



**Town of North Stonington
Board of Selectmen Meeting
North Stonington Education Center & Zoom Meeting
March 28, 2023
6:30 PM**

Public will be able to attend the meeting in person or via Zoom with the following link:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88982208241?pwd=L2w1UkV3bEVaQ0RSWUJnbUpWQmJaZz09>

Or via Zoom App-Enter Meeting ID: 889 8220 8241

Passcode: 691119

Or listen only via telephone by calling 646 558 8656 and enter Meeting ID: 889 8220 8241

Link to 3/28/23 Meeting Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7Hdo4cbROZU>

MINUTES

1. **Call to order/Roll Call:** Call to order at 6:30pm. First Selectman Bob Carlson, Selectman Nicole Porter, and Selectman Brett Mastroianni in attendance with Administration & Finance Officer Christine Dias.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
3. **Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items***
4. **Selectman Comments:** None
5. **First Selectman Report/Correspondence:** First Selectman Carlson explained that the intersection at Route 2 and Rocky Hollow is going to be redone. There are markers out in the area. Also, a paranormal film would like to film at one of the North Stonington cemeteries.
6. **Old Business**
 - **Demolition of One Story 298 Norwich Westerly Road:** The inspection has passed on the metal studding of the wall and will start as early as tomorrow. The brick has been selected that most closely matches the brick that is already there.

- **Vacancies & Appointments:** The First Selectman's Administrative Assistant has given her notice and the position will be posted next week. There are a few applicants for the Planning, Development, and Zoning Official position. The First Selectman hopes that interviews will take place next week.
 - **ARPA Funds Update and Discussion:** There is around \$61,000 of ARPA Funds remaining.
 - **Plan of Conservation & Development Update:** There was a POCD Neighborhood Meeting last night.
7. **Lake of Isles Conservation Easement Discussion:** The Town Attorney Rob Avena explained the Lake of Isles Conservation Easement. The Lake of Isles, LLC is the owner of the premises. The North Stonington Conservation Commission was granted permission to supervise the land easement. The BOS discussed this topic. A special meeting will be scheduled for the BOS to walk the area.
8. **Transfer Station**
- **Bulky Waste & Transfer Station Sticker Discussion:** The BOS discussed the Bulky Waste and Transfer Station Sticker ideas presented. These stickers will be available to purchase in the future.
 - **Transfer Station Operations Discussion:** The Highway Foreman Donald Hill and Assistant Highway Foreman Alan Ladd presented their recommendations for Transfer Station Operations. Motion by Selectman Mastroianni to move forward with the plan for Trash Compactor and Hauling with Recycling, 2nd by Selectman Porter; motion approved 3-0-0.
 - **Bottle Bill Funds Discussion:** The FY23 Bottle Bill Funds of \$15,695 will be moved into a new capital account.
9. **Additional Appropriation:** Motion to approve the Bottle Bill Funds of \$15,695.90 and transfer and dedicate that to new Line Item C2.05 for Transfer Station Compactor Upgrades effective immediately through the complete purchase of the equipment by Selectman Porter, 2nd by Selectman Mastroianni; motion approved 3-0-0. The appropriation will go to the BOF next week for discussion and approval.

10. FY24 Budget Discussion:

- Motion to create Line Item A5.24 for Bottle Bill Revenue and put \$15,000 for each year's revenue by First Selectman Carlson, 2nd by Selectman Porter; motion approved 3-0-0.
- Motion to decrease Line Item B9.01 (Tribal Recognition) from \$10,000 to \$5,000 by First Selectman Carlson, 2nd by Selectman Porter; motion approved 3-0-0.
- Motion to decrease Line Item B15.02 (Economic Development Coordinator) by \$4,500 by Selectman Porter, 2nd by First Selectman Carlson; motion approved 3-0-0.
- Motion to remove \$300 from Line Item B4.06 (Assessor's Travel Expenses) by Selectman Porter, 2nd by First Selectman Carlson; motion approved 3-0-0.
- Motion to remove \$27,000 from Line Item B20.05 (Medical Insurance) by First Selectman Carlson, 2nd by Selectman Porter; motion approved 3-0-0.
- Motion to remove \$2,200 out of Line Item B26.06 (Civil Preparedness Operating) by First Selectman Carlson, 2nd by Selectman Porter. Motion retracted by First Selectman Carlson. Motion by Selectman Mastroianni to go back to FY2023's amount of \$7,075 from the proposed \$11,200, 2nd by Selectman Porter; motion approved 3-0-0.
- Motion to cut B22.03 (N.S. Quarterly Newsletter) by \$2,500 to \$6,000 by Selectman Porter, 2nd by Selectman Mastroianni; motion approved 2-1-0. Selectman Porter and Selectman Mastroianni approved the motion. Motion opposed by First Selectman Carlson.
- Motion to remove the proposed increases and go back to FY23's amounts for Line Items B23.03 (Pawcatuck Neighborhood Center), B23.06 (Womens Center/Safe Futures), B23.10 (TVCCA), B23.17 (United Comm & Family Services) by First Selectman Carlson, 2nd by Selectman Mastroianni; motion approved 3-0-0.
- Motion to decrease Line Item B27.10 (Town Property Maintenance) by \$5,000 by First Selectman Carlson, 2nd by Selectman Mastroianni; motion approved 3-0-0.

- First Selectman Carlson received a letter from Casella Waste Systems notifying the Town that they are increasing their hauling prices. Motion by First Selectman Carlson to increase Line Item B27.26 (Transfer Station Contractual Services) by \$25,000, 2nd by Selectman Mastroianni; motion approved 3-0-0.
- Motion to cut B34.034 (Land Use Contracted Consulting) by \$1,500, 2nd by Selectman Porter; motion approved 3-0-0.
- Motion to decrease B34.036 (Land Use Training/Seminars) by \$1,000 by Selectman Porter, 2nd by First Selectman Carlson; motion approved 3-0-0.
- Motion to decrease Line Item B34.09 (Affordable Housing) to \$500 from the proposed \$1,000 by Selectman Mastroianni, 2nd by Selectman Porter; motion approved 3-0-0.
- Motion to eliminate \$100,000 from Line Item C2.04 (Transfer Station Front End Loader) from the FY24 Budget by First Selectman Carlson, 2nd by Selectman Mastroianni; motion approved 3-0-0.
- Motion to reduce Line Item C3.15 (Land Acquisition Fund) by \$5,000 from First Selectman Carlson, 2nd by Selectman Mastroianni; motion approved 3-0-0.
- Motion to remove \$20,000 from Line Item C3.35 (Farm 1750 House Repairs) by First Selectman Carlson, 2nd by Selectman Mastroianni; motion approved 3-0-0.
- Motion to transfer \$2,500 out of the proposed increase of \$7,500 from Line Item B1.00 (First Selectman) to Line Item B1.04 (Accounting Generalist) by First Selectman Carlson, 2nd by Selectman Porter; motion approved 2-1-0. Motion approved by First Selectman Carlson and Selectman Porter. Motion opposed by Selectman Mastroianni.
- Motion to move this version of the FY24 Budget forward to the BOF for their review by Selectman Mastroianni, 2nd by Selectman Porter; motion approved 3-0-0. This version of the Budget has Government Operating Expenses at \$5,543,632, Redemption of Debt at \$1,382,949 and Capital at \$415,420.

11. Ordinance Changes: The BOS and Administration & Finance Officer Christine Dias discussed Town Ordinance Changes. Discussions included: Waiver of certain taxes due for \$5 or less for the Tax Collector's Office, \$5 administration fees for DMV clearances, Chapter 21 Cannabis Usage on Town property, and Ordinances for Vendors, Solicitors, and Hawkers. The BOS would also like the ability to waive a Peddler License for Special Events. The waiver of the fee would come before the BOS.

12. Tax Refunds: Motion to approve the Tax Refunds in the total amount of \$2,563.59 by Selectman Mastroianni, 2nd by Selectman Porter; motion approved 3-0-0.

- **Hyundai Lease Titling Trust** - \$308.97
- **Hyundai Lease Titling Trust**- \$326.04
- **Lemarre, Steven R.** - \$62.71
- **Lereta LLC FBO Idaho Housing** - \$1,766.77
- **Parker, John D. III & Kimberly** - \$99.10
- **Wolfe, James W. Jr.** - \$759.76

13. Minutes

- **March 14, 2023 Meeting:** Motion to approve the minutes as written by Selectman Porter, 2nd by Selectman Mastroianni; motion approved 3-0-0.

14. Public Comments*

15. Next Meeting: April 11, 2023

16. Adjournment: Motion to adjourn at 10:03pm by Selectman Porter, 2nd by First Selectman Carlson; motion approved 3-0-0.

*The Board of Selectmen respectfully requests that public comments do not exceed two (2) minutes per person in respect for everyone's time.

Respectfully submitted,

Ivanna Hugo