



**Town of North Stonington
Board of Selectmen Meeting
Zoom Meeting
May 25, 2021
6:00 PM**

Public will be able to attend the meeting via Zoom with the following link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86445005101>

Or via Zoom App-Enter Meeting ID: 864 4500 5101

Or listen only via telephone by calling 646 558 8656 and enter Meeting ID: 864 4500 5101

MINUTES

1. Call to order/Roll Call: 6pm, First Selectman Urgo, Selectwoman Kincaid, Selectman Carlson, Administration & Finance Officer Christine Dias, Assessor Darryl DelGrosso and Highway Foreman Don Hill in attendance.
2. Public Comments on Agenda and Non-Agenda Items*
3. Review of Transfer Station
 - a. Highway Foreman Don Hill gave a presentation regarding fees at the Transfer Station and comparisons to surrounding towns. He discussed issues of bulky waste haulers and future modifications. Don recommended that the Board consider fees for stickers and day passes.
4. Speed Hump Update
 - a. First Selectman Urgo and Highway Foreman Don Hill discussed speed humps in the Village and the recommendation of studying traffic by the Traffic Commission and Sub-Committee. Discussion followed, the board looks to move forward with installing speed humps in the Village.
5. Tax Relief Program Discussion
 - a. Assessor Darryl Del Grosso provided an overview of tax programs utilized by the Town. He briefly discussed other programs available from the state. Due to connectivity issues, the board looks to continue researching available programs and Darryl will be in attendance for continued discussion during the meeting on June 22, 2021.
6. FY 2022 Budget Discussion
 - a. First Selectman Urgo provided an update on the budget process since the budget failed to pass. The Board of Finance will be meeting Wednesday, May 26 to discuss the budget and provide guidance moving forward. The Board of Selectmen went through the budget page by page. Changes made by the

board reduced the Capital amount to \$242,753, the General Government amount to \$5,177,407, if the Board of Education's budget is the same as moved forward, the new total for the FY 2022 budget is \$21,174,574.

7. Discussion of Budget Timeline

- a. The Board of Selectmen discussed the budget timeline. Tax bills will need to be printed soon and are expected to be delivered by July 1, 2021 however it is unlikely that the town meeting and referendum will be held before this deadline. The board discussed supplemental bills and moving the due date of tax bills by one month. Discussions will continue at a future meeting.
 - i. B1.07 Board of Selectmen Office Expenses: reduce by \$1,000 to \$0.
 - ii. B20.00 Town Insurance: increase by \$15,000 to a new amount of \$97,935.
 - iii. B27.24 Water Sampling/Lab Testing: increase by \$775 to a new amount of \$18,000.
 - iv. B30.00 Cemeteries: reduce by \$1,000 to a new amount of \$7,000.
 - v. B30.03 Wheeler Library: reduce by \$5,000 to a new amount of \$65,000.
 - vi. B30.07: Lake Association Weed Control Assistance, increase by \$16,000 to a new amount of \$31,000.
 - vii. B34.071: Wages – WEO, reduce by \$4,087 to a new amount of \$7,913.
 - viii. C.00: Ambulance Association – Equipment, reduce by \$8,000 to \$0.
 - ix. C3.04: Town Building Maintenance, reduce by \$15,000 to \$0.
 - x. C3.35: Farm 1750 House Repairs, increase by \$20,000 to a new amount of \$30,000.
 - xi. C3.49: Flight and Mapping, reduce by \$6,500 to \$0.
 - xii. B20.04: Social Security recalculated to a new amount of \$126,837.
 - xiii. B20.05: Medical Insurance, recalculated at a five percent increase in a new amount of \$441,904.

8. 298 Norwich Westerly Road Update

- a. First Selectman Urgo provided an update on the open RFP, a letter of intent to lease or buy the entire building was received and was forwarded to the Education Center Committee. The RFP remains open until 1pm on June 4, 2021.

9. Solar Update - Route 184

- a. First Selectman Urgo reminded the board that there is an upcoming Siting Council Evidentiary Hearing and Public Hearing Session by the Siting Council on Tuesday June 8, 2021.

10. Review/Award of Tanker Bids

- a. The board reviewed the bid received for the tanker.
- b. Motion by First Selectman Urgo to accept the bid for New England Fire Apparatus for \$46, 501. Motion approved 2-1-0 (Selectman Carlson voted against the motion).

11. GEI Water Quality Monitoring Agreement

- a. First Selectman Urgo led the discussion regarding the upcoming renewal of Water Quality Monitoring Agreement with GEI.
- b. Motion by Selectwoman Kincaid to approve the execution of the water quality monitoring agreement, 2nd by Selectman Carlson. Motion approved 3-0-0.

12. North Stonington Map

- a. First Selectman Urgo discussed a tourism map of North Stonington that had been previously worked on but never completed.
- b. Motion by Selectwoman Kincaid to allow First Selectman Urgo to finish developing the map for North Stonington, 2nd by Selectman Carlson. Motion approved 3-0-0.
- c. Motion by Selectman Carlson to add “Food Truck Update” after “Covid-19 Update” and “Executive Session – Planning Officer” after Public Comments, 2nd by Selectwoman Kincaid. Motion approved 3-0-0.

13. Covid-19 Update

- a. First Selectman Urgo led the discussion on vaccination rates in town. The Wheeler Library is looking to hold an event about the vaccine and will follow up with a clinic on June 5th, the same day as the food truck festival. The library has asked if the Town would support a \$5 coupon for those who receive the vaccine during the clinic for the Food Truck Festival or participating local restaurants.

14. Appointments

- a. Tax Collector
 - i. Motion by Selectwoman Kincaid to appoint Donna Spelman to the role of tax collector, 2nd by Selectman Carlson. Motion approved 3-0-0.
- b. Sustainability Committee

- i. Motion by Selectwoman Kincaid to appoint: Toula Balestracci, Craig Fasullo, Alexis Kahn, Patricia Turner and John Lindsay to the Sustainability Committee, 2nd by Selectman Carlson. Motion approved 3-0-0.

- c. Juvenile Review Board

- i. Motion by Selectman Carlson to reappoint to the Juvenile Review Board: Larry Chappell for the at-large three-year position and Cheryl Biekert to the at-large one-year position as submitted by Chairman Joe Gross, 2nd by Selectwoman Kincaid. Motion approved 3-0-0.

15. Grants Update

- a. The Town received a grant from the Eastern Connecticut Foundation for the lakes but did not receive the earmark funding that was applied for through Congressman Courtney's office.

16. Selectman's Expense Line Discussion

- a. The board discussed the vaccine incentive program suggested by the Wheeler Library for June 5, 2021 and a potential staff outing in June.

17. Minutes

- a. April 27, 2021
 - i. Motion by Selectman Carlson to approve minutes as amended, 2nd by Selectwoman Kincaid. Motion approved 3-0-0.
- b. May 3, 2021 Special Meeting
 - i. Motion by Selectman Carlson to approve minutes as submitted, 2nd by Selectwoman Kincaid. Motion approved 3-0-0.
- c. May 20, 2021 Special Meeting
 - i. Motion by First Selectman Urgo to approve minutes as submitted, 2nd by Selectwoman Kincaid. Motion approved 2-0-1.

18. Public Comments on Agenda Items*

19. Executive Session – Planning Officer

- a. Motion by Selectman Carlson to enter into executive session, 2nd by Selectwoman Kincaid. Motion approved 3-0-0.
- b. The board left the executive session at 8:24 pm.

20. Adjournment

- a. Motion by First Selectman Urgo to adjourn at 8:24 pm, 2nd by Selectman Carlson.

*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,
Bailey Talbott