

August 14, 2019

The Stonington Board of Selectmen held a regular meeting on this date at the Stonington Police Department at 7:00 p.m. Present were First Selectman Rob Simmons and Selectman John Prue and Selectwoman Jocelyn Kepple. Also, present were Town employees and members of the public.

(1) Call to order

Mr. Simmons called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

(2) Pledge of Allegiance

(3) Commendation

Mr. Simmons called a recess to present commendations to Margaret “Maggie” Jones in recognition of her 27 years as Executive Director of the Denison Pequotsepos Nature Center and foresight in acquiring 34-acre Coogan Farm property, and Elizabeth Wood for her outstanding service as Executive Director of the Stonington Historical Society.

Meeting was reconvened.

(4) Comments from the Public

Betty Richards read a statement from Alice Fitzpatrick honoring and thanking Maggie Jones for her dedication to the Nature Center.

(5) Approval of the Minutes

- A motion was made by Ms. Kepple, seconded by Mr. Prue and voted unanimously to approve the July 24, 2019 regular meeting minutes.

(6) Correspondence

- Mr. Simmons took in correspondence from George Jackson Southeastern Connecticut Water Authority (SCWA) regarding Towns responsibility to appoint two people to the Representative Advisory Board to SCWA. At present there are no representatives from Stonington.
- Mr. Simmons took in correspondence from Charles P. Sheehan expressing interest in serving on Planning and Zoning Commission.

(7) Appointment/Reappointment/Resignation

Appointment – Stonington Housing Authority

A motion was made by Ms. Kepple, seconded by Mr. Prue and voted unanimously to appoint Debora Lee to the Stonington Housing Authority as the Tenant member.

Appointment – Zoning Board of Appeals

A motion was made by Ms. Kepple, seconded by Mr. Prue and voted unanimously to reappoint Raymond Dussault to the Zoning Board of Appeals from an alternate member to a regular member.

(8)Old Business

None

(9)New Business

Discussion – Request from St. Michael’s to lease West Broad Street School

Very Reverend Dennis Perkins, Pastor of St. Michael’s has requested moving school program into WBSS for larger classrooms, a cafeteria and assembly space. St. Michael’s School currently has 143 students. Paul Sartor, Chairman of the Town Facilities Committee spoke to the Committees’ unanimous recommendation to explore a lease agreement with St. Michael’s School. Mr. Sartor stated that a short-term lease would help to see if it’s a good fit as well as give the Facilities Committee time to explore other options. During the Open house held at WBSS, St. Michael’s was number one choice by the several hundred people that attended. Discussion ensued about safety of school, structural issues, costs, etc. Mrs. June Strunk, Chairman of the Board of Finance reminded those present that the Fire Marshall made it very clear keeping the school vacant would be more costly.

A motion was made by Mr. Prue to contact the Town Attorney to start the process of preparing an arrangement with St. Michael’s attorney, seconded by Ms. Kepple and voted unanimously.

Discussion-Mystic Health Center LLC Property Fixed Assessment Agreement: Phase II

Marsha Standish, Director of Assessment stated this is the second agreement, same as previous. The Fixed assessment does not include land. *Commencement and Duration* have been spelled out clearly in the Agreement for the Phases.

A motion was made by Ms. Kepple, seconded by Mr. Prue and voted unanimously to approve and sign the Property Fixed Assessment Agreement: Phase II.

Discussion-Award of Bid for Boiler Replacement at Human Services Building

Mr. Scot Deledda stated that the Town received bids on August 8, 2019. SK Mechanical LLC provided the lowest bid at \$48,790. This bid includes a double boiler system to be installed in two phases. Phase I being HVAC and Phase II is the AC units. This is higher priced but much more efficient and it must be done.

A motion was made by Ms. Kepple, seconded by Mr. Prue and voted unanimously to award Boiler replacement – Human Services Building to SK Mechanical LLC.

(10) Comments from the Public

Amy Hambly spoke about the dangerous road conditions on Jerry Browne Rd. Lynn Young also commented on the road and suggested signage to prepare drivers to the conditions.

(11) Comments from the Selectmen

- Ms. Kepple thanked Maggie Jones and Liz Wood for their work.
- Mr. Prue stated that the Stillman Ave crew is doing a great job getting it done the right way.

He also reported that the Police generator is oversize and because its value is over the \$5000 threshold, it may have to go to Town meeting to pursue next step. Mrs. Leanne Theodore stated that Human Services department does not have a generator. It is a critical item for them as they are the crisis center in the event of storms.

- Mr. Simmons asked Mr. Prue to continue to pursue this issue. Mr. Simmons stated that it's been four months since the collapse at Stillman Ave. and he is also please with the progress. They are now encountering Federal and State issues. He asked Mr. Deledda if Jerry Browne Road will be repaved and requested in the meantime that signage be placed at the sight.

(12) Adjourn

There being no further business to come before this Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:22 p.m.



Leslie Packer
Recording Secretary