

October 11, 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.

(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) Approval of the Minutes

- A motion was made by Mr. Spellman, seconded by Mrs. Rotella and voted unanimously to approve the July 24, 2017 Board of Selectmen and Mystic River Boathouse Park Implementation Committee joint special meeting minutes.
- A motion was made by Mr. Spellman, seconded by Mrs. Rotella and voted unanimously to approve the September 9, 2017 Board of Selectmen and Mystic River Boathouse Park Implementation Committee joint special meeting minutes.
- A motion was made by Mr. Spellman, seconded by Mrs. Rotella and voted unanimously to approve the September 27, 2017 Board of Selectmen regular meeting minutes.

(5) Correspondence

- Mr. Simmons took in correspondence from Mr. Robert E.P. Elmer III in the form of an application for membership on the Board of Police Commissioners.
- Mr. Simmons took in correspondence from the Town of Westerly notifying the Town of Stonington of a Public Hearing on November 13, 2017 regarding a zoning ordinance which references medical marijuana.
- Mr. Simmons took in correspondence from Mr. Nick Kepple in regards to an upcoming meeting at the Stonington Free Library on October 28, 2017 to discuss the strategic plan and future of the library. Mr. Kepple thanked the Board for their consideration of his request.
- Mr. Simmons took in correspondence from Safe Futures thanking the Town of Stonington for contributing \$2,000.00 from FY 2016-2017 toward their program.
- Mr. Simmons took in correspondence from Amtrak as a follow up to a letter sent by the Town of Stonington in regards to the drainage issue on Washington and Edgemont Streets.

(6) Appointment

Economic Development Commission

A motion was made by Mr. Spellman, seconded by Mrs. Rotella and voted unanimously to appoint Mr. Daniel McFadden to the Economic Development Commission as a regular member.

K-12 Building Committee

A motion was made by Mrs. Rotella, seconded by Mr. Spellman and voted unanimously to appoint Mr. Blunt White, in the role of a citizen, to the K-12 School Building Committee as an alternate member.

(7) Old Business

None

(8) New Business

Discussion – Surrey Lane

Mr. Simmons stated that Surrey Lane is not on a snow plow route because it is not a Town road and added the Town plows Briar Patch Lane which is adjacent to Surrey Lane but is also not a Town road. The residents of Surrey Lane led by Mr. Jay Mellow, have requested that the Town either adopt Surrey Lane as a Town road or use the same equipment as used on Briar Patch Lane to plow Surrey Lane. Mr. Simmons stated that it is a

very costly and difficult process to adopt a road. Mrs. Barbara McKrell, Director of Public Works, stated that adding Surrey Lane to the existing route would result in a 1% increase in work as the road is approximately 430 feet long. Mr. Tom Curioso, Highway Supervisor, stated that it can be easily done with a small truck and would not be a burden to the Town. Mr. Jay Mellow stated that the residents recently paid to have the road paved and thanked Mrs. McKrell and Mr. Curioso as well as the Town for consideration of his request to add Surrey Lane to the snow plow route.

A motion was made by Mr. Spellman, seconded by Mrs. Rotella and voted unanimously to authorize the Department of Public Works to add Surrey Lane to the snow plowing schedule of route number five.

Discussion – 2018 Board of Selectmen Meeting Schedule

Mr. Simmons stated that the 2018 Board of Selectmen will continue to meet the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at the Stonington Police Department.

A motion was made by Mr. Spellman, seconded by Mrs. Rotella and voted unanimously to approve the 2018 Board of Selectmen Meeting Schedule.

Discussion – Debt Policy

Mr. Simmons stated that the Debt Policy was prepared by Mr. James Sullivan, Finance Director in response to the Town's Financial Advisor who stated that when credit agencies such as S&P examine the fiscal health of a municipality in anticipation of the sale of bonds, they look to see if the Town has a Debt Policy. Mr. Simmons asked if the Board of Finance approved the policy. Mr. Sullivan stated that the Board of Finance has endorsed the policy but has not met yet to officially approve. Mr. Sullivan added that the Board of Finance was happy with the policy.

A motion was made by Mr. Spellman, seconded by Mrs. Rotella and voted unanimously to approve the Debt Policy.

Discussion – Financial Reporting Procedure

Mr. Simmons stated that this procedure for financial reporting was also a suggestion of the Town's Financial Advisor in anticipation of the upcoming sale of bonds. Mr. Simmons stated that he directed Mr. Sullivan to begin providing a monthly financial report to him as well as a quarterly financial report to the Board of Finance.

A motion was made by Mrs. Rotella, seconded by Mr. Spellman and voted unanimously to approve the Financial Reporting Procedure.

Study of the Wood-Pawcatuck Watershed for Wild and Scenic Rivers Designation

Ms. Denise Poyer, Mr. Jim Leigh and Mr. Fred Wagner were present to discuss the study. Ms. Poyer gave a brief overview of the Wood-Pawcatuck Watershed for Wild and Scenic Rivers Designation stating that since 2010 the Wood-Pawcatuck Watershed Association along with its partners have worked to get federal recognition of outstandingly remarkable values of seven rivers in southeastern New England including the Pawcatuck and Wood Rivers. The group has been conducting a three-year study scheduled to be completed in 2018 with the goal to then be designated a wild and scenic river. If that designation occurs it will allow protecting of the river and its resources. Ms. Poyer stated that she will be looking for the Board of Selectmen to draft a resolution in support of this designation sometime in March of 2018.

Mr. Spellman stated that he is a big supporter of the Wood-Pawcatuck Watershed and this designation as it is a great opportunity to help develop eco-tourism. Mr. Spellman thanked the group for all they have done to move this forward.

Mrs. Rotella stated that she is in full support and that it is a wonderful idea.

Mr. Simmons suggested the group possibly hold a briefing to allow the public to understand their goals and become more involved. Mr. Simmons thanked the group for all their hard work.

(9) Comments from the Public

None

(10) Comments from the Selectmen

Mrs. Rotella and Mr. Spellman had no comments.

Mr. Simmons stated that he really enjoyed marching in the Columbus Day Parade with his colleagues as it involves two towns, two states and one community.

Mr. Simmons stated that the recent sale of "Laura's Landing" after many years of vacancy was exciting news. He added that the new owner of the property is very insightful as Pawcatuck has begun a new phase of development with broadband internet, the recent Bricks & Murals event and the hard work of the Beautification Committee. He added that Pawcatuck properties are now seen as very desirable. Mr. Simmons thanked Mr. Spellman for his leadership in those initiatives.

(11) Adjourn

There being no further business to come before this Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:46 p.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stacey Haskell". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Stacey Haskell
Recording Secretary