

August 8, 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 Selectwoman Kate Rotella and Selectman John Prue. First Selectman Rob Simmons was absent. Also present were members of the public and press.

(1) Call to Order

Mr. Prue called the meeting to order at 7:00 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. Prue and voted unanimously to approve the July 25, 2018 regular meeting minutes.

(5) Correspondence

- Mr. Prue took in correspondence from the Town of Windsor regarding the 100th birthday commemorative rally for Former Governor Ella T. Grasso asking for each Town to appoint a representative to attend the event. Mrs. Rotella agreed to attend.
- Mr. Prue took in correspondence from Mr. Judd Rosen from the Riverwalk Condominium Association regarding the Campbell Grain Building and their support of the blight intervention.
- Mr. Prue took in correspondence from Mr. Thomas Cooke regarding an application with DEEP for installation of a kelp farm in Fishers Island Sound.

(6) Interviews – Ad Hoc Committee on Plastic Bags & Straws

The Selectmen interviewed Ms. Farrah Kaeser, Ms. Erika Lebling, Mr. Don Kluberdanz and Ms. Stacey Wilbur for seats on the Plastic Bags & Straws Ad Hoc Committee. It was noted that the other three individuals interested in the committee would be interviewed at the next meeting.

(7) Appointment/Reappointment/Resignation

Reappointment - WPCA

- A motion was made by Mrs. Rotella, seconded by Mr. Prue and voted unanimously to reappoint Mr. James Petrosky to the WPCA.

Reappointment – Recreation Commission

- A motion was made by Mrs. Rotella, seconded by Mr. Prue and voted unanimously to reappoint Mr. Joseph McKernan to the Recreation Commission.
- A motion was made by Mrs. Rotella, seconded by Mr. Prue and voted unanimously to reappoint Mr. Larry Theadore to the Recreation Commission.

Resignation – Ledge Light Health District Board of Directors

- A motion was made by Mrs. Rotella, seconded by Mr. Prue and voted unanimously to accept the resignation of Dr. Eugene Winchester as a Stonington representative to the Ledge Light Health District Board of Directors.

(8) Old Business

Discussion – Ad Hoc Committee on Plastic Bags & Straws – Alternate members

Mr. Prue stated with such interest surrounding the Ad Hoc Committee that the Board decided to add alternate members.

A motion was made by Mrs. Rotella, seconded by Mr. Prue and voted unanimously to amend the makeup of the Ad Hoc Committee on Plastic Bags & Straws by adding four alternates, which alternates shall be chosen from the public at large.

Discussion – Campbell Grain Pilot Blight Intervention

Mr. Jason Vincent, Director of Planning, gave an overview of the pilot program proposal stating that he would be looking to source \$40,000 from the Board of Finance to institute a municipal abatement in accordance with the blight ordinance. He stated that the funding would be used to hire a project manager to oversee the project and a demolition contractor to complete the work. Mr. Vincent added that the property is deeply blighted and has had several neighbor complaints. In addition, if the plan is approved there would be a total of \$117,000 in liens on the property which the Town would receive if it is sold as the market value for the property is very high.

After much discussion, a motion was made by Mrs. Rotella, seconded by Mr. Prue and voted unanimously to table the item until a future meeting.

(9) New Business

Request – Award of Bid to Tanko Streetlighting, Inc. for Streetlight Acquisition and LED Conversion Project

Mr. Jason Vincent, Director of Planning, gave an overview of the project which in phase one consists of an audit of existing streetlights and the development of an acquisition/ LED conversion plan. He added that this phase will be covered by the 18-19 Capital Improvement Plan budget allocation with future phases proceeding upon approval of the Board of Selectmen and Board of Finance.

A motion was made by Mrs. Rotella, seconded by Mr. Prue and voted unanimously to award phase one of the project to Tanko Streetlighting, Inc in the amount of \$15,940.

(10) Comments from the Public

- Mr. David Brown questioned if the Town yellow garbage bags would be considered by the Ad Hoc Committee.
- Mr. Bill Garretty questioned if the Town does move forward with the streetlight project will they be hiring additional staff to oversee the project. In addition, he stated he supports the blight intervention project but hoped the Town would look into similar issues on Stillman Avenue.
- Mr. Jason Vincent stated that if the Town moves forward with the streetlight project they would hire an outside contractor to oversee the spec of the work as the Town does not own a bucket truck or employ someone with certification to do such work. In addition, he stated that the Planning Department would be holding a meeting with the public to discuss the issues of the Stillman Avenue property on September 5, 2018.
- Mr. David Brown added that the Town should also be looking at the South Thread Mill which is on Mechanic Street.
- Mr. Vincent stated that a lien has been placed on the South Thread Mill property.

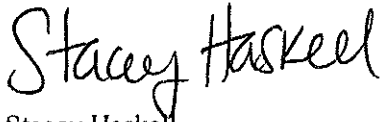
(11) Comments from the Selectmen

- Mrs. Rotella stated that she thinks Mr. Vincent should put together a capital plan as there seems to be a lot of investments needed on the Town side. She added that she is very happy to see so many people excited and interested in the Ad Hoc Committee.
- Mr. Prue stated that he is aware of other municipalities in Rhode Island that have a regional agreement for the LED lighting which is something the Town should look into with Connecticut municipalities. He added that the Town of Westerly is working to create an ordinance which they are modeling after the

eight other Rhode Island municipalities that have moved to ban or reduce plastics and that they plan to share that information with the Town of Stonington.

(12) Adjourn

There being no further business to come before this Board, the meeting adjourned at 7:51 p.m.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Stacey Haskell". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Stacey Haskell
Recording Secretary