

February 10, 2021

The Stonington Board of Selectmen held a regular virtual meeting on this date at 5:30 p.m. This meeting was also streamed on Facebook live and was available via audio on a conference line. First Selectman Danielle Chesebrough, Selectwoman June Strunk and Selectwoman Debbie Motyeka Downie were in attendance. No public or press were present in the room. Public and press were able to view via Facebook live as well as audio through a conference call.

(1) Call to Order

Ms. Chesebrough called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

(2) Pledge of Allegiance

(3) Approval of Minutes

- A motion was made by Ms. Downie, seconded by Ms. Strunk and voted unanimously to approve the regular meeting minutes of January 13, 2021.
- A motion was made by Ms. Downie, seconded by Ms. Strunk and voted unanimously to approve the special joint Board of Selectmen and CIP meeting minutes of January 27, 2021.

(4) Correspondence

None

(5) Appointment/Reappointment/Resignation

Reappointment – Shellfish Commission

A motion was made by Ms. Downie, seconded by Ms. Strunk and voted unanimously to reappoint Alan Banister to the Shellfish Commission.

Reappointment – Wild and Scenic Rivers Stewardship Council

A motion was made by Ms. Downie, seconded by Ms. Strunk and voted unanimously to reappoint Fred Wagner to the Wild and Scenic Rivers Stewardship Council.

Reappointment – Commission on Aging

A motion was made by Ms. Downie, seconded by Ms. Strunk and voted unanimously to reappoint Gisela Harma and Marty Booker to the Commission on Aging.

Reappointment – Mystic River Boathouse Park Implementation Committee

A motion was made by Ms. Downie, seconded by Ms. Strunk and voted unanimously to reappoint Tom Switz to the Mystic River Boathouse Park Implementation Committee.

(6) Old Business

Update on COVID-19

A reminder to check the Town's website for weekly updates regarding COVID-19. Town Hall has been open by appointment only since Thanksgiving. Most services can be completed over the phone, online or by using the drop box outside of Town Hall.

Vaccinations continue to be offered to those 75 and older and they will begin to be offered to those 65 and older. Please refer to the Town's website as there is an overview of the many different ways to register for a vaccination.

(7) New Business

Discussion – Equality Act Bill

Ms. Chesebrough gave an overview stating that the Equality Act is a bill in the United States Congress, that, if passed, would amend the Civil Rights Act to prohibit discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity in employment, housing, public accommodations, public education, federal funding, credit, and the jury system. She noted that the Supreme Court's June 2020 ruling in *Bostock v. Clayton County, Georgia* said that the Civil Rights Act protects sexual orientation and gender identity in matters of employment, the other areas remain undefined. Ms. Chesebrough stated that other

CT Municipalities have supported a resolution on the topic and locally New London has supported as well.

After some discussion, the item will be moved into resolution format to be considered at a future meeting.

Request – Assign Map 21, Block 1, Lot 3, Street Number 1 Country Lane, Pawcatuck, CT 06379

A motion was made by Ms. Downie, seconded by Ms. Strunk and voted unanimously to approve the request.

Request – Assign Map 79, Block 8, Lot 3A, Street Number 34 Island Road, Stonington, CT 06378

A motion was made by Ms. Downie, seconded by Ms. Strunk and voted unanimously to approve the request.

(8) Comments from the Public

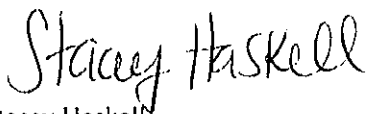
None

(9) Comments from the Selectmen

- Ms. Downie gave an update on meetings she has attended including the Inland Wetlands Watercourses Commission and Mystic River Boathouse Park Implementation Commission (MRBPIC). She noted the grant pre-application was reviewed by the MRBPIC.
- Ms. Strunk gave an update on meetings she has attended including the Board of Finance and Board of Police Commission. She noted the many upcoming Board of Finance budget presentation meetings.
- Ms. Chesebrough gave an update on several items including the upcoming South Broad Street sidewalk virtual meeting to be held on February 11th. She noted that we are in process of completing the pre-application for DECD Brownfield Assessment for the Stillman Ave property. She gave an update on the formation of an internal group including the Town Engineer, Director of Public Works and Board of Finance liaison to review the Town's infrastructure needs including bridges and sidewalks. Representatives from local EMS, Fire, Police as well as residents may be requested to attend meetings when needed. Lastly, the Town will be celebrating Kindness Week (February 14-21st) and are asking residents to participate. Information about the program can be found on the Town's website.

(10) Adjourn

There being no further business to come before this Board, the meeting adjourned at 5:57 p.m.



Stacey Haskell
Recording Secretary