

**Borough of Stonington  
Board of Warden and Burgesses  
Regular Monthly Meeting – August 15, 2022  
MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER**

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 at Borough Hall and also by way of Zoom conferencing video. Present in Borough Hall in addition to Warden Callahan were Burgesses Shaun Mastroianni, Kevin Rogers, and Amanda Barnes; and Clerk-Treasurer Lisa Coleman. Burgess Amy Nicholas was absent.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

On a motion by Burgess Barnes, seconded by Burgess Rogers, the minutes of the regular meeting of July 18, 2022, were unanimously approved.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

- a. D. Rice, request to extend Ukraine statues in Wad Square until Dec 31.
- b. Sandy Alexander, request to use the Library drive for food trucks during art walk.
- c. Child & Family Agency, request to conduct walk/run on Oct 15.

**OUTGOING:**

- a. Letter from Warden to Governor requesting bond funding for comfort station.
- b. Letter from Warden to First Selectman requesting Town ARPA funding for comfort station.
- c. Letter to SPD Chief DelGrosso regarding speed sign.

**REVIEW OF BILLS/YTD FINANCIAL REPORT**

Bills for the period July 15, 2022 through August 12, 2022 totaled \$112,048.83. Large bills of note were the Library donation of \$25,000, legal bills, retirement, and length of service awards. Net income for the year July 2022 through August 12, 2022 is \$442,431.72. Warden Callahan will inquire about road expense reimbursement from the Town of Stonington.

**WARDEN'S REPORT**

1. Attended SCCOG meeting in person for first time since April 2020.
2. Reviewed plans for storm water bioretention system at Cutler Street side of footbridge
3. Sent letter to Governor's Office requesting bond funding for comfort station and to first Selectman requesting funding support from Town.
4. Met with First Selectman and Wendy Bury to discuss forming cultural districts in the Town, including one in Borough. Town is drafting an ordinance to implement the districts.
4. Local Covid statistics: New London County hospitalizations have increased compared to last month, while cumulative deaths now total 695. State and county positivity rate steady at 11-12%.
5. FY-22 audit process continues
6. New Public Works Technician Emerson MacDonald started work on August 6.
7. Met with SPD Chief Delgrosso, Amy Nicholas, Lisa Bates, and Bob O'Shaughnessy to discuss policing in the Borough.
8. MeatEater Productions will be filming on Town Dock and in the harbor on August 24.
9. Have received part of second tranche of ARPA funds.

10. Filled out paperwork request for a grant from the State (STEAP program) which will be submitted from the Town of Stonington.

**BOROUGH CLOCK – None**

**COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS**

**Streets & Sidewalks (Callahan)**

1. Conducted monthly brush pickup.
2. Cleaned Wayland's swim platform
3. Removed excess sand from Diving Street beach
4. Painted yellow curbs
5. Mowed parks
6. Hired Superior Sewer to remove eelgrass from Harbor's Edge outfall

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

In July SBFDF responded to 15 calls of which 5 were in the Borough.

- 1)7-2-22 4:29pm Transformer on fire IFO 18 Cutler St. (bird, EVERSOURCE enroute)
- 2)7-6-22 8:35pm Pick-up truck on fire Shell Station (electrical switches in driver door)
- 3)7-6-22 9:12pm 2 car MVA in area of 684 Stonington Rd. (Rt.1, 2 to hospital)
- 4)7-8-22 4:36am Fire Alarm Activation 145 Wamphassuc Pt. Rd. (nothing found)
- 5)7-10-22 11:55pm Mutual aid to Pawcatuck FD (ladder truck stand-by in station)
- 6)7-12-22 9:42am Wires down IFO 54 Briar Patch Rd. (box truck, utility wires)
- 7)7-14-22 7:19pm Fire Alarm Activation 14 Main St. (burned chicken)
- 8)7-15-22 3:27pm Rescue/Medical IFO 16 Main St. (person trapped under a pick-up truck, PR in progress. Fire, Police, EMS all engaged, transported to hospital, survived)
- 9)7-17-22 4:21pm Tree limb, power lines down IFO 338 Elm St. (1 lane blocked EVERSOURCE enroute)
- 10)7-19-22 11:53am Fire Alarm Activation 32 Water St. Stonington Commons (spiders in smoke detector, cleaned out re-set alarm)
- 11)7-24-22 7:45pm Fire Alarm Activation 84 Alpha Ave. SAC (nothing found)
- 12)7-25-22 5:43pm Fire Alarm Activation 84 Alpha Ave. SAC (call alarm tech)
- 13)7-25-22 6:07pm Tree limb/power lines down IFO 33 Collins Rd.(EVERSOURCE enroute)
- 14)7-27-22 3:10pm A/C unit on fire 11 Hancox St. (disconnected power, owner enroute)
- 15)7-31-22 9:35am Fire Alarm Activation 2 Ensign Lane (nothing found)

Warden Callahan asked Chief Hoadley to remind the Board of the area covered by the Borough Fire Department. The area is the Borough of Stonington; Stonington Fire District (from Harborview Terrace to the intersection of Deans Mill Rd and Flanders) and up Elm Street to Route One; Wamphassuc Point and Lords Point south of rail tracks.

**Police Incident Report (Nicholas)**

June incidents totaled 79 including 11 Burglar Alarms of which 8 were false, 10 Parking/Motor Vehicle Complaints, 8 Check Building, 7 Accidents including 2 Hit and Runs, 5 Medical Assists, 5 Animal Control, 4 Larceny, 4 Fire Related Calls, 3 Assist Citizen, 3 Minor Traffic Service, 2 Animal Bite, 2 Nuisance. 2 Found Item, 2 Welfare Check, 2 911 Hang up/Misdial and 2 Pistol Permits. There was one incident each of Suspicious Activity, Open Door/Window, Domestic Disturbance, Escort and Marine Incident.

There were two arrests related to the Domestic Disturbance.

Jeff Callahan and I met with Chief DelGrosso, Lisa Bates (member of the Police Commission) and Robert O'Shaughnessy (Police Commission chair) to discuss enforcement issues and the borough speed monitor.

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

Working with Megan of Bartlett on some planting due to the number of trees that have to come down. Have a request to prune some trees on Broad and Water Streets. The maple on Wad Square is still dying back.

**Public Buildings** (Mastroianni)

None

**Utilities & Sanitation** (Rogers)

Eight letters concerning trash being put out in yellow bags overnight were mailed out. A resident has complained that the yellow bags are too thin. I have made notes of duplicate poles and Teresa (Eversource) has received my report. Warden suggested that Burgess Rogers contact PURA regarding failure of other utilities to move wires to new poles in a timely manner.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Sandy Murray of 12 Union Street asked the Board why the decision was made to make Union Street one way. She has been contacted by several neighbors asking questions about it. The Warden replied that this was one of the recommendations of the traffic and parking consultant that the Borough hired in 2021. The citizens' advisory committee supported that recommendation, noting that turning on to Water Street from Union can be very difficult.

Another issue she brought up was sidewalk maintenance. If the damage is caused by Borough-owned tree roots, the Borough is responsible for the repair.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Status of COVID-19 in region and State**

See Warden's Report above

**Discuss memorial plaques, trees etc.**

Tabled

**Cannabis use on public/Borough property**

The Town had a hearing about proposed zoning regulations dealing with cannabis businesses last week.

**Union Street one-way update**

Notification letters were sent to residents of Union Street and adjacent areas. One way will take effect on September 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Discuss draft Ordinance enforcement mechanism**

The Borough attorney and Warden have continued working on a new ordinance on enforcement. If the ordinance is approved, the Board will need to appoint a hearing officer and decide which officials are authorized to issue tickets.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Consider requests to use Borough property**

A motion by Burgess Barnes, seconded by Burgess Rogers, to approve the request by Doug Rice to keep his sculpture "Standing with the Mothers and Children of Ukraine" in Wad Square until the end of the year, was unanimously approved.

A motion by Burgess Mastroianni, seconded by Burgess Barnes, to approve the request by Sandra Alexander on behalf of the SBMA, to use the driveway of the library for up to four food trucks and placement of porta-potties on Wadawanuck Square from 10 am until 3 pm during the Art Walk, Sept 17, was unanimously approved.

**Child & Family Agency of SE CT, charity walk/run around Borough, Oct 15.**

Tabled. Warden will contact the agency for more information before the September meeting.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

A bill passed in the 2021 special session of the State legislature requires, among other things, that boroughs that wish to continue holding their elections in May must vote to do so, or future elections will be held in November. The issue will be brought up at the September Board meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**

On a motion by Burgess Barnes, seconded by Burgess Rogers, adjournment of the meeting at 8:14 p.m., was unanimously approved.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Lisa M. Coleman  
August 28, 2022