

March 22, 2017

The Stonington Board of Selectmen held a Special meeting on this date at the Stonington Police Department at 6:00 p.m. Present were First Selectman Rob Simmons, Selectman Mike Spellman and Selectwoman Kate Rotella. Also present were members of the public and press.

(1) Call to Order

Mr. Simmons called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

(2) Pledge of Allegiance

(3) Comments from the Public

None

(4) Approval of the Minutes

- A motion was made by Mrs. Rotella, seconded by Mr. Spellman and voted unanimously to approve the March 8, 2017 Board of Selectmen regular meeting minutes.

(5) Correspondence

- Mr. Simmons took in correspondence from Mr. Dan Oliverio, Tree Warden, in recognition of Susan Stotts, Tony Wilber, Paul Bernier and Ken Anson who have been assisting him with town tree issues.
- Mr. Simmons took in correspondence from Ms. Prudence Martin in regards to the 300th Anniversary of the Denison Homestead Pequotsepos Manor.

(6) Interview Stonington Harbor Management Commission

An application was not submitted prior to the meeting and no one was in attendance for the interview.

(7) Appointment/Reappointment

Mystic River Boathouse Park Implementation Committee

A motion was made by Mr. Spellman, seconded by Mrs. Rotella and voted unanimously to appoint Mr. Jim Kelley to the Mystic River Boathouse Park Implementation Committee as an alternate.

Stonington Harbor Management Commission

A motion was made by Mrs. Rotella, seconded by Mr. Spellman and voted unanimously to appoint Ms. Melanie Degler to the Stonington Harbor Management Commission.

Stonington Commission on Aging

A motion was made by Mr. Spellman, seconded by Mrs. Rotella and voted unanimously to reappoint Joanne Kelly to the Stonington Commission on Aging.

(8) New Business

Resolution – Mystic River Boathouse Park Brownfield Grant

A motion was made by Mrs. Rotella, seconded by Mr. Spellman and voted unanimously to accept the resolution in regards to the Mystic River Boathouse Park Brownfield Grant.

(9) Set Call for Special Town Meeting to consider and vote on:

A Resolution authorizing the Town of Stonington to join the Ledge Light Health District; said membership in the Ledge Light Health District shall be subject to the terms and conditions as set forth in a written Agreement between the Town and the District.

Mr. Simmons also 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 Tuesday, April 11, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. at the Stonington High School, 176 South Broad Street, 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.

A motion was made by Mr. Spellman, seconded by Mrs. Rotella and voted unanimously to adopt the resolution. Mr. Simmons discussed the reasoning behind the urgency in setting up the Town Meeting as well as the services Ledge Light will be providing based on the upcoming retirement of the Sanitarian and Health Official. Mr. Spellman stated he is concerned the fees from Ledge Light will eventually creep up. Mr. Simmons stated that if the Town tried to replicate the scenario they have now it would cost them upwards of \$50,000 more than what it costs currently. Mrs. Rotella stated that she will be unable to attend the Special Town Meeting on April 11, 2017 but would provide a statement to be read during the meeting. With no further discussion, the motion carried.

(10) Comments from the Public

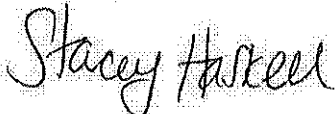
None

(11) Comments from the Selectmen

- Mrs. Rotella read from a statement, a copy of which is attached to these minutes as Attachment "1".
- Mr. Spellman had no comments.
- Mr. Simmons stated that he read in the newspaper that Planning and Zoning took an action at their last meeting on a Special Zone regarding a Historic Agricultural District. Mr. Simmons added that he would not involve himself in a project pertaining to his family but he felt it was fair to say that an effort being made to preserve and protect agricultural heritage by new and creative mechanisms is good for Stonington. Mr. Simmons added the State of Connecticut is losing farmland faster than any state in America and if we are unable to recover these lands as economic entities that are sustainable into the future, the farm lands will get lost to subdivision and development. Therefore, we will lose a significant aspect character of the Town. Mr. Simmons added that he hoped it was understood his statement is meant in a generic sense and not personal.

(12) Adjourn

There being no further business to come before this Board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:25 p.m.



Stacey Haskell

Recording Secretary

Attachment "1"

We are faced with quite a few obstacles to overcome with this budgetary cycle. I believe all residents, Town Government and State government need to work together and across party lines to keep our towns and state moving forward with growth and sustainability.

I have been privileged to sit on a few committees in my role as the Selectwomen, such as the K-12 building committee and the beautification committee. The K-12 building committee is moving forward and very excited as we get closer to the bidding and construction phases.

At this week's Beautification committee we reviewed roles of the committee and issues that they would like resolved.

First and foremost at the top of my list and theirs-

The lighting that is not working properly is still an issue and I would like to have an update sent to me on who is the Ever source contact so we can get this resolved for the Pawcatuck residents once and for all. I have heard their frustrations as the light has been out for over 4 years according to the chair, members and visitors of the committee. We as a Board have tried to resolve this since October and I personally would like to get this resolved for this group. I respectfully ask that the First Selectmen allow me to contact Eversource on behalf of the Town.

I would request the following on behalf of the committee;

1. The Public Works department please have the park cleaned up for the upcoming Duck Race.
2. Public works department please clean up the Korean War memorial by the train bridge.
3. Public works has one of the missing historic district signs for Pawcatuck. My understanding is this sign is in the garage. Would Public works please have this re-installed. The location is by the train bridge. Perhaps PW can suggest an alternative installation idea to the pole. This location is prone to accidents and they do not want to see this continually knocked down. Additionally there is one other missing sign for this district. If the whereabouts is not known then could we get some insight as to how to replace the sign.
4. Public Works to provide the sidewalk sweeping and weeding schedule and can the committee assist in any way.
5. Mulch that the committee will use in beds around the Pawcatuck area will need to be purchased from a wholesale source. Please give the committee the information where to access the purchased mulch, for any projects they may have.
6. Taugwonk area is being cleaned up but the fence still needs to be addressed. Please let the committee know when this may be repaired/removed.

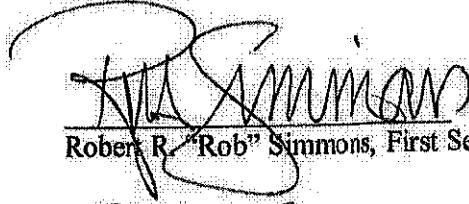
Again this committee of Volunteers works hard and has great ideas. They are always willing to assist the Town departments anyway they can. Please reach out to myself or the committee chair if needing assistance.

Thank you
Kate Rotella
Selectwomen

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 Tuesday, April 11, 2017 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 22nd day of March, 2017 by the Stonington Board of Selectmen.



Robert R. "Rob" Simmons, First Selectman



Michael Spellman, Selectman



Kate Rotella, 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, US Route 1, 176 S Broad St., Pawcatuck, CT 06379 on

Tuesday, April 11, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

To consider, discuss, and vote upon the following.

FIRST: To consider and vote on a resolution authorizing the Town of Stonington to join the Ledge Light Health District; said membership in the Ledge Light Health District shall be subject to the terms and conditions as set forth in a written Agreement between the Town and the District, copies of which are on file in the Town Clerk's Office during normal business hours.

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 22nd day of March, 2017.



Robert R. "Rob" Simmons, First Selectman



Michael Spellman, Selectman



Kafe Rotella, Selectwoman