

September 23, 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 and press.

(1) Call to Order

Mr. Haberek called the meeting to order at 7:00 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 accept the September 9, 2009 minutes as distributed. A motion was made by Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Balestracci and voted unanimously to accept the September 17, 2009 minutes from the special meeting as distributed.

(3) Comments from the Public

- Mr. Vincent Faulise commented that he read in the Westerly Sun that Westerly was going to remove all of the trees in town and said that we should continue on in Pawcatuck especially in front of Tim Horton's.
- Ms. Gail Shea asked what the type of trees are replacing the two trees that have been removed in Pawcatuck.
- Mr. Ed Purcell stated that overall the Pawcatuck Streetscape concept was good but was disappointed with the DOT's inability to do its share.
- Ms. O'Neil said that the Town of Westerly told everybody that they had to have everything done by a certain date or they couldn't do it for 10 years and the Town of Stonington should have told them the same thing. Ms. O'Neil also said the outcropping in front of Chelsea Groton is unsafe.

(4) Correspondence

- Mr. Haberek took in correspondence from Leon Jacobs regarding his resignation from the Planning & Zoning Commission.
- Mr. Haberek took in correspondence from the Westerly-Pawcatuck Veterans' Board of Control requesting permission to hold a Veterans' Day Parade. A motion was made by Mr. Brown, second by Mr. Balestracci and voted unanimously to allow the use of the Towns' roads for the parade.

(5) Appointments

Planning & Zoning Commission

- a. A motion was made by Mr. Haberek, seconded by Mr. Balestracci and voted 2-1 in favor of appointing Bob Mercer as a full member of the Planning & Zoning Commission. Mr. Brown voted against the motion.

Discussion: Mr. Brown stated that it would be a terrible appointment to appoint Mr. Mercer as Mr. Mercer was opposed to Liberty Crossing which is a huge tax paying base for the Town of Stonington. Mr. Haberek read the list of applicants to the Selectmen.

- b. A motion was made by Mr. Brown to appoint Rob Marseglia as a full member of the Planning & Zoning Commission. Mr. Balestracci and Mr. Haberek voted 2-1 against the motion.

Discussion: Mr. Haberek stated that he was planning on leaving Rob Marseglia on as an alternate without moving him anywhere right now and at the next meeting they could

take action on Mr. Marseglia's position. Mr. Balestracci stated that it is his understanding that if Mr. Marseglia is elected to the BOE that he is going to resign from PZC. Mr. Balestracci stated he felt that the BOS should wait until after the BOE election to see what happens.

- c. A motion was made by Mr. Haberek, seconded by Mr. Balestracci and voted 2-1 in favor of appointing Ben Tamsky as a full member of the Planning & Zoning Commission. Mr. Brown voted against the motion.

Discussion: Mr. Brown stated that he didn't think that Ben Tamsky would be a good fit on the Planning & Zoning Commission and that there were complaints when he was on ZBA. Mr. Haberek stated that the only complaint that he thinks Mr. Tamsky had was that Mr. Tamsky thought there was not an open and transparent process in the way actions were happening on ZBA and PZC a couple of years ago.

- d. A motion was made by Mr. Haberek, seconded by Mr. Balestracci and voted unanimously to appoint Chris Regan as an alternate member of the Planning & Zoning Commission.

(6) Old Business

None

(7) New Business

Sign Zoning Permit Application Fee Waiver for the Mystic Middle School

Mr. Haberek presented a memo from Bill King, Operations Manager requesting the Board of Selectmen to waive the Zoning Permit Application fee for the installation of a new sign at the Mystic Middle School. A motion was made by Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Balestracci and voted unanimously to waive the Zoning Permit Application fees.

Sensory Garden Permit Applications Fee Waivers

Mr. Haberek presented a memo from Bill King, Operations Manager requesting that the Board of Selectmen waive the Zoning Permit Application fee, Building Permit Application fee and Electrical Permit Application fee for the installation of an 8' x 12' shed to house the tools and utilities for the water feature at the Sensory Garden at the West Vine Street School. A motion was made by Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Balestracci and voted unanimously to waive the fees.

(8) Comments from the Public

- Ms. Fran O'Neil asked if someone was going to donate the flags for downtown Pawcatuck.
- Ms. Fran O'Neil asked about the status of the animal shelter.
- Ms. Tracy Swain asked about the status on the issue of signs for businesses. She also stated that the signs on the new businesses in Route 2 are much larger than the preexisting businesses that are there.
- Ms. Swain asked if Edith K. Richmond is governed by the Town as she has concerns that the Housing Authority minutes do not contain a single word that tells you about anything that is going on there.
- Ms. O'Neil asked about the status of the sign for Pawcatuck.
- Mr. Faulise asked about whether there was going to be a clinic near the new Stop & Shop.

- Ms. Dora Hill asked if there been any indication of anything moving into the space where Stop & Shop used to be.

(9) Projects Update

None

(10)Adjourn

There being no further business to come before this Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristine Bell

Recording Secretary