

May 9, 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, Selectman John Prue 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) Comments from the Public

Mr. Simmons explained to all present the process of Public comments. The intention is for those present to address issues and/or concerns. The Board may respond but no discussion or deliberation will ensue.

- Jessica Morrissey asked about the status of questions raised at the last meeting, particularly development of an SOP to ensure a harassment free work zone.
- Don Maranell stated that Ledge Light Health District was to be sending bills soon. He asked the Board of Selectmen to investigate updating the ordinance for restaurants.
Mr. Maranell also addressed what he feels are unfair labor practices and a hostile working environment within the Highway Department. He also asked about the SOP issue.
- Don Crawford – spoke in support of Daniel Oliverio.
- Michelle DiCesare asked when the SOP would be completed.
- Cynthia DiCesare questioned how minutes are taken. She feels they are too sparse and feels an audio record should be published.

(4) Approval of the Minutes

A motion was made by Mrs. Rotella, seconded by Mr. Prue and voted unanimously to approve the April 25, 2018 Board of Selectmen regular meeting minutes. Mr. Simmons addressed a wording correction to Item #7 under New Business on Page 2, *in lieu of should read in light of.*

(5) Correspondence

- Application for Storm Water Task Force from Stephen Plant. Mr. Prue asked that Mr. Plant attend the next meeting.

(6) Old Business

Discussion-Stonington Volunteer Ambulance Corps. Inc. – Mr. Nishant Sahoo, Vice President spoke to the request for a semi-permanent, metal enclosure to house a new vehicle. Mr. Prue voiced his concerns that it not interfere with Highway operations, he also asked about the life expectancy of this structure. Mr. Simmons suggested they go through a two-step process obtaining zoning approval then go before the Architectural Review Board.

A motion was made by Mr. Prue, seconded by Mrs. Rotella that the request be granted in principal subject to approval from Planning & Zoning. All in favor.

(7) New Business

Request – Use of Town Docks for Stonington Farmers Market

Application for Saturdays beginning May 26, 2018 through October 27, 2018 9:00 am to 12:00 pm. A motion was made by Mrs. Rotella, seconded by Mr. Prue that the request be granted provided an updated Certificate of Liability insurance be provided. Certificate submitted with application expires 6/1/2018. Mrs. Packer to contact SVIA.

(8) Comments from the Public

- Jessica Morrissey stated she wasn't happy voting for the budget.

(9) Comments from the Selectmen

- Mr. Prue brought the Boards attention to the CT. Cable Advisory Board, they have been unable to get a quorum, they need new members. In addressing the personnel matters, Mr. Prue stated he wouldn't comment. He agreed personnel and management issues are challenging. He is in favor of a regional ethics commission. Regarding the restaurant ordinance he believes a Town meeting is in order. He concluded stating that minutes are minutes, they are not meant to document in detail every second of a meeting.
- Mrs. Rotella echoed Mr. Prue's comments. She does not intend to dismiss anyone of anything and shares his thoughts on a Regional Ethics Commission. She supports a harassment free work environment. She is please the budget passed, now it's up to the State.
- Mr. Simmons spoke to the ordinance for restaurants adding the Town Attorney recommends eliminating. He thanks Mr. Maranell for his comments. The 152 food establishments within the Town are a major source of revenue. He spoke with Heather Somers regarding the education funding from the State. He added that he welcomes Ethics Commission suggestions. When he first started ant ombudsman was in place. He concluded addressing minutes. What is required is motions made and speakers, the intent is not to record everything said at meeting, Groton and Westerly meetings are recorded, is that better? He's not sure but is happy to consider. He thanked those present regarding the personnel matter. He

stated he first received the email from Mr. Oliverio two weeks ago. He stated he would address questions raised at the last meeting at the next Board of Selectmen meeting adding the due process of law must be met. He is please the budget passed in one of the worst years ever with the two elementary schools and the collapse of the State of Connecticut. The Grand list has grown 4.6% and lowered the mil rate. This requires collaboration and cooperation.

(13) Adjourn

There being no further business to come before this Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:44 p.m.



Leslie Packer
Recording Secretary