

June 28, 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) Commendation

The Selectmen issued a commendation to Mrs. Cynthia J. Ladwig in recognition of forty years of dedicated service to the Town of Stonington and upcoming twentieth year as Town Clerk. Mr. Simmons stated that she brings the utmost professionalism, fairness and devotion to the position and the Town. Mr. Spellman stated that Mrs. Ladwig holds a legacy of public service, is respected regionally and a model of excellence. Mrs. Rotella stated Mrs. Ladwig is the foundation of the Town Hall. The Board thanked Mrs. Ladwig for her years of service.

(4) Comments from the Public

None

(5) Approval of the Minutes

A motion was made by Mr. Spellman, seconded by Mrs. Rotella and voted unanimously to approve the June 14, 2017 Board of Selectmen regular meeting minutes.

(6) Correspondence

None

(7) Appointment

A motion was made by Mrs. Rotella, seconded by Mr. Spellman and voted unanimously to appoint Ms. Kevin Lyn Sisson to the Commission on Aging.

(8) Old Business

None

(9) New Business

Request for Waiver of Building Permit Fees for Stonington Como Renovations

A motion was made by Mrs. Rotella, seconded by Mr. Spellman and voted unanimously to waive the building permit fee of \$3,386.00 for the Stonington Community Center.

Request for Approval of Gross Maximum Price (GMP) contract with Gilbane for Deans Mill School Project as recommended by the K-12 School Building Committee

Mr. Simmons noted that the Gross Maximum Price for both school projects had changed since posting the agenda to lower amounts.

A motion was made by Mrs. Rotella, seconded by Mr. Simmons and voted unanimously to approve the GMP contract with Gilbane in the amount of \$25,080,227.00 for the Deans Mill School Project.

In discussion, Mrs. Rotella stated that she appreciates the support she has received from Mr. Simmons and Mr. Spellman in regards to her role on the K-12 School Building Committee. She added that Mr. Rob Marseglia of the K-12 School Building Committee and Mr. Peter Manning of Gilbane were in attendance to answer questions.

Mr. Simmons asked if they were confident that the concrete vendor will provide proper materials that will not deteriorate over time. Mr. Manning stated that they were very comfortable with the vendor and confident with the materials.

Mr. Simmons asked about the Plumbing/HVAC Company. Mr. Manning stated that Gilbane has worked with them on several projects, most recently one that cost 100 Million Dollars. Mr. Manning added that he is very confident in the company.

Mr. Simmons stated that it was his understanding that trees previously dedicated to current/former school employees had been removed. Mr. Marseglia stated that some of the trees were dead and/or too big to move. Mr. Marseglia added that all of the plaques have been saved and it is their intention to replace the trees with similar plantings. Mr. Marseglia stated that they will have a rededication ceremony at the completion of the school projects and will invite staff, family and friends of those previous dedications.

Mr. Marseglia stated that the GMP is 2.8 Million Dollars below what was approved and those funds will be moved to the contingency to be utilized if needed. Mr. Simmons stated that since both buildings are older they may uncover issues that they were not aware of and asked if the contingency could be used to fund those expenditures. Mr. Marseglia stated that was correct.

With no further discussion, the motion carried.

Request for Approval of Gross Maximum Price (GMP) contract with Gilbane for West Vine Street School Project as recommended by the K-12 School Building Committee

A motion was made by Mrs. Rotella, seconded by Mr. Spellman and voted unanimously to approve the GMP contract with Gilbane in the amount of \$22,916,791.00 for the West Vine Street School Project.

Mr. Spellman asked about the status of the sensory garden. Mr. Simmons stated that the sensory garden would need to be voted on separately as it was included in the GMP but had been put on hold at a prior meeting as they were unsure of funding at that time.

A motion was made by Mr. Spellman, seconded by Mrs. Rotella and voted unanimously to open the agenda to approve the alternate bid in the amount of \$121,417.00 for the sensory garden at West Vine Street School.

Mr. Spellman stated that the sensory garden is a great program with significant community involvement and added that they are not only building buildings, but building communities.

Mr. Simmons stated he was originally reluctant to fund the project as they were waiting on final numbers and added that he is glad to support the sensory garden.

With no further discussion, the motion carried.

Discussion - Memorandum of Agreement between the Town of Stonington and the Mystic Seaport

A motion was made by Mrs. Rotella, seconded by Mr. Spellman and voted unanimously to approve the Memorandum of Agreement between the Town of Stonington and the Mystic Seaport.

Mr. Simmons stated that both memorandums include surveillance cameras which were recommended by the Chief of Police to oversee areas of the Mystic River Boat House, Cottrell Street and the Mystic Drawbridge. He noted that all areas that will be under surveillance are public property.

With no further discussion, the motion carried.

Discussion - Memorandum of Agreement between the Town of Stonington and the Whaler's Inn of Mystic

A motion was made by Mr. Spellman, seconded by Mrs. Rotella and voted unanimously to approve the Memorandum of Agreement between the Town of Stonington and the Whaler's Inn.

(10) Comments from the Public

Ms. Amanda Mann, President of the Stonington Como Board of Directors, thanked the Board of Selectmen for generously waiving the building fee associated with the upcoming renovations at their 27 Cutler Street Facility.

(11) Comments from the Selectmen

Mrs. Rotella stated she was glad to be at the point with the GMP contracts for the school projects and added she is pleased the sensory garden was approved.

Mr. Spellman thanked the Board for their consideration and approval of the sensory garden as he believes it is one of the many things that make Stonington schools so special. Mr. Spellman added that the schools are the crown jewel of the Town and with the Town growing in population it is because Stonington is an affordable, safe place to live and raise a family.

Mr. Simmons stated that he carries the State of CT population chart with him to show how Stonington was the only town in the State of CT with growth. Mr. Simmons added that he gives credit to the residents who live here as well as those who work in our schools, police and fire departments along with all the town employees for putting the Town first. Mr. Simmons stated that there was an editorial in the paper applauding the Stonington EDC for thinking about how to engage Electric Boat workers to move to Stonington as well as utilizing one of the Towns greatest economic resources the "golden triangle" by making it friendlier to residents, pedestrians, cyclists and tourists. Mr. Simmons stated the Board hoped to make that vision a reality.

(12) Adjourn

There being no further business to come before this Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.



Stacey Haskell
Recording Secretary