

June 14, 2017

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, 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 7:00 p.m.

(2) Pledge of Allegiance

(3) Comments from the Public

None

(4) Public Hearing – 2017 Neighborhood Assistance Act Tax Credit Application

Mr. Simmons called the public hearing to order at 7:01 p.m. Mr. Simmons stated that the Town received one application from the Stonington Community Center. Mr. Simmons asked if anyone wished to speak for or against the 2017 Neighborhood Assistance Act Tax Credit Application. No one wished to speak. Mr. Simmons adjourned the public hearing at 7:02 p.m.

(5) Approval of the 2017 Neighborhood Assistance Act Tax Credit Application

A motion was made by Mr. Spellman, seconded by Mrs. Rotella and voted unanimously to approve the application from the Stonington Community Center. In discussion, Mr. Spellman stated that it should be noted that the post-project review is due on October 1, 2018. With no further discussion, the motion carried.

(6) Approval of the Minutes

- A motion was made by Mrs. Rotella, seconded by Mr. Spellman and voted unanimously to approve the May 8, 2017 joint Board of Selectmen and Mystic River Boathouse Implementation Committee special meeting minutes.
- A motion was made by Mrs. Rotella, seconded by Mr. Spellman and voted unanimously to approve the May 24, 2017 Board of Selectmen regular meeting minutes. In discussion, Mr. Simmons stated that the minutes contained very detailed discussion in regards to the Gilbane recommendations. With no further discussion, the motion carried.

(7) Correspondence

- Mr. Simmons took in correspondence from Ms. Kevin Lyn Sisson in the form of an application for membership on the Commission on Aging.
- Mr. Simmons took in correspondence from the Stonington COMO requesting waiver of permit fees for renovations at their 28 Cutler Street facility.

(8) Appointment

A motion was made by Mrs. Rotella, seconded by Mr. Spellman and voted unanimously to appoint Mrs. Stephanie Hayes-Houlihan to the Conservation Commission to fill a vacancy due to expire on July 31, 2017 and through the next term to expire on July 31, 2022.

(9) Old Business

None

(10) New Business

Mr. Simmons stated that Attorney Londregan and Attorney Bonnano were present to review and discuss the agenda item Gabrysch, et al. v. Town of Stonington. A motion was made by Mrs. Rotella, seconded by Mr. Spellman and voted unanimously to move forward on the agenda the discussion of Gabrysch, et al. v. Town of Stonington as well as to set the call for Special Town Meeting.

Discussion – Gabrysch, et al. v. Town of Stonington

Mr. Simmons stated that the use of the STEP property at the Town Dock has been a debate for the past seventeen years. Mr. Simmons stated that the current administration came into office with a lawsuit pending regarding the topic at which time they created an Ad Hoc Committee which decided unanimously to file a fence application with the Borough. The Committee worked with Planning and Zoning which sent the fence application to the Zoning Board of Appeals. Mr. Simmons stated that he received a letter from Warden Callahan asking that the Town withdraw the fence application as the outcome would have little to no bearing on the original lawsuit and that Borough would incur additional legal expenses. Mr. Simmons stated that on the basis of Warden Callahan's letter a settlement had been negotiated with the parties to include the following:

- Close and lock the STEP property gates and schedule a Spring clean-up of the property by the Department of Public Works;
- Re-open the southeast gates on the STEP property and secure them in the open position;
- Remove any signage suggesting that the STEP Property is an off-leash area;
- Withdraw the internal fence application submitted to the Borough Planning and Zoning Commission and cancel our appearance before the Zoning Board of Appeals; and
- Recommend to the Board of Selectmen that the entire Town Dock Property, including the STEP Property, be declared an on-leash area consistent with Borough public land policies and ordinances.

Attorney Londregan stated the stipulation was negotiated with Attorney Bonnano in the nuisance lawsuit which also includes a condition that the administrative appeal permit application will also be withdrawn. Attorney Londregan stated he is looking for a positive vote from the Board to enter into said stipulation and authorize the First Selectman's signature.

After some discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Spellman, seconded by Mrs. Rotella and voted unanimously to authorize the First Selectman to sign the stipulated judgment negotiated with the plaintiffs in the case of Gabrysch, et al. v. Town of Stonington on behalf of the Town of Stonington, and any other incidental documents to effectuate the stipulation.

Discussion – Town Dock Property Usage

After some discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Spellman, seconded by Mrs. Rotella and voted unanimously to resolve that the Town Dock Property also known as the Sewer Treatment Expansion Parcel as an on-leash area consistent with the remainder of Town Dock property and other public properties in the Borough of Stonington.

(11) Set Call for Special Town Meeting to Consider and vote on:

FIRST, Approving the abandonment and/or discontinuance of the paper street and right of way known as May Street located within the Town of Stonington, as agreed to in writing by the Board of Selectmen.

SECOND, A resolution to revise and modify an Ordinance of the Town of Stonington, Connecticut, providing for the Architectural Design Review Board to have two (2) alternate members.

THIRD: An amendment to Section V(c) of the lease between the Town of Stonington and the Southern New England Fishermen & Lobstermen's Association dated November 2, 1999, to increase the cap of expenses for reasonable, necessary minor repairs and improvements to the leased premises that may be authorized by the chairman or vice chairman of the Waterfront Commission from \$600 to \$1,000.

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, June 27, 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.

A motion was made by Mrs. Rotella, seconded by Mr. Spellman and voted unanimously to adopt the resolution.

Request for use of Town Dock for Blessing of the Fleet Social Event

A motion was made by Mrs. Rotella, seconded by Mr. Spellman and voted unanimously to approve the use of the Town Dock for the Blessing of the Fleet Social Event to be held on Sunday, July 30, 2017 from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Discussion - Mystic River Boathouse Park Implementation Committee Recommendation for Master Planner

A motion was made by Mrs. Rotella, seconded by Mr. Spellman and voted unanimously to approve Kent + Frost as the Master Planner for the Mystic River Boathouse Park.

Request for Waiver of Building Permit Fees for Deans Mill School and West Vine Street School

A motion was made by Mrs. Rotella, seconded by Mr. Spellman and voted unanimously to approve the building permit fee waiver in the amount of approximately \$544,004.00 of which \$17,680.00 would be the CT State Education Fee that the Town collects and Gilbane pays for the Deans Mill School and West Vine Street School projects.

Request for approval of Grandview Farms Drive, Cedar Grove Lane and a portion of Somerset Drive as public Streets

A motion was made by Mr. Spellman, seconded by Mrs. Rotella and voted unanimously to approve Grandview Farms Drive, Cedar Grove Lane and a portion of Somerset Drive as public streets.

Resolution - Mystic Train Station Master Plan Grant Application

A motion was made by Mrs. Rotella, seconded by Mr. Spellman and voted unanimously to approve the resolution. The resolution will be attached to the minutes of this meeting as Attachment "1".

Request for Waiver of Building Permit Fees for FEMA Compliance

A motion was made by Mr. Spellman, seconded by Mrs. Rotella and voted unanimously to approve the request from Mr. Scot Deledda, Town of Stonington Floodplain Manager, to waive the building permit fee in the amount of \$164.00 associated with work required for FEMA compliance for the property located at 155 River Road in Pawcatuck.

Discussion - Abandonment of May Street

A motion was made by Mr. Spellman, seconded by Mrs. Rotella and voted unanimously to the abandonment of May Street and to send ratification of said abandonment to Town Meeting.

Discussion - Architectural Design Review Board Ordinance Revision

A motion was made by Mrs. Rotella, seconded by Mr. Spellman and voted unanimously to approve the revisions to the Architectural Design Review Board and to send the said revised ordinance to Town Meeting.

Discussion - Southern New England Fisherman & Lobstermen's Association Amendment

A motion was made by Mr. Spellman, seconded by Mrs. Rotella and voted unanimously to the amendment to the Southern New England Fisherman & Lobstermen's Association and to send the said amendment to Town Meeting.

(12) Comments from the Public

None

(13) Comments from the Selectmen

Mrs. Rotella stated the Flag Day Ceremony at Town Hall was wonderful. Mrs. Rotella added that the Building Committee recently held ground breaking ceremonies at each of the schools and that everything is moving in a positive direction.

Mr. Spellman stated the Flag Day Ceremony was very moving and Mr. Dave Erskine did a tremendous job researching the two men whose names were unveiled on the World War II Memorial. Mr. Spellman added that he had the privilege to speak at the Democratic Town Committee and discussed how the schools need to be the crown jewel of the Town while continuing to build communities for students to thrive as well developing the grand list to ensure they have the best of the best. Mr. Spellman stated that Stonington was the only town in the State of Connecticut that grew in population over the past two years.

Mr. Simmons stated he was honored to attend several Flag Day Ceremonies including the Liberty Pole Ceremony in Mystic, the Mystic Seaport Naturalization Ceremony and the unveiling of the World War II Monument at Town Hall memorializing the names of the two Pawcatuck residents, MoMM Caldwell T. Cook and SSGT Nelson G. Sanschagrín who died during World War II. Mr. Simmons added that their service and sacrifice was for our freedom and future which unifies and brings us all together.

Mr. Simmons stated that he is glad the Board has come to a resolution in regards to the STEP property after 17 years and much controversy. Mr. Simmons thanked his colleagues, the Borough Board of Warden & Burgesses and all in attendance at the meeting.

(14) Adjourn

There being no further business to come before this Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:43 p.m.



Stacey Haskell
Recording Secretary

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, June 27, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

To consider, discuss, and vote upon the following.

FIRST: Approving the abandonment and/or discontinuance of the paper street and right of way known as May Street located within the Town of Stonington, as agreed to in writing by the Board of Selectmen. A copy of the writing by the Board of Selectmen is on file in the Town Clerk's office during normal business hours.

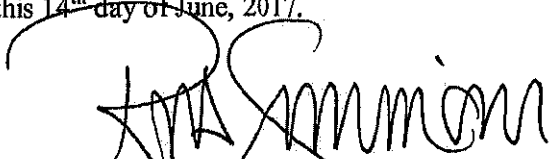
SECOND: A resolution to revise and modify an Ordinance of the Town of Stonington, Connecticut, providing for the Architectural Design Review Board to have two (2) alternate members. A copy of the Ordinance is on file in the Town Clerk's office during normal business hours.

THIRD: An amendment to Section V(c) of the lease between the Town of Stonington and the Southern New England Fishermen & Lobstermen's Association dated November 2, 1999, to increase the cap of expenses for reasonable, necessary minor repairs and improvements to the leased premises that may be authorized by the chairman or vice chairman of the Waterfront Commission from \$600 to \$1,000. A copy of the lease is on file in the Town Clerk's office during normal business hours.

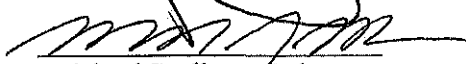
At this hearing electors and residents may appear and be heard.

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 14th day of June, 2017.



Robert R. "Rob" Simmons, First Selectman



Michael Spellman, Selectman



Kate Rotella, Selectwoman

ATTACHMENT "1"

**RESOLUTION REGARDING MYSTIC TRAIN STATION
TOD MASTER PLAN PROJECT**

WHEREAS, on May 8 2015, the Town of Stonington adopted a Plan of Conservation and Development, which identifies the need for village-based master plans and to promote improved rail service to Mystic.

WHEREAS, on April 19, 2017, the Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments adopted the Regional Plan of conservation and Development which seeks to develop alternatives to single-occupancy vehicles and to support the development of villages.

WHEREAS, on June 5, 2013, the State of Connecticut adopted the Conservation and Development Policies: The Plan for Connecticut, which establishes growth management principles in support of village area development, particular around train stations and other transit infrastructure.

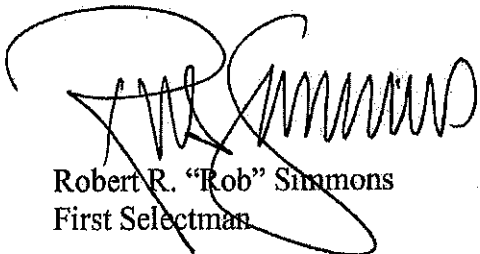
WHEREAS, the Town of Stonington seeks to secure funding under the 2017 Responsible Growth and Transit-Oriented Development Program, administered by the State of Connecticut Office of Policy and Management, in conformance with all other clauses of this resolution.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Town of Stonington Board of Selectmen authorizes:

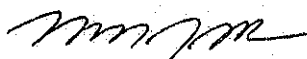
1. Submission of the Mystic Train Station TOD Master Plan Project, in accordance with the 2017 Responsible Growth and Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) Grant Request for Applications;
2. Robert R. "Rob" Simmons, First Selectman, to sign the grant application, attached hereto, and to sign any other documents associated with administering the grant, if awarded, including but not limited to the final grant agreement and any amendments thereto.

NOW THEREFORE, in administering the grant, if awarded, the Town of Stonington hereby agrees to comply with the terms and conditions in the final grant agreement, as executed, including the local match requirement contained in such agreement. The local match presented in the initial Application Form shall form the basis for the match requirements of the grant agreement.


Adopted at the Board of Selectmen's meeting on this 14th day of June 2017.



Robert R. "Rob" Simmons
First Selectman



Michael Spellman
Selectman



Kate Rotella
Selectwoman