

May 27, 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 Peter Balestracci and Selectman William Brown. 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.

Mr. Haberek stated that meeting is being recorded so it can be uploaded to the Town of Stonington website. You can go to the Board of Selectmen homepage and you be able to download it.

(2) Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Mr. Balestracci, seconded by Mr. Brown and voted unanimously to approve the May 13, 2009 minutes.

(3) Citations

Mr. Haberek presented a Citation to Mario Costa in recognition of his being selected as a member of the Boys Soccer All-State Team.

(4) Comments from the Public

Vincent Faulise commented on reading in the newspaper that Mr. McKee, Superintendent of Schools, is going to retire and asked when it will become effective.

Don Sadosky asked about whether the outgoing salary will be posted with the job listing.

(5) Correspondence

a. Mr. Haberek took in correspondence from the Westerly Library requesting that the Town of Stonington restore to the Westerly Library the \$10,000.00 in funding that was cut from the budget. Mr. Haberek stated that the Board of Finance, the proper authority, has a copy of the letter.

b. Mr. Haberek took in correspondence from Wendy Bury expressing her interest in becoming a member of the Stonington Economic Development Commission.

c. Mr. Haberek took in correspondence from Tiffinay Antoch Emery expressing her interest in becoming a member of Stonington's Affordable Housing Commission.

(6) Appointments/Reappointments

Pawcatuck River Harbor Management Commission

A motion was made by Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Haberek and voted unanimously to appoint Steven Schaub to the Pawcatuck River Harbor Management Commission from an alternate member to a regular member, as requested in his letter to Mr. Haberek.

Stonington Harbor Management Commission

A motion was made by Mr. Balestracci, seconded by Mr. Brown and voted unanimously to reappoint George Kenyon to the Stonington Harbor Management Commission.

Stonington Shellfish Commission

A motion was made by Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Balestracci and voted unanimously to reappoint Donald Murphy to the Stonington Shellfish Commission, as requested in his e-mail to the First Selectman's Office.

(7) Old Business

Pawcatuck River Harbor Management Plan

Mr. Haberek presented a slightly revised Pawcatuck River Harbor Management Plan. Mr. Haberek wanted to receive it for the Selectmen to read it again and review the changes.

Scott Dilley added that the Commission had to clarify their proposed no-wake zones and so if it does pass they can put that in the new voting regulation and that was primarily the main change that they made.

(8) New Business

Bid Award: Underground Storage Tank Project

A motion was made by Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Balestracci and voted unanimously to award the bid to the lowest bidder, Service Station Equipment.

River Glow

Mr. Haberek presented a letter from The Greater Westerly-Pawcatuck Area Chamber of Commerce requesting permission to utilize the grounds at Donahue Park for the River Glow event scheduled for July 11, 2009 from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. A motion was made by Mr. Balestracci, seconded by Mr. Brown and voted unanimously to allow the use of Donahue Park.

WoodenBoat Show

Mr. Haberek presented correspondence from Stanton Simm requesting the use of the parking area at the Mystic Voting Hall parking area as additional parking for the WoodenBoat Show to be held at the Mystic Seaport from June 25, 2009-June 28, 2009. A motion was made by Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Balestracci and voted unanimously to allow the use of the Mystic Voting Hall parking area.

St. Michael's School Waiver of Building Permit Fee

Mr. Haberek presented a letter from Wayne Greene, Building Official, advising that St. Michael's School has applied for a building permit for repairs to the school to which Mr. Greene is requesting a waiver. A motion was made by Mr. Balestracci, seconded by Mr. Brown and voted unanimously to grant a waiver of the building permit fee.

Resolution-Proposed Merger of Probate Districts

Mr. Haberek presented a Resolution given to him at a probate meeting held in Groton two weeks ago that included Mr. Haberek, Judge Cravinho, Judge Palm, Mark Oefinger and the Probate Administrator. In a proactive approach, Judge Cravinho, Judge Palm and the Probate Administrator asked Mr. Haberek to bring a Resolution forward to the Board of Selectmen to approve the proposed merger of the probate districts. A motion was made by Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Balestracci and voted unanimously to move the resolution.

Mystic Streetscape Construction & Inspection Agreement

Mr. Haberek presented correspondence and a Resolution from William Haase, Director of Planning, which stated if the Resolution is approved by the Board of Selectmen, it will enable the First Selectman to sign the construction and inspection agreement on behalf of the Town

A motion was made by Mr. Balestracci, seconded by Mr. Brown and voted unanimously to approve the Resolution.

(9) Projects Update

Mr. Haberek briefly talked about various project updates including the Pawcatuck Streetscape, Town Dock South Pier, Town Dock ice machine, Donahue Park, Mystic Streetscape, Mystic Seaport Transportation Study, Senior Center Project, Spellman Drive restrooms, Town Hall window replacement. Mr. Haberek also stated that there are a number of internal projects such as permit tracking, document imaging and a new customer citizen's center that is going to be uploaded to the web.

(10) Comments from the Public

Judy Ballou asked when the project was first put out to bid who did the inspections on the fishing dock repair to see what needed to be replaced for the fuel lines/fuel tank. Mrs. Ballou also asked how long ago the inspection took place and should another inspection be done and an adjustment of the costs be made before asking for more funds. Mrs. Ballou inquired as to when the repair will be completed.

Don Sadosky asked about the status of the Ethics Committee and the process for filing a complaint.

Tracy Swain asked that if the opinion of the attorney who reviewed the ethics issue stated that we need to be in compliance with the having the Ethics Committee, when we are going to start filling positions for the five members of the Ethics Committee.

Gail Shea stated that when compiling all of this information you may want to look at the ordinance for the Ethics Commission from the Town of Old Saybrook. She also stated that she needs clarification on the appointment of Mr. Schaub to the Pawcatuck River Harbor Management Commission. She thought there were already 5 people as regular members.

Mr. Haberek stated that Mr. Chalecki is going to be moved from a regular member to an alternate member and that he was waiting to receive a letter from Mr. Chalecki. Mr. Haberek stated that the Board of Selectmen can amend the appointment of Mr. Schaub upon resignation of Mr. Chalecki.

Scott Dilley stated that in the ordinance if a member does not show up for 3 consecutive meetings that we can remove him and also stated that it's been almost 8 months since Mr. Chalecki attended a meeting.

Mr. Haberek stated that the Board of Selectmen will amend the PRHMC appointment. Upon the removal of Mr. Chalecki, they will move the status of Mr. Schaub as an alternate to a regular member. A motion was made by Mr. Balestracci, seconded by Mr. Brown and voted unanimously to change the status of Mr. Schaub upon the resignation of Mr. Chalecki.

There was further discussion between Mr. Dilley, Ms. Shea and Mr. Haberek regarding the removal of a commission member.

Tracy Swain had a concern regarding the school bus contract with First Student not being put out to bid.

(11)Adjourn

There being no further business to come before this Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristine Bell
Recording Secretary