

July 25, 2018

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, Selectwoman Kate Rotella and Selectman John Prue. Also present were members of the public and press.

(1) Call to Order

Mr. Simmons called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

(2) Pledge of Allegiance

(3) Commendation

The Selectmen issued a commendation to Cam Whalen in honor of being the first Stonington High School athlete to be named All-New England and Shane Smith for winning the CT State Open Decathlon Championship.

The Board recessed at 7:02 p.m. The Board reconvened at 7:07 p.m.

(4) Comments from the Public

- Mr. Donald Maranell commented on the closure of the Isham Street Boat Launch and the way the harassment complaint from Mr. Daniel Oliverio was handled by the Town Labor Attorney including why he is unable to read the report without the redacted information.
- Mr. David Brown commented on the Perkins Farm Tax Assessment and thanked the Board for their efforts to move it along.
- Mr. Donald Maranell commented on the Perkins Farm Tax Assessment and agreed it will be good for the Town if the additional phases are completed.

(5) Approval of the Minutes

- A motion was made by Mrs. Rotella, seconded by Mr. Prue and voted unanimously to approve the July 11, 2018 regular meeting minutes.

(6) Correspondence

Mr. Simmons took in correspondence from Ms. Elizabeth Jenny Brummund in the form of an application for the Architectural Design Review Board.

(7) Appointment/Reappointment/Resignation

Resignation – Mystic Harbor Management Commission

- A motion was made by Mrs. Rotella, seconded by Mr. Prue and voted unanimously to accept the resignation of Mr. Chris Dixon as an alternate from the Mystic Harbor Management Commission.

Resignation – Retirement Board

- A motion was made by Mrs. Rotella, seconded by Mr. Prue and voted unanimously to accept the resignation of Mr. Bill King from the Retirement Board.

Resignation – Stormwater Task Force

- A motion was made by Mrs. Rotella, seconded by Mr. Prue and voted unanimously to accept the resignation of Mr. Louis Allyn from the Stormwater Task Force.

(8) Old Business

Request – Authorizing Agreement with BETA Group for ADA/Section 504 Transition Plan for Sidewalks and Sidewalk Curb Ramps

Mr. Simmons stated that the BETA Group worked with the Town to create the Pavement Management Program and by adding the sidewalks and sidewalk curbs into the database it will only make projects run smoother as all information will be incorporated into the system.

Mr. Tom Curioso, Highway Supervisor, stated that the project has been funded through CIP. Mr. Prue asked who owns the data once it is compiled. Mr. Curioso states the Town owns the data. Mr. Prue asked if the pavement management program is mergeable with the GIS system. Ms. Anne-Louise Mazza, Information Technology Specialist, stated that they are two separate systems and are most likely not mergeable. She stated further research will need to be completed.

A motion was made by Mrs. Rotella, seconded by Mr. Prue and voted unanimously to approve the agreement with BETA Group for \$58,800.00.

(9) New Business

Request – Award of Bid for Deans Mill Elementary School Fixtures, Furniture and Equipment

Mrs. Rotella explained that the items for both schools had been reviewed and approved by the owner's representative, architect and K-12 Committee. She added they go along with the items that were approved at the last Board of Selectmen meeting.

A motion was made by Mrs. Rotella, seconded by Mr. Prue and voted unanimously to approve awarding the bid to Monitor Equipment, Inc. in the amount of \$46,424.75 for Deans Mill Elementary School.

Request – Award of Bid for West Vine Street School Fixtures, Furniture and Equipment

A motion was made by Mrs. Rotella, seconded by Mr. Prue and voted unanimously to approve awarding the bid to Monitor Equipment, Inc. in the amount of \$46,434.80 for West Vine Street School.

Request – Authorizing Agreement for On-Call Drainage Installation Project

Mr. Tom Curioso, Highway Supervisor, explained that prior to pavement work, repairs need to be made to drainage structures and the Town would utilize the awarded company for on-call projects as needed. Mr. Simmons stated that the pricing per project differs depending on the type of repair needed. Therefore, the bid award has a cap amount which may not be met.

A motion was made by Mrs. Rotella, seconded by Mr. Prue and voted unanimously to approve awarding the bid to Peter S. Turello, LLC in the amount of \$242,050.00 for the On-Call Drainage Installation.

In discussion, Mr. Prue asked to see the cost difference between the work being done in-house versus being done by the contractor.

With no further discussion, the motion carried.

Request - Release of Excavation Bond

Two projects for excavation work on Mary Hall Road submitted in June, 2014 have been completed by Cherenzia Excavation. Therefore, the bonds can be released.

A motion was made by Mrs. Rotella, seconded by Mr. Prue and voted unanimously to approve the bond release of \$4,635 to Cherenzia Excavation.

A motion was made by Mrs. Rotella, seconded by Mr. Prue and voted unanimously to approve the bond release of \$10,000 to Cherenzia Excavation.

(10) Comments from the Public

- Mr. Greg Howard commented on the way the investigation into the building officials was completed by the Town Labor Attorney, why calls were made to his supervisors at the police department as well as why he had to pay for a mechanical contractor to inspect his HVAC which he believes was unwarranted.

(11) Comments from the Selectmen

- Mr. Prue stated that if the inspection of the HVAC was not warranted than Mr. Howard should receive a refund. He thanked Mr. Howard and stated he needed further time to review his report.
- Mrs. Rotella thanked Mr. Howard for the report and agreed that if his claim that paying for the mechanical inspection is found to be unnecessary than a refund should be issued. She added that it is difficult to reply to personnel issues as they should not be discussed publicly and respect needs to be paid to all parties involved.
- Mr. Simmons thanked Mr. Howard for the materials. He added that per an agreement with Mr. Howard his comments on certain items in the building official report had been added into the record. He stated that he cannot add much more to the discussion as the issue is in an ongoing grievance. He added that Mr. Howard will be reimbursed if it is found to be an unwarranted expense.
- Mr. Simmons stated that after being notifying that Isham Street would be temporarily closed the Town secured DOCKO to help get it back open. However, DEEP is stating now that in all of the years that the launch has been used that it had not been permitted. It will require additional work on behalf of the Town. Bollards were not put up due to them being a permanent structure and instead temporary barriers were placed. The goal is to get it back open as soon as possible.
- Mr. Simmons stated that in regard to the WPCA, the Mystic plant has not met a critical level but it is close. He requested a long-term plan from the WPCA for overcapacity in Mystic and under capacity in the Borough.
- Mr. Simmons stated that we have a great town and are doing great things which doesn't mean everyone is always happy. Mr. Simmons stated that comments of all types whether complimentary or critical is welcomed by the Board of Selectmen.

(12) Adjourn

There being no further business to come before this Board, the meeting adjourned at 8:18 p.m.



Stacey Haskell

Recording Secretary