



**Town of North Stonington
Board of Selectmen Special Meeting
Zoom Meeting
March 26, 2021
2:00 PM**

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

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81653333578>

Or via Zoom App-Enter Meeting ID: 816 5333 3578

Or listen only via telephone by calling 646 558 8656 and enter Meeting ID: 816 5333 3578

AGENDA

1. Call to order/Roll Call
2. NSVFC Letter Regarding Per Diem Firefighter
3. Discussion of Town Meeting Logistics
4. Public Comments/Feedback
5. Call of Town Meeting
6. Adjournment

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

To: North Stonington Volunteer Fire Company

From: Board of Selectman

Re: Per Diem Firefighter

Dear NSVFC,

The budget process has been a challenging one this year as you may have heard. To date the Per Diem Firefighter has been removed from the budget and the Board of Finance elected not to move this expenditure forward as an appropriation at this time. While we are disappointed with this decision we can understand the challenges we are facing.

The American Rescue package Federal funding is likely to be a source that we can use to fund this position this year and possibly for the next three years. We are waiting for the US Treasury to come out with official guidance on how the funds can be used. To that end, we want you to know that once the guidance comes out from Treasury the Board of Selectmen intend to bring forward an appropriation request for this position. According to the rules of this package, the funds are supposed to be given to the State somewhere around May 7th. The State then has 30 days to make those funds available to the Town. This means that in theory we should still be able to accommodate this expenditure via town meeting prior to next fiscal year. While there is no guarantee that the town will approve the expenditure, it does seem there is strong sentiment to fund this position and we would make the argument of its necessity.

This letter is to ask for your understanding on the process and support for the current budget. We hope you have seen the efforts the Board of Selectmen have made to support NSVFC's requests and you have our commitment to continued support with this request once treasury guidance is given for the use of these funds. We would also state that even if these funds for some unexpected reason do not allow for an expenditure like this we will still look to move the appropriation request forward.

Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions,

Sincerely,

Mike Urgo
First Selectman

Bob Carlson
Selectman

Nita Kincaid
Selectwoman

CC: Board of Finance



*Town of North Stonington
North Stonington, Connecticut*

Warning is hereby given to the electors and those entitled to vote at town meetings of the Town of North Stonington that a Special Town Meeting shall be held at the following location on the date and time indicated for the purposes of transacting the business set forth below:

Location: North Stonington Education Center Cafeteria, 298 Norwich Westerly Road &
via Zoom: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_VLADRUn4TIWBEycSVv_sgg
Webinar ID: 831 9131 9575

Date: April 5, 2021

Time: 6 PM

For the purpose of verifying registered voters, those wishing to attend the meeting online and vote online will need to pre-register through the link provided by 12pm on April 5. Those who have the capability for online access are encouraged to attend virtually. In person attendance will be available following COVID-19 guidelines.

1. Shall the Town of North Stonington adopt ordinance as petitioned: "Sec. 2-62 Votes for the Board of Selectmen. In accordance with CGS 9-188, commencing with the regular town election of November 2, 2021 and at each regular town election thereafter, Electors may vote for the full number to be elected to the Board of Selectmen, one person for the Office of First Selectman and two persons for The Board of Selectmen" and for the Town Clerk to be allowed to publish an abbreviated version of the legal ad regarding the Notice of Passage of the ordinance?
2. Shall the Town of North Stonington adopt the following ordinance: "Sec. 2-3 - Required Number of Signatures for Petition. The required number of signatures for a petition will increase to a minimum of 50 in all cases unless more signatures are required per State Statute." and for the Town Clerk to be allowed to publish an abbreviated version of the legal ad regarding the Notice of Passage of the ordinance?
3. Shall the Town of North Stonington approve amendments to the local ordinances 2-60 Municipal Building Committee and 2-76 Finance Board as presented and made available at the Town Clerk's office at 40 Main Street, North Stonington, CT and for the Town Clerk to be allowed to publish an abbreviated version of the legal ad regarding the Notice of Passage of the amendments?
4. Shall the Town sell the 1993 Peterbilt Tanker/Pumper used by the North Stonington Volunteer Fire Company?
5. Shall the Town approve the fee schedules for the Building Department as presented?
6. Shall the Town of North Stonington approve an additional appropriation in the amount of \$35,000 for the radios for the North Stonington Volunteer Fire Company as recommended by the Board of Finance?
7. Shall the Town approve an additional appropriation in the amount of \$60,325 for financial software as recommended by the Board of Finance?

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Robert A. Carlson

Michael A. Urgo

Nita B. Kincaid

Ordinance Proposed by Petition

Chapter 2 – ADMINISTRATION

ARTICLE III – BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Sec. 2-62 Votes for the Board of Selectmen

In accordance with CGS 9-188, commencing with the regular town election of November 2, 2021 and at each regular town election thereafter, Electors may vote for the full number to be elected to the Board of Selectmen, one person for the Office of First Selectman and two persons for The Board of Selectmen

New Proposed Ordinance

Chapter 2 – ADMINISTRATION

ARTICLE 1 – IN GENERAL

Sec. 2-3 - Required Number of Signatures for Petition

The required number of signatures for a petition will increase to a minimum of 50 in all cases unless more signatures are required per State Statute.

Amendments to Local Ordinances

Chapter 2 – ADMINISTRATION

ARTICLE III – BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Sec. 2-60. Municipal Building Committee

(a)Committee established. ~~The Board of Selectmen shall establish There is hereby established a~~ Municipal Building Committee of the Town of North Stonington, which shall be known as the "Municipal Building Committee."

Article IV. FINANCE

Sec. 2-76. Finance Board.

(b)The Town of North Stonington shall be empowered to elect two alternate members for the Board of Finance that shall be electors and taxpayers in the Town. Alternate members shall have all the duties and powers of regular members and shall be seated if a regular Board member is absent or is disqualified; such regular member shall designate an alternate to act. In the event that an absent or disqualified regular member shall fail or refuse to designate an alternate to so act, the majority of the regular members of the Board of Finance not absent and not disqualified ~~shall~~may designate an alternate, subject to the provisions of the Connecticut General Statutes with respect to minority representation, to so act for such absent or disqualified member. ~~The two alternates shall not be of the same political party.~~ The alternates shall be elected at the Town's biennial election and be subject to the provisions of the Connecticut General Statutes with respect to minority representation. ~~The alternates shall serve four-year terms. The alternate member elected at the November 5, 2019 Town biennial election shall serve a two-year term and then the alternates shall serve four-year~~

~~terms thereafter.~~ In case of a vacancy in the alternate membership of the Board of Finance, the full members of the Board shall, at a special meeting called by the Chairman for the purpose, by a majority vote, appoint a successor of the same political party as the vacating alternate member, who shall serve until the next Town election and until his successor is elected and has qualified. At the next Town election following the occurrence of such vacancy, the electors shall elect a successor to fill the vacancy for the unexpired portion of the term and the office to be filled shall be designated on the official ballot by the words "To fill vacancy for..." followed by the duration of the unexpired term.

Proposed Changes to Current Building Fees

FYE 2021	JULY	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB
AVERAGE CONSTRUCTION COST	\$ 21,928.38	\$ 28,179.11	\$ 18,806.11	\$ 20,141.04	\$ 26,882.03	\$ 56,026.15	\$ 37,771.89	\$ 61,611.81
MEDIAN CONSTRUCTION COST	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 11,738.50	\$ 4,900.00	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 7,803.48	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 9,000.00	\$ 7,500.00

AVERAGE								
CURRENT FEES (\$16/\$9)	\$ 187	\$ 250.00	\$ 160.00	\$ 178.00	\$ 232.00	\$ 502.00	\$ 331.00	\$ 547.00
PROPOSED FEES (\$20/\$10)	\$ 210.00	\$ 280.00	\$ 180.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 260.00	\$ 560.00	\$ 370.00	\$ 610.00
INCREASE	\$ 23.00	\$ 30.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 22.00	\$ 28.00	\$ 58.00	\$ 39.00	\$ 63.00

MEDIAN								
CURRENT FEES (\$16/\$9)	\$ 124.00	\$ 97.00	\$ 34.00	\$ 52.00	\$ 61.00	\$ 34.00	\$ 70.00	\$ 61.00
PROPOSED FEES (\$20/\$10)	\$ 140.00	\$ 110.00	\$ 40.00	\$ 60.00	\$ 70.00	\$ 40.00	\$ 80.00	\$ 70.00
INCREASE	\$ 16.00	\$ 13.00	\$ 6.00	\$ 8.00	\$ 9.00	\$ 6.00	\$ 10.00	\$ 9.00

(Between \$6-\$16)

SOLAR PROJECT	\$ 11,593,473.30
CURRENT FEES (\$16/\$9)	\$ 104,335.00
PROPOSED FEES (\$20/\$10)	\$ 115,930.00
INCREASE	\$ 11,595.00

DUTCH VILLAGE RENOVATIONS	\$ 107,000.00
CURRENT FEES (\$16/\$9)	\$ 952.00
PROPOSED FEES (\$20/\$10)	\$ 1,090.00
INCREASE	\$ 138.00

GENERAL COST COMPARISON	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
CURRENT FEES (\$16/\$9)	\$ 124.00	\$ 79.00	\$ 34.00
PROPOSED FEES (\$20/\$10)	\$ 140.00	\$ 90.00	\$ 40.00
INCREASE	\$ 16.00	\$ 11.00	\$ 6.00

July 2020- December 2020

< \$3,000	54	4	\$ 216.00
\$3001 - \$10,000	88	\$5 - \$11	\$ 704.00
\$10,001 - \$50,000	69	\$12 - \$51	\$ 2,208.00
\$50,001 - \$100,000	14	\$52 - \$101	\$ 1,078.00
\$100,001 - \$500,000	8	\$102 - \$501	\$ 2,400.00
\$500,000 - \$1,000,000	0	\$502 - \$1001	\$ -
\$1,000,000 - \$10,000,000	4	\$1002 - \$10,001	\$ 22,000.00
APPROX ADD. REVENUE			\$ 28,606.00

OPTION 2: CREATE STANDARDIZED COST OF CONSTRUCTION PER SF OF PROJECT TYPE REGARDLESS OF CIRCUMSTANCE OR ESTIMATE PROVIDED BY APPLICANT - THIS WOULD DRAMATICALLY INCREASE THE AMOUNT PAID AS MOST APPLICANTS UNDERVALUE THE JOB OR DO NOT ACCOUNT FOR ALL LABOR COSTS

No Fee increase in 26 years

User pays for service vs spread to all taxpayers

Fee includes State Fee of .26/1,000; C.O. Fee and re-inspection fees. Other towns charge for each separately + a Zoning Fee

Most towns = base permit fee for 1st \$1000 vs \$3,000 in NS

Proposed Changes to Current Building Fees

Preston	Building Permit Fees Are As Follows...	
a New Construction	\$16.00 per \$1,000 + \$50 zoning fee	Stonington and Ledyard Similar - but the Zoning fees are higher and required for all permits; plus State fee and C.O. Fees
b Alteration/Addition/Renovation	\$16.00 per \$1,000 + \$50 zoning fee	
c Accessory Structures	\$16.00 per \$1,000 + \$50 zoning fee	
d Plumbing (Commercial)	\$16.00 per \$1,000	

Griswold	Building Permit Fee - \$16.26 per thousand of estimated cost or any portion thereof plus an additional Certificate of Occupancy/Compliance fee of \$5.00 Zoning Fee - \$20.00 will be charged on new structure construction Mechanical Permits – \$16.26 per thousand of estimated cost or any portion thereof (electric, plumbing, heating, air conditioning, ventilation)
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Voluntown	16.26 per \$1,000 plus misc. fees
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Groton, Town	\$25.26 for 1st \$1,000 and \$15.26 per \$1,000 thereafter PLUS a fee for a certificate of occupancy which is \$25.00 or 2% of the building permit fee or portion thereof, whichever is greater. PLUS \$25 Zoning Compliance Fee Followed by a \$50 Certificate of Zoning Compliance at the end
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City of Groton	\$20 for 1st \$1,000 + \$10 Each additional \$1,000 PLUS Fee for C.O and T.C.Os (\$50-100) and any re-inspections (\$25-50)
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