

August 26, 2009

The Stonington Board of Selectmen held a regular meeting on this date at the Stonington Police Station at 7:00 p.m. Present were First Selectman Edward Haberek, Selectman William Brown and Selectman Peter Balestracci. Also present were members of the public.

(1) Call to Order

Mr. Haberek called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

(2) Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Mr. Balestracci, seconded by Mr. Brown and voted unanimously to approve the August 12, 2009 minutes from the Board of Selectmen Special Meeting as distributed. A motion was made by Mr. Balestracci, seconded by Mr. Brown and voted unanimously to approve the August 12, 2009 minutes from Board of Selectmen regular meeting.

(3) Citation

Mr. Haberek presented Beth Quesnel in recognition of her team "Golden Gals 2" winning a gold medal in softball in the Women's 65 Division Championship at the 2009 National Senior Games.

(4) Comments from the Public

- Ms. Carol Goodman asked about the status with Aquarion Water Company fixing the road.
- Ms. Lynn Young stated that when they built the dam they did a lot of excavation and left a lot fill on the side of Dean's Mill Road and now there is a bunch of weeds there.
- Ms. Gail Shea stated that she was disappointed with the PZC interviews that there were no FOI questions. She also stated that she was concerned with some of the candidates who are involved in real estate being put on the board.

(5) Correspondence

- a. Mr. Haberek took in correspondence from Blunt White, Chairman of the Stonington Economic Development Commission concerning the planning role and the grand list in relation to the PZC candidates.
- b. Mr. Haberek took in correspondence from Ernie Plasse regarding his interest in serving on the Mystic Harbor Management Commission.
- c. Mr. Haberek took in correspondence from Gail MacDonald, Chairman of the Board of Education regarding shared and collaborative services between the Town and the schools and Mr. Haberek's letter back to Mrs. MacDonald stating that he was pleased that she has an interest in meeting and he would be delighted to participate in the meeting.
- d. Mr. Haberek took in correspondence from Paul Altman regarding his interest in serving on the Police Commission.
- e. Mr. Haberek took in correspondence Molly Burton regarding her interest in serving on the Architectural Design and Review Board.

(6) Old Business

None

(7) New Business

- **Year End Budget for 2009**

Mrs. Maryanna Stevens, Director of Finance spoke about 2008-2009 Preliminary Fund Balance Summary. Mrs. Stevens stated that the figures are preliminary as they have not been audited yet and there are still a few more journal entries to be made but everything is pretty much closed out. She stated the revenue under budget not counting use of fund of balance fell short \$85,667.00 and primarily that's because of the interest income, the ECS grant was decreased by almost \$65,000.00 and the licenses and permits, town clerk fees fell short by \$307,000.00. What made up the difference was tax collections of \$501,000 collected more than budgeted. Revenue over expenditures was \$718,934.00 which will add to the fund balance and increase it to \$10,625,192.00.

- **Permanent Committee to Study the Needs and Use of Town Public Buildings**

Mr. Haberek read a letter from George Brennan, Chairman of the Permanent Building Committee stating that the Permanent Building Committee voted to recommend the firm of Silver/Petrucci & Associates to perform the Space Needs Analysis Study. The Committee requests that an additional \$7,700 be encumbered to cover the cost of reimbursable expenses as well as to provide a contingency. A motion was made by Mr. Balestracci, seconded by Mr. Brown and voted unanimously to approve the additional \$7,700.

- **South Pier Project**

Mr. George Sylvester, Director of Administrative Services requested approval by the BOS for the use of the grassy area adjacent from the playground at the Town Dock for the temporary storage of equipment and material from the affected portion of the south pier. A motion was made by Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Balestracci and voted unanimously to allow the use of the grassy area at the Town Dock.

- **Resolution - Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security**

Mr. Haberek read the following resolution:

“That the First Selectman, Edward Haberek, Jr., be and hereby is authorized to act on behalf of the Town of Stonington in executing a Memorandum of Understanding with the State of Connecticut, Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security, for participation in the FY 2010 Emergency Management Performance Grant program”. A motion was made by Mr. Balestracci, seconded by Mr. Brown and voted unanimously to adopt the resolution.

- **Resolution – JAG Grant**

Mr. Haberek read the following resolution:

“Resolved that Edward Haberek, Jr., First Selectman is hereby authorized to make, execute and approve on behalf of the Town of Stonington any and all contracts and amendments and to execute and approve on behalf of this municipality other instruments a part of or incident to such contracts and amendments, effective until otherwise ordered by the Board of Selectmen”. A motion was made by Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Balestracci and voted unanimously to adopt the resolution.

- **Stonington Historical Society**

Mr. Haberek presented a letter from the Stonington Historical Society requesting permission to use the Town Dock parking lot for “Behind Stonington’s Doors” tour to be held on Saturday, October 3, 2009. The Historical Society also requested that they be allowed to have

trash place in black bags and have the tipping fee at the landfill waived. A motion was made by Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Balestracci and voted unanimously to approve the use of the Town Dock parking area, the use of black bags and the waiver of tipping fees.

• **Lord's Point – Open Way**

Mr. Haberek presented a letter from Attorney Nick Kepple requesting the Town join the Lord's Point Association as co-plaintiffs in a suit regarding an encroachment of a right-of-way in favor the Town and land of the Lord's Point Association on Open Way by the Serafins. Mr. Haberek also presented a letter from the Town Attorney agreeing that the Town should be named as a co-plaintiff with the understanding that the Association will prosecute the claim at its cost and expense. A motion was made by Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Balestracci and voted unanimously to allow the Town to be co-plaintiffs in this action.

(8) Comments from the Public

- Fran O'Neil asked when the website was going to be updated.
- Mrs. O'Neil presented pictures of the Spellman Park pavilion and voice her concern over its condition.
- Mrs. O'Neil asked what happened to the park at Latimer Point stating when she went there it wasn't there. She also inquired as to the road signs regarding Pawcatuck.
- Tracy Swain stated that she spoke with John Carrey from the Connecticut DOT and he stated that they replace state signs on highways if there is an accident and the sign gets damaged. You can change the signs by submitting your request in writing.
- Mrs. Swain stated that she has looked on New London's website and they post their unions' contracts on line and that Stonington used to but no longer does.
- Mrs. Swain asked that if when someone is issued a violation from P&Z does it get posted in the paper.
- Mrs. Swain voiced her concern over the lack of activities listed in the Human Resources and that there are no activities listed at all on the weekends.
- Ms. Shea stated it is very hard for the public to gain access of the schools for meetings.
- Mrs. O'Neil asked if the Westerly Ambulance Corps. charges \$35 per person or per household.
- Mr. Faulise asked if the is still adult education at night and also when school starts.
- Mrs. Swain voiced her concern over the fact that she has notice numerous vehicles with Rhode Island plates. It appears that the owners of these vehicles are living in Pawcatuck.

(9) Projects Update

None

(10)Adjourn

There being no further business to come before this Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristine Bell
Recording Secretary