

Town of North Stonington Board of Selectmen Meeting New Town Hall & Zoom Meeting February 7, 2023 6:30 PM

Please note: This meeting is being held at a different location, Town Hall, 40 Main Street, North Stonington CT.

Public will be able to attend the meeting in person or via Zoom with the following link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84882328547?pwd=RzA2RUFGcEwwVTlYN21wRzljOWdPZz 09

Or via Zoom App-Enter Meeting ID: 848 8232 8547 Passcode: 350118

Or listen only via telephone by calling 646 558 8656 and enter Meeting ID: 848 8232 8547

Link to 2/7/23 Meeting Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L4kpur3gaWM

MINUTES

- 1. Call to order/Roll Call: Call to order at 6:40pm. 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:** The BOS have received letters of support from the public for Wheeler Library.
- 6. Old Business
 - **a. Demolition of One Story 298 Norwich Westerly Road:** First Selectman Carlson gave a brief update on the 298 Norwich Westerly Road demolition.
 - **b.** Vacancies & Appointments: There are no vacancies & appointments.

- **c. ARPA Funds Update and Discussion:** The BOS reviewed the spent and remaining ARPA funds.
- **d. Plan of Conservation & Development Update:** A POCD mailer was sent out to all North Stonington residents this past weekend. The mailer lists the dates and times for the Focus Groups and Neighborhood meetings.
- 7. Hewitt Farm Committee Presentation: Hewitt Farm Committee Chairman Ed Harasimowitz gave a presentation on what the committee has been up to this past year. The North Stonington Artisan Farmers Market was one of their most successful events. The Theatre performance at Hewitt Farm was another well received event. The Hewitt Farm pavilion was rented 14 times last year. There was a lot of repair work done on the John Dean Gallup House. The committee will receive a report next week for the community garden. The hayfields are leased and the meadows were cut in January. Lastly, a brief update was given on the trails.
- **8. CT Recreational Trails Grant Support Letter:** The BOS were given copies of the CT Recreational Trails Grant Support Letter. This grant would help make an existing trail handicap accessible and inclusive to everyone. First Selectman Carlson asked if the other Selectmen would like to sign the letter of support. Motion to sign the letter by Selectman Mastroianni, 2nd by Selectman Porter; motion approved 3-0-0.
- 9. ARPA Rural Roads Grant: The Town has already received approval on the ARPA Rural Roads Grant for \$50,000. First Selectman Carlson has received feedback that a lot of speeding occurs on the rural roads. This grant is for troopers to watch for speeding and enforce the speeding limit. The \$50,000 would enable our two Resident Troopers and other troopers to work overtime shifts at no cost to the Town. This grant has to be used by December 31, 2023. Motion to accept this grant by Selectman Mastroianni, 2nd by Selectman Porter; motion approved 3-0-0.
- **10. Bottle Bill Funds Discussion:** The Town gets a nickel for each nip purchased by the liquor stores in North Stonington. The wholesalers pay the Town directly. Currently, the Town has received \$15,695.50 from wholesalers. The funds can be used for anything related to waste. \$6,567.60 is in deferred revenue since this was money received last year that the Town did not spend. \$9,127.90 was received this

year so far. The funds can be split for multiple uses. The Bottle Bill Funds will be discussed at a future meeting.

11. Transfer Station & Bulky Waste Fee Discussion: First Selectman Carlson proposed a two-year sticker for \$40 total to start in July. If a resident moved in one year later, they would only be charged for one year (\$20). The idea is to have two stickers per household. Motion to institute a two-year sticker at the Transfer Station by Selectman Porter, 2nd by Selectman Mastroianni; motion approved 3-0-0.

12. FY2024 Budget Discussion:

- Motion to move \$25,000 to revenue for line item A5.01 (Transfer Stickers) by Selectman Porter, 2nd by Selectman Mastroianni; motion approved 3-0-0.
- Noted that line item A5.19 (Deobligated Capital) was removed.
- Motion to increase \$5,000 to \$10,000 for line item B9.01 (Tribal Recognition) by Selectman Mastroianni, 2nd by Selectman Porter; motion approved 3-0-0.
- Motion to decrease line item B23.03 (Pawcatuck Neighborhood Center) from \$40,000 to \$30,000 by Selectman Mastroianni, 2nd by Selectman Porter; motion approved 3-0-0.
- Motion to decrease \$4,496 to \$3,564 for line item B23.17 (United Comm & Family Services) by Selectman Mastroianni, 2nd by Selectman Porter; motion approved 3-0-0.
- Motion to decrease line item B23.02 (New London Hospitality Center) from \$2,000 to \$1,000 by Selectman Porter, 2nd by Selectman Mastroianni; motion approved 3-0-0.
- Motion to remove \$78,000 out of line item C1.21 (Replacement & upgrade 2 pickup trucks) by Selectman Porter, 2nd by First Selectman Carlson; motion approved 3-0-0.
- Motion to change \$203,011 to \$100,000 for line item C2.04 (Front End Loader) by Selectman Porter, 2nd by Selectman Mastroianni; motion approved 3-0-0.

- Motion to decrease line item C3.15 (Land Acquisition Fund) from \$10,000 to \$5,000 by Selectman Mastroianni, 2nd by First Selectman Carlson; motion approved 3-0-0.
- Motion to decrease line item C3.54 (NSVFC Service Truck Fire) from \$65,000 to \$45,000 by Selectman Mastroianni, 2nd by Selectman Porter; motion approved 3-0-0.
- Motion to remove \$15,000 from line item C3.49 (Flight & Mapping) by
 Selectman Porter, 2nd by First Selectman Carlson; motion approved 3-0-0.

13. Tax Refunds: None

14. Minutes

- **a. January 24, 2023 Meeting:** Motion to approve the minutes as written by Selectman Porter, 2nd by Selectman Mastroianni; motion approved 3-0-0.
- **b. February 1, 2023 Special Meeting:** Motion to approve the minutes as written by Selectman Porter, 2nd by Selectman Mastroianni; motion approved 3-0-0.

15. Public Comments*

- **16. Next Meeting:** February 15, 2023 (Board of Finance joint meeting)
- **17. Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn at 9:30pm by Selectman Mastroianni, 2nd by Selectman Porter; 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