

Thank you for your consideration in financing this project.

Kevin Bowdler
EDC Chair
cc. James Sullivan, Danielle Chesebrough

James Sullivan

From: Contact form at Stonington CT <cmsmailer@civicplus.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 23, 2023 3:16 PM
To: James Sullivan
Subject: [Stonington CT] Lighting Improvements for Pawcatuck (Sent by Kerianne Smith, keriannegarston@gmail.com)

Caution! This message was sent from outside the Town of Stonington.

Hello jsullivan,

Kerianne Smith (keriannegarston@gmail.com) has sent you a message via your contact form (<https://www.stonington-ct.gov/users/jsullivan/contact>) at Stonington CT.

If you don't want to receive such e-mails, you can change your settings at <https://www.stonington-ct.gov/user/261/edit>.

Message:

James Sullivan,

I am writing to you in support of the Pawcatuck Lighting Improvements. I am a Pawcatuck resident and would love to see investment in this area of town.

There are a few reasons I am in support of the lighting improvements that I have outlined below:

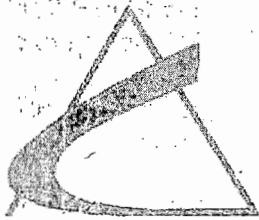
- 1) Lighting makes a difference. Immediately upon moving to this town, I noticed there is a big gap of public landscape care and maintenance between this part of CT and towns surrounding Hartford. It is disheartening to live in Pawcatuck, see it's beauty and potential and continually experience a lack of investment into this area. If improvements are made, it will create a greater sense of pride for the citizens that live here. I want to be proud of my downtown, and right now, when friends visit from out of town, I often times find myself excusing the appearance, and trying to convince them it really is great. But when I look at it with fresh objective eyes, I can understand why they may not think so. It pains me to drive through Norwich, the untapped potential is heartbreaking, and I would be so sad to see this slowly happen to Pawcatuck. If money isn't invested into downtown Pawcatuck my fear is that it will be a miniature Norwich. Lighting can be the first step to initiate community pride and furthering the potential and success of downtown Pawcatuck.
- 2) If we take pride in our own community, it will kickstart potential investors. There are many buildings in downtown Pawcatuck that need help. If we show the investors and building owners that we are investing in our own town, maybe they will join in as well. Right over the bridge, in Westerly, business is thriving, I wish this could transfer over the bridge to Pawcatuck. Updating one aspect of Pawcatuck can create a snowball effect.
- 3) Walking in Pawcatuck after dark will be much safer with lighting. Not much to elaborate here, but better lighting brings in the good and keeps out the bad.
- 4) People want to spend time in places that are uplifting, Instagram worthy, and up to date. I am always impressed when I visit Portland Maine. The small businesses there take so much pride in their aesthetics, graphics and interior design. This pride in their business in part stems from the pride they have in their culture and community. It is decisions like improving the lighting that spur these types of businesses and community pride. In turn, better aesthetics creates an

environment people want to spend time in. I know many young women who have lived here for a short time (because they found a job at Electric Boat or Pfizer) then moved not long after. Some of them described the area as "bleak". They would talk about the positive aspects of living here, which we all know very well, but there was always something missing. Many of my friends under 40 are searching for a great balance, of downtown, nature and suburbs. We need these people to stay here, this town has got the potential, and it's our responsibility to seize the opportunity we have here.

With Hope,

Kerianne Smith

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Town of Stonington. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.



Civil Engineers • Land Surveyors
Land Use Planners • Environmental Consultants

CHERENZIA
& ASSOCIATES, LTD.

Raymond F. Cherenzia, P.E., L.S., Founder
Sergio F. Cherenzia, P.E., President

May 25, 2023

Board of Finance
Town of Stonington
152 Elm Street
Stonington, CT 06378


RE: Lighting Project
Downtown Pawcatuck, CT

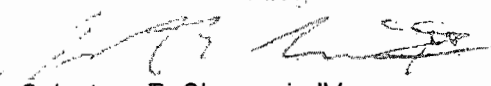
To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing on behalf of the Cherenzia Companies, located at 99 Mechanic Street, Pawcatuck, CT, in support of the lighting project in downtown Pawcatuck. As businesses and property owners in Pawcatuck we are in favor of the project assuming that it will improve safety, security and be aesthetically pleasing. We trust that it will benefit residents and attract visitors to the downtown, and hope that this work will spur improvements in the future on Mechanic Street.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,


Sergio F. Cherenzia
President, Cherenzia & Assoc., Ltd.


Salvatore E. Cherenzia IV
President, Cherenzia Excavation, Inc.

James Sullivan

From: ccobriens@aol.com
Sent: Friday, May 26, 2023 11:17 PM
To: Tim O'Brien; James Sullivan
Subject: Lighting improvements for Pawcatuck

Caution! This message was sent from outside the Town of Stonington.

Dear Members of the Finance Board,

This letter is in support of the lighting improvements brought before you for Downtown Pawcatuck. As a Pawcatuck business for 28 years located in the center of the intended streetscape and park improvement program area, we believe it would be a great benefit by way of improving aesthetics, safety for patrons and residents, and for the beautification of the area providing a more inviting atmosphere thus attracting new commercial investment to the many vacant storefronts in downtown Pawcatuck. Improvements to Donohue Park have been a wonderful thing for the area, however, the lack of lighting does invite a safety issue we have been dealing with for years. Just experiencing what the Starry Lights displays in Donohue Park did for the atmosphere and safety of the park at night as well as for people walking to their cars while enjoying downtown Pawcatuck dining or getting ice cream at Mel's created a safe and comfortable feeling that was not present before.

We support the SNS Electric proposal to address lighting under the bridge, in the park, and throughout downtown. We urge you to vote in favor of this well-intentioned, thoughtful streetscape and park improvement program. Such an addition to the Pawcatuck side of the river will continue the strides downtown Westerly has made into a thriving area.

Sincerely,
Sean & Carolyn O'Brien
C.C. O'Brien's Sports Cafe

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Town of Stonington. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Lisa Konicki

From: ccobriens@aol.com
Sent: Friday, May 26, 2023 11:17 PM
To: Lisa Konicki

Sincerely,
Dear Members of the Finance Board,

This letter is in support of the lighting improvements brought before you for Downtown Pawcatuck. As a Pawcatuck business for 28 years located in the center of the intended streetscape and park improvement program area, we believe it would be a great benefit by way of improving aesthetics, safety for patrons and residents, and for the beautification of the area providing a more inviting atmosphere thus attracting new commercial investment to the many vacant storefronts in downtown Pawcatuck. Improvements to Donohue Park have been a wonderful thing for the area, however, the lack of lighting does invite a safety issue we have been dealing with for years. Just experiencing what the Starry Lights displays in Donohue Park did for the atmosphere and safety of the park at night as well as for people walking to their cars while enjoying downtown Pawcatuck dining or getting ice cream at Mel's created a safe and comfortable feeling that was not present before.

We support the SNS Electric proposal to address lighting under the bridge, in the park, and throughout downtown. We urge you to vote in favor of this well-intentioned, thoughtful streetscape and park improvement program. Such an addition to the Pawcatuck side of the river will continue the strides downtown Westerly has made into a thriving area.

Sincerely,
Sean & Carolyn O'Brien
C.C. O'Brien's Sports Cafe

Lisa Konicki

From: Kerianne S. <keriannegarston@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 23, 2023 3:16 PM
To: Lisa Konicki
Subject: Attn: Stonington Finance Board Lighting

Hello,

I am writing to you in support of the Pawcatuck Lighting Improvements. I am a Pawcatuck resident and would love to see investment in this area of town.

There are a few reasons I am in support of the lighting improvements that I have outlined below:

1) Lighting makes a difference. Immediately upon moving to this town, I noticed there is a big gap of public landscape care and maintenance between this part of CT and towns surrounding Hartford. It is disheartening to live in Pawcatuck, see its beauty and potential and continually experience a lack of investment into this area. If improvements are made, it will create a greater sense of pride for the citizens that live here. I want to be proud of my downtown, and right now, when friends visit from out of town, I often find myself excusing the appearance, and trying to convince them it really is great. But when I look at it with fresh objective eyes, I can understand why they may not think so. It pains me to drive through Norwich, the untapped potential is heartbreaking, and I would be so sad to see this slowly happen to Pawcatuck. If money isn't invested into downtown Pawcatuck my fear is that it will be a miniature Norwich. Lighting can be the first step to initiate community pride and furthering the potential and success of downtown Pawcatuck.

2) If we take pride in our own community, it will kickstart potential investors. There are many buildings in downtown Pawcatuck that need help. If we show the investors and building owners that we are investing in our own town, maybe they will join in as well. Right over the bridge, in Westerly, business is thriving, I wish this could transfer over the bridge to Pawcatuck. Updating one aspect of Pawcatuck can create a snowball effect.

3) Walking in Pawcatuck after dark will be much safer with lighting. Not much to elaborate here, but better lighting brings in the good and keeps out the bad.

4) People want to spend time in places that are uplifting, Instagram worthy, and up to date. I am always impressed when I visit Portland, Maine. The small businesses there take so much pride in their aesthetics, graphics and interior design. This pride in their business in part stems from the pride they have in their culture and community. It is decisions like improving the lighting that spur these types of businesses and community pride. In turn, better aesthetics creates an environment people want to spend time in. I know many young women who have lived here for a short time (because they found a job at Electric Boat or Pfizer) then moved not long after. Some of them described the area as "bleak". They would talk about the positive aspects of living here, which we all know very well, but there was always something missing. Many of my friends under 40 are searching for a great balance of downtown, nature and suburbs. We need these people to stay here, this town has got the potential, and it's our responsibility to seize the opportunity we have here.

With Hope,

--
Kerianne Smith
keriannegarston@gmail.com
(860) 716-0349

Lisa Konicki

From: robert valenti <robert.valenti@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 23, 2023 6:44 PM
To: Lisa Konicki
Subject: Pawcatuck lighting

Dear Members of the Finance Board,

Stonington is a wonderful community in which to live, and I am particularly proud to call Pawcatuck my home. I have often felt that more attention should be paid to the revitalization of our historic two-state downtown. While Westerly has made great strides in elevating the aesthetics, our side of the river continues to lag behind. I believe the time is now to address lighting improvements that would present a more welcoming environment and attract commercial investment. I support the SNS Electric proposal and urge you to vote in favor of this overdue streetscape and park improvement program.

Sincerely,
Robert Valenti

May 24, 2023

Dear Stonington Finance Board Members,

I am sure you have a difficult job weighing the various priorities in Stonington and I sincerely appreciate your service to the town. It has come to my attention that a lighting project slated for downtown Pawcatuck is being considered and funding may be withheld or redirected elsewhere. I certainly hope that is not the case, and I hope that investments will be made into lighting downtown. I live in Pawcatuck, eat and shop there, and have regular musical "gigs" at Sunday Funday in Westerly. I would like to do even more performing and encourage more events, activities and a general increase in pride for this "diamond in the rough" village and Donahue Park. Improving the lighting so this community is more attractive, safer, and on par with sister community Westerly should be a goal we all strive to achieve. There is no time like the present to take action.

Please move forward with the full scope of the proposed plan to light up the downtown and improve the aesthetics.

Sincerely,



Greg Sherrrod
The Greg Sherrrod Music Co
100 South Broad St A103
Pawcatuck CT 06379

May 26, 2023

Dear Finance Board members,

As a resident of Stonington and a business owner with my Art Studio in Pawcatuck; I am in downtown Pawcatuck and Westerly doing business or dining regularly. I am in support of the proposed lighting program. It is a good design proposal.

These are the aspects that are so important to an area that is overlooked:

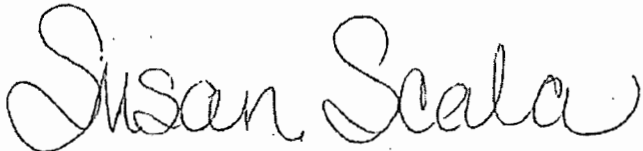
#1 increase public safety

#2 improve the overall appearance/quaintness factor

It would add greater attention to this area resulting in a more pleasant experience. This will hopefully lead to attracting new investments from businesses and developers who could help this community grow.

I encourage you to vote in favor of the entire program as presented by SNS Electric.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Susan Scala". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and address.

Susan Scala

Scala Studios

252 South Broad Street, Unit 9

Pawcatuck, CT 06379

May 22, 2023

Stonington Finance Board
Town of Stonington
Elm Street Stonington, CT 06378

Dear Finance Board members,

As a resident of Pawcatuck who dines and shops in the two state downtown regularly, I am in support of the proposed lighting program. It is a thoughtful design proposal with many aspects that will increase public safety and enhance the overall appearance of this often overlooked business district. It could also spur greater attention for the area resulting in an influx of new investments from developers who could help this community reach its potential. I encourage you to vote in favor of the entire program as presented by SNS Electric.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tom Fabian". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Thomas Fabian
293 Greenhaven Road
Pawcatuck, CT 06379

James Sullivan

From: Lisa Konicki <lkonicki@oceanchamber.org>
Sent: Wednesday, May 31, 2023 10:35 PM
To: James Sullivan
Subject: Pawcatuck Lighting

Caution! This message was sent from outside the Town of Stonington.

Sent from Lisa Konicki iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: DJ Gadget <djgadgetwblq@gmail.com>
Date: May 31, 2023 at 5:08:08 PM EDT
To: tobrien@stoningtonct.gov
Cc: Lisa Konicki <lkonicki@oceanchamber.org>
Subject: Pawcatuck Lighting

To whom it may concern,

I have become aware of the potential plans to improve Pawcatuck lighting. I could not possibly think of a better idea! I am a Connecticut resident who works in Westerly Rhode Island. I am in Pawcatuck constantly and even spend a lot of my time off in Pawcatuck because I have fallen in love with this area. More lighting in Pawcatuck. I think more lighting in alleys and parks and under the bridge would improve safety. Speaking of safety, I would LOVE to see more lighting at crosswalks! I think of it this way: most work uniforms are black; this makes people crossing roads hard to see even when you are using headlights. More lighting illuminating Pawcatuck would ensure their walk home is safer. In summary it is a GREAT idea please move forward!

Thank you for taking the time to read my input,

Aimee LaMountain-Spicer

28 Salt Box Ln
Uncasville CT 06382

(860) 705-9394

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DJ Gadget

Professional DJ | Radio Personality | Event Coordinator

C/o DJ Gadget PO Box 2175, Westerly RI 02891 | WBLQ



WBLQ: [\(401\) 322-9091](tel:4013229091) | **Cell:** [\(860\) 705-9394](tel:8607059394)

DJGadgetWBLQ@gmail.com

www.GoGoDJGadget.com

WBLQ C/o DJ Gadget, 58B High St, Westerly RI 02891

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