

December 12, 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 7:01 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 November 28, 2018 joint Board of Selectmen and Plastic Bags and Straws Ad Hoc Committee special meeting minutes.
- A motion was made by Mrs. Rotella, seconded by Mr. Prue and voted unanimously to approve the November 28, 2018 regular meeting minutes.
- A motion was made by Mrs. Rotella, seconded by Mr. Prue and voted unanimously to approve the December 1, 2018 joint Board of Selectmen and Mystic River Boathouse Park Implementation Committee special meeting minutes.

**(5) Correspondence**

- Mr. Simmons took in correspondence from Pequot Commercial inquiring if the Town is interested in purchasing an 8.6-acre parcel of land on Castle Hill Road. The Board was not interested in moving the request forward. Mr. Prue stated he could reach out the realtor to discuss that the Town is not interested in the parcel.
- Mr. Simmons took in correspondence from Mr. Fred Wagner in the form of an application for the Wild and Scenic Rivers Stewardship Council.
- Mr. Simmons took in correspondence from Ms. Tina Huard in the form of an application for the Thames Valley Council for Community Action Advisory Board.
- Mr. Simmons discussed a request from Eversource/Orsted asking for support of the proposed Constitution Wind Project.

A motion was made by Mr. Prue seconded by Mrs. Rotella and voted unanimously to amend the agenda to add the Constitution Wind Project as an item for discussion under new business.

- Mr. Simmons took in correspondence from Ms. Beth-Ann Stewart of the Stonington Como thanking the Town for capital funding support of their door replacement project.

**(6) Appointment/Reappointment/Resignation**

**Appointment – Ledge Light Health District**

A motion was made by Mrs. Rotella, seconded by Mr. Prue and voted unanimously to appoint Ms. Lucy Schlink to the Ledge Light Health District Board of Directors.

**Appointment – Mystic River Boathouse Park Implementation Committee**

A motion was made by Mrs. Rotella, seconded by Mr. Prue and voted unanimously to appoint Mr. Farouk Rajab to the Mystic River Boathouse Park Implementation Committee as the representative from the Board of Education.

**Appointment – Retirement Board**

A motion was made by Mrs. Rotella, seconded by Mr. Prue and voted unanimously to appoint Mr. Craig Esposito to the Retirement Board.

**Appointment – Economic Development Commission**

A motion was made by Mrs. Rotella, seconded by Mr. Prue and voted unanimously to appoint Mr. Christopher Donahue to the Economic Development Commission as an alternate.

**Reappointment – Economic Development Commission**

A motion was made by Mrs. Rotella, seconded by Mr. Prue and voted unanimously to reappoint Mr. Dave Hammond and Ms. Suzanne Lane to the Economic Development Commission.

**Reappointment – Stonington Housing Authority**

A motion was made by Mrs. Rotella, seconded by Mr. Prue and voted unanimously to reappoint Mr. Kevin Beverly to the Stonington Housing Authority.

**Pawcatuck River Harbor Management Commission**

A motion was made by Mrs. Rotella, seconded by Mr. Prue and voted unanimously to reappoint Mr. Alan Strunk to the Pawcatuck River Harbor Management Commission as an alternate.

In discussion, Mr. Simmons stated that this commission has been struggling and has not met in quite a while. He added that the future of this commission is very important to the Town and the Pawcatuck River. Mrs. Rotella asked if they could combine with another harbor management commission. Mr. Simmons stated that he would have to do further research on that topic. With no further discussion, the motion carried.

**Mystic Harbor Management Commission**

A motion was made by Mrs. Rotella, seconded by Mr. Prue and voted unanimously to reappoint Mr. Ken Scott to the Mystic Harbor Management Commission.

**(7) Old Business**

None

**(8) New Business**

**Discussion – Request from Eversource/Orsted for Municipal Support of Wind Project**

Mr. Simmons stated that municipal support is being sought for the Constitution Wind Project. He stated that with Stonington being the last fishing fleet in the State helping the fisherman is a priority. He added that to his understanding neither Eversource nor Orsted have collaborated with the fishermen as a stakeholder to ensure that placement of the windmills will not degrade the fishermen's offshore industry. Mrs. Rotella asked Mr. Prue if the meeting he had with the fishermen last year gave any input on their thoughts about the windmills. Mr. Prue stated that the project is not well received by the fishermen. Mr. Simmons stated that he believes the letter should be revised to reflect the concerns of the fishermen.

A motion was made by Mr. Prue seconded by Mrs. Rotella and voted unanimously to discuss the issue further with representatives of the Waterfront Commission and SNEFLA to rewrite the letter that represents the concerns of the fishermen about the wind project.

**(9) Comments from the Public**

None

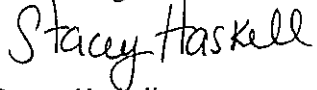
**(10) Comments from the Selectmen**

- Mr. Prue wished everyone a Happy Holiday
- Mrs. Rotella stated that the community meeting regarding the Boathouse Park was very well attended and she thought the residents were very supportive of the project. She wished everyone a Happy Holiday.

- Mr. Simmons stated that a recent opinion column in the Day stated that the Town of Stonington was allowing the crew team to use a polluted brownfield. He added that the property had undergone six environmental studies beginning in 1995 through 2018. He added that four studies were completed prior to the students utilizing the location. All of the studies resulted in their being no imminent hazard for the students to use the site. He stated that Ledge Light Health District just completed their own study in concert with the CT Department of Public Health which found that the location does not present a public health concern. Mr. Simmons stated that the safety of the students and public are a Town priority.
- Mr. Simmons stated that he has been participating in the Shared Services Committee as a part of Governor Elect Lamont's Transition Team. He added that the committee will be meeting on Tuesday, December 18<sup>th</sup> at the Stonington Police Department to announce their recommendations.
- Mr. Simmons stated that he will be out of state from December 30<sup>th</sup> – January 2<sup>nd</sup>. Mr. Prue will be the Acting First Selectman during that time.
- Mr. Simmons recognized Gabby Dellacono who was at the meeting and congratulated her as she recently signed on to play tennis for Brown University.
- Mr. Simmons wished everyone a safe holiday season and a Happy New Year.

**(11) Adjourn**

There being no further business to come before this Board, the meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.



Stacey Haskell

Recording Secretary