

**Borough of Stonington**  
**Board of Warden and Burgesses Regular Monthly Meeting**  
**January 17, 2023**  
**MINUTES**

Warden Jeffrey Callahan called the monthly meeting of the Borough of Stonington Board of Warden and Burgesses to order at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was held in Borough Hall. Present in Borough Hall in addition to Warden Callahan were Burgesses Amy Nicholas, Kevin Rogers, Shaun Mastroianni, and Amanda Barnes; and Clerk-Treasurer Lisa Coleman. Approximately 12 members of the public were present.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

On a motion by Burgess Barnes, seconded by Burgess Nicholas, the minutes of the regular meeting of December 19, 2022 were unanimously approved.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

- a. Robin Grimsley, request to operate a hot dog stand on the Point.
- b. Doug Rice, request to leave Ukraine sculpture on Wad Square.

**REVIEW OF BILLS/YTD FINANCIAL REPORT**

Bills for the period December 17, 2022 through January 14, 2023 totaled \$47,960.15. Bill of note was \$15,250.00 for two Scott Air Packs for the SBFD. I&E through January 14, 2023 shows total revenue to date of \$1,372,486.00, which, after an \$8,000 check from the State received today, is \$30,000 over budget; and net income to date of \$510,432.60.

**WARDEN'S REPORT**

1. Met with Atty Nick Kepple and Cris Palmer to discuss hearing officer position
2. Worked on annual CRS recertification and MS4 annual report
3. Managed bi-annual Borough Hall boiler safety inspection
4. Local Covid statistics: New London County cumulative deaths now total 756. State and county positivity rate about 15%
5. Attended Board of Finance meeting to present request for Town ARPA \$ for comfort station
6. Presented proclamation to Tom Rezendes
7. Began preparing FY 2023-24 budget
8. Submitted Comfort Station state bond funding request to Rep. Bumgardner

**BOROUGH CLOCK -- None**

**STREET & SIDEWALKS COMMISSIONER REPORT –**

1. Conducted monthly brush pickup.
2. Checked Harbor Edge outfall
3. Cleaned up after December 23 storm; large amounts of sand, rocks, and eelgrass on Hancox, Diving, Wall, and East Grand. Debris at Point and Wayland's Wharf
4. Rebuilt Hancox Street catch basin

**Fire & Emergency Management (Nicholas/Hoadley)**

SBFD responded to 19 alarms in December 2022, they were as follows:

- 1)12-6-22 2:06pm Illegal burn 256 Elm St. (burning brush with no permit)
- 2)12-6-22 3:34pm Medical assist with SAC (lift assist)
- 3)12-9-22 3:11pm Fire Alarm Activation 530 Stonington Rd. (hair spray)
- 4)12-14-22 8:08pm Fire Alarm Activation 17 Hancox St. (burnt hot dog)
- 5)12-18-22 8:30am Fire Alarm Activation 5 East Neck Rd. (burnt brisket)
- 6)12-21-22 6:14am Alarm sounding 22 Bayview Ave. Velvet mill (boiler)
- 7)12-23-22 8:01am Water Emergency 33 Elm St. (ocean water from storm)
- 8)12-23-22 8:54am Odor of gas 13 Skipper St. L.P. (gas can tipped over, storm)
- 9)12-23-22 9:28am Structure Fire 47 Lindberg Rd. L.P. (No access, storm surge)
- 10)12-23-22 10:42am Smoke detector activation 49 Trumbull Ave. (faulty head)
- 11)12-23-22 12:53pm Water Emergency 19 Elm St. (ocean water from storm)
- 12)12-23-22 2:59pm Wires down IFO 380 N. Main St. (utility wires)
- 13)12-23-22 3:01pm Wires down IFO 45 Harbor View Terrace (power lines)
- 14)12-24-22 12:34pm Tree & Wires down IFO 159-161 Wamphassuc Pt. Rd. (one lane blocked, EVERSOURCE enroute)
- 15)12-27-22 2:01am Structure Fire 55 Church St. (basement fire, mutual aid)
- 16)12-30-22 4:10pm CO Alarm Activation 111 Tipping Rock Rd. (vented house)
- 17)12-31-22 5:35am Wires Arcing 9 Skipper St. L.P. (EVERSOURCE enroute)
- 18)12-31-22 1:57pm Pole Fire IFO 203 N. Water St. (EVERSOURCE enroute)
- 19)12-31-22 6:06pm Fire Alarm Activation 28 Elm St. (burnt prime rib)

**2022 Yearly Fire Department**

SBFD responded to 136 Alarms in 2022, up slightly from 124 in 2021.

The breakdown of Alarms is as follows:

- Stonington Borough.....63 Alarms
- Stonington Fire District.....53 Alarms
- Lord's Point.....7 Alarms
- Wamphassuc Point.....7 Alarms
- Mutual Aid.....6 Alarms

**December Police Incident Report**

Not received.

**Parks, Trees & Rights of Way (Barnes)**

None. Burgess Nicholas inquired about when the tree on Water St is being removed. Burgess Barnes said that it is being removed by Eversource and has not been scheduled yet.

**Public Buildings (Mastroianni)**

None

### **Utilities & Sanitation (Rogers)**

Five warnings were issued this month for putting garbage in uncovered containers out the night before pickup. Mr. Crandall complimented Borough residents. There are several new utility poles and additional double poles to be resolved.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT ---- None**

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

#### **Consider appointing ordinance enforcement hearing officer**

A motion by Warden Callahan, seconded by Burgess Barnes, to appoint Richard C. Palmer, Esq. to serve as hearing officer for Borough Ordinance SBO-27, which describes the citation hearing procedure, was unanimously approved. The motion specified that the appointment ends June 30, 2024 and may be renewed; with the initial rate of compensation being \$90/hour. Tickets rather than warnings may be issued now.

#### **Consider extending Ukraine statue installation on Wad Square**

A motion by Burgess Rogers, seconded by Burgess Mastroianni, to approve Doug Rice's request to extend the Ukraine statue installation at Wad Square through the end of June 2023, was unanimously approved.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Consider request by Ms. Robin Grimsley to operate a hot dog cart at the Point from Memorial Day through Columbus Day.**

Tabled. Ms. Grimsley will appear at the February 2023 meeting with additional information about the specific equipment she will use.

#### **Consider revision to SBO-04, "Off Street Parking"**

A motion by Warden Callahan, seconded by Burgess Nicholas, to approve a revision to SBO-04, "Off Street Parking", passed unanimously. The revision specifies that, if approved, the work must be completed within one year. It will be published in *The Day* and will go into effect after fifteen days.

#### **Discuss Warden collateral duties**

Since Warden Callahan's last term ends in May, he wanted to inform the Board of several things he does (which are not in the job description). Wad Square lighting, Clock Keeper, SCWA RAB, Waldron Williams Fund trustee, are among the tasks that will need to be assigned to members of the new Board. Warden Callahan noted that Kathryn Burchenal has offered to be Keeper of the Borough Clock.

#### **Annual Hazard Mitigation Plan progress report**

The report was included in the meeting packet and is required by the certification process. Warden Callahan briefly reviewed the report.

**Truck traffic in the Borough**

Large trucks becoming stuck in the Borough’s narrow streets is a continuing problem. Burgesses Rogers and Nicholas are working on possible signage to warn drivers of this issue. Locations for these signs was discussed, and it was agreed that one sign should be on the viaduct. It may be possible to have a warning message appear on Google Maps or Ways. Burgess Nicholas will look into that.

**OTHER BUSINESS AND DISCUSSION**

**Consider the date to hold the 2023 annual meeting of the Board of Warden and Burgesses**

A motion by Warden Callahan, seconded by Burgess Barnes, to schedule the 2023 Annual Meeting of the Borough of Stonington on April 22<sup>nd</sup> at 10 a.m. at Borough Hall, passed unanimously.

**May 1, 2023 Borough election**

Clerk-Treasurer reported that the Borough elections will be held on Monday, May 1, 2023. The List of Offices to Be Filled was submitted to the SOTS office and then sent to the Borough Democratic Committee. The Democratic Committee caucused, and the Clerk Treasurer will submit the list of endorsed candidates. The deadline for petitioning candidates to request an application to be on the ballot is January 31, 2023. The Clerk Treasurer must submit the nominating petition pages to the SOTS office by Feb. 14<sup>th</sup>.

**ADJOURNMENT**

On a motion by Burgess Nicholas, seconded by Burgess Barnes, adjournment of the meeting at 8:09 pm, was unanimously approved.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Lisa Coleman  
January 22, 2023