

August 25, 2021

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. No members of the press were present.

**(1) Call to Order**

Ms. Chesebrough called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

**(2) Pledge of Allegiance**

**(3) Condolence**

The Board issued a condolence regarding the recent passing of current commission members, Mr. Joe Ciriello and Mr. Peter Moore. Mr. Ciriello served as a member of the Recreation Commission for the past fifteen years. Mr. Moore served as a member of the Shellfish Commission for the past four years. The Board of Selectmen extended their sympathies to the family and friends of Mr. Ciriello and Mr. Moore as well as to commission members that served with them. Ms. Chesebrough asked for a moment of silence.

**(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 August 11, 2021.

**(5) Correspondence**

- Ms. Chesebrough took in correspondence from Keith Brynes, Town Planner, regarding the Planning and Zoning Commission recommendation that a Town Meeting/Referendum be held to allow voters to decide on the issue of allowing adult-use cannabis establishments in Town. Ms. Chesebrough noted that we have referred the item to the Town Attorney and will move it forward to an upcoming Town Meeting/Referendum.
- Ms. Chesebrough took in correspondence from Eugene Pfeifer in the form of an application for the Ledge Light Health District Board of Directors.
- Mr. Chesebrough took in correspondence from Father Dennis Perkins of Saint Michael School expressing an interest in discussing the possibility of a long-term lease for use of the West Broad Street building. He noted that since leasing the building two year ago, they have had a 20% increase in enrollment. He added that they have completed many projects including painting the auditorium, all first and second floor classrooms and hallways as well as restoring and refinishing maple flooring in several classrooms.

Ms. Chesebrough requested to the move the new business agenda item regarding the award of bid for Town Hall and Human Services roof improvements up on the agenda prior to old business.

A motion was made by Ms. Downie, seconded by Ms. Strunk and voted unanimously to move the discussion regarding the award of bid for Town Hall and Human Services roof improvements up on the agenda prior to old business.

**(6) New Business**

**Discussion – Award of Bid for Town Hall and Human Services Roof Improvements**

The Department of Public Works received (3) bids for the Roof Improvements on June 22, 2021. This construction project includes the removal and replacement of the roof for both the Town Hall and Human Services Building. Additional construction activities will include the painting of the Town Hall portico

and installation of new gutters and downspouts. Activities at the Human Services building will entail the painting of the cupola and new gutters & downspouts. They are requesting the award go to the low bid contractor, Young Developers, LLC. in the amount of \$320,000.

A motion was made by Ms. Downie, seconded by Ms. Strunk and voted unanimously to award the bid for the roof improvements at Town Hall and Human Services to Young Developers, LLC in the amount of \$320,000.

Ms. Chesebrough requested to the move the agenda item, comments from the public, up on the agenda prior to old business.

A motion was made by Ms. Downie, seconded by Ms. Strunk and voted unanimously to move agenda item, comments from the public, up on the agenda prior to old business.

**(7) Comments from the Public**

- Leslie Driscoll of Williams Street stated that the Town should not allow multi-unit apartment buildings to be built in a flood zone and asked that a four-year moratorium on 8-30G affordable housing mandate be considered.
- Laura Graham of Moss Street stated that she is against the proposed redevelopment of Campbell Grain and tax assessment as well as the amount of traffic that will be added to the area. She spoke in support of St. Micheal School's request for a long-term lease.
- Tracy Swain of Courtland Street stated concerns with the processes used during the August 9<sup>th</sup> Town Meeting. Further, she stated the items petitioned to a referendum regarding the Campbell Grain Tax Assessment should be placed on the November ballot citing State of CT General Statutes. She spoke in opposition of the item regarding cannabis establishments being sent to referendum without further information on the topic being shared with the public. A copy of her written statements was submitted and are on file at the Town Hall in the First Selectman's office.
- Don Fiore of West Vine Street stated that St. Michael's School will be holding an open house on Sunday, August 29, 2021 at 2:00 p.m.

**(8) Old Business**

**Discussion – Drainage Easement to the Town over Swale at the Old Mystic Estates Subdivision**

Ms. Chesebrough noted that the item had been tabled at the last meeting to allow some questions that the Board had to be answered prior to voting on the item. She noted that that Keith Brynes, Town Planner, forwarded a memo with responses to their questions. In summary, the agreement requires the development and association to maintain the system and if they fail to do so the Town may provide care and charge the developer and association any cost incurred. The homeowner's association filed a declaration with the town which states their responsibility for the swale maintenance and lastly new homeowners' deeds do state that the property is subject to the "declaration of covenants and restrictions re maintenance of storm drainage systems".

A motion was made by Ms. Downie, seconded by Ms. Strunk and voted unanimously to accept the swale maintenance easement for Old Mystic Estates Subdivision.

**Discussion – American Rescue Plan Funds**

The Board of Selectmen reviewed all American Rescue Plan requests as listed below which will be forwarded to the Board of Finance for review and consideration. The Board of Finance will then hold a Public Hearing in September prior to the item going to a Town Meeting in October.

TOWN OF STONINGTON  
 ARPA GRANT AGENCY FUNDING REQUESTS  
 8/25/2021 BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING  
 BOARDS OF SELECTMEN AND FINANCE - FUNDING ADJUSTMENTS

LINE#	Expenditure Classification	REQUESTED Fiscal Year 2021-22	Board of Selectmen Adjustments 2021-22	Board of Selectmen Budget 2021-22	Board of Finance Adjustments 2021-22	Sent to Town Meeting 2021-22
<b>1</b>	<b>FACILITIES</b>					
2	Town Hall HVAC	1,200,000	-	1,200,000	-	1,200,000
3	Human Services HVAC	340,000	-	340,000	-	340,000
4	Salt Dome	600,000	-	600,000	-	600,000
5	SMSHVAC	1,400,000	(1,400,000)	-	-	-
6		-	-	-	-	-
<b>7</b>	<b>TOTAL FACILITIES</b>	<b>3,540,000</b>	<b>(1,400,000)</b>	<b>2,140,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,140,000</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>INFRASTRUCTURE</b>					
9	Water Line Loop	900,000	(300,000)	600,000	-	600,000
10	Fourth District Voting Hall drainage and paving	150,000	-	150,000	-	150,000
11	Town Hall drainage and parking lot	375,000	-	375,000	-	375,000
12	Sewer	150,000	-	150,000	-	150,000
13	Radio Loop/Microwave	135,000	-	135,000	-	135,000
14	Paving	500,000	(385,000)	115,000	-	115,000
15		-	-	-	-	-
<b>16</b>	<b>TOTAL INFRASTRUCTURE</b>	<b>2,210,000</b>	<b>(685,000)</b>	<b>1,525,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,525,000</b>
<b>17</b>	<b>HOUSING</b>					
18	Stonington Housing Fund	500,000	-	500,000	-	500,000
19	ALICE	120,000	(120,000)	-	-	-
20		-	-	-	-	-
<b>21</b>	<b>TOTAL HOUSING</b>	<b>620,000</b>	<b>(120,000)</b>	<b>500,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>500,000</b>
<b>22</b>	<b>TRANSPORTATION</b>					
23	Stonington Transportation Fund	50,000	-	50,000	-	50,000
24		-	-	-	-	-
<b>25</b>	<b>TOTAL TRANSPORTATION</b>	<b>50,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>50,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>50,000</b>
<b>26</b>	<b>SERVICES/FACILITIES</b>					
27	<i>Inclusion Foundation (Old Mystic Site)</i>	196,950	(58,950)	138,000	-	138,000
28	Child and Family Stonington Office	250,000	(50,000)	200,000	-	200,000
29		-	-	-	-	-
<b>30</b>	<b>TOTAL SERVICES/FACILITIES</b>	<b>446,950</b>	<b>(108,950)</b>	<b>338,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>338,000</b>
<b>31</b>	<b>ECONOMY</b>					
32	Ocean Community Chamber of Commerce	100,000	-	100,000	-	100,000
33	Southeastern CT Cultural Coalition	100,000	-	100,000	-	100,000
34	Mystic Chamber	33,000	(5,000)	28,000	-	28,000
35		-	-	-	-	-
<b>36</b>	<b>TOTAL ECONOMY</b>	<b>233,000</b>	<b>(5,000)</b>	<b>228,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>228,000</b>
<b>37</b>	<b>SERVICES</b>					
38	Mental Health 911/211 campaign and counseling	22,480	-	22,480	-	22,480
39	Child Care Subsidy	228,000	(228,000)	-	-	-
40	Libraries-COVID Expenses	30,000	-	30,000	-	30,000
41	New Heights- Program Van	45,000	(4,000)	41,000	-	41,000
42	Como- HVAC	185,000	(105,000)	80,000	-	80,000
43	Always Home- Stonington Assistance Fund	10,000	-	10,000	-	10,000
44	PNC- Gazebo	10,000	-	10,000	-	10,000
45	Edythe K Richmond PPE	15,000	(4,862)	10,138	-	10,138
<b>46</b>	<b>TOTAL SERVICES</b>	<b>545,480</b>	<b>(341,862)</b>	<b>203,618</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>203,618</b>
<b>47</b>	<b>SECURITY/HEALTH</b>					
48	Ambulances	19,000	-	19,000	-	19,000
49	Police Dispatch	65,000	-	65,000	-	65,000
50	Cyber	110,000	-	110,000	-	110,000
51	LLHD	52,309	-	52,309	-	52,309
52		-	-	-	-	-
<b>53</b>	<b>TOTAL SECURITY/HEALTH</b>	<b>246,309</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>246,309</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>246,309</b>
<b>54</b>	<b>GENERAL ASSISTANCE WITH GRANT ADMINISTRATION</b>					
55	SECOG	34,332	(34,332)	-	-	-
56		-	-	-	-	-
<b>57</b>	<b>TOTAL GENERAL ASSISTANCE</b>	<b>34,332</b>	<b>(34,332)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>58</b>	<b>TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>7,926,071</b>	<b>(2,695,144)</b>	<b>5,230,927</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>5,230,927</b>

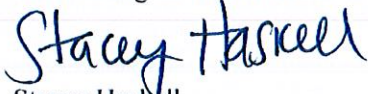
A motion was made by Ms. Downie, seconded by Ms. Strunk and voted unanimously to approve the American Rescue Plan recommendations as presented by the First Selectman with no changes and to allow the First Selectman to make slight modifications to the document, if necessary, prior to forwarding to the Board of Finance for their review.

**(9) Comments from the Selectmen**

- Ms. Downie shared her appreciation for all that helped, worked and volunteered during Hurricane Henri.
- Ms. Strunk gave an overview on the Police Commission meeting stating that they have referred 48 people to the Human Services Outreach Specialist in one month. Ms. Strunk also noted that the Planning and Zoning Commission voted to move the item regarding cannabis establishments to the Board of Selectmen and asked that it go to a Town Meeting/Referendum for voters to decide. The State of CT has legalized adult-use cannabis and will be responsible for issuing licenses to those wanting to open establishments. CT municipalities have to decide whether or not to allow cannabis establishments within their town line. She noted that if the item is approved at the referendum, the establishments will still have to follow all local zoning requirements.
- Ms. Chesebrough stated that she will be having a meeting with Congressman Courtney regarding Amtrak and their proposed railroad upgrades which would negatively impact residents living within the areas of the proposed upgrades. In regards to Covid, she noted that the local municipalities are split on mandating masks in all indoor settings. She stated that at this time Stonington is only mandating masks in municipal buildings but is strongly recommending that local businesses/restaurants, etc. encourage masks use while indoors. Lastly, she noted that Stonington was featured on cover of Food Waste BioCycle Magazine regarding the food composting pilot program at the Transfer Station. If the program gets approval from the state, it may become a regional initiative.

**(10) Adjourn**

There being no further business to come before this Board, the meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.



Stacey Haskell

Recording Secretary