

# Town of North Stonington Board of Selectmen Meeting North Stonington Education Center & Zoom Meeting March 22, 2022 6:30 PM

Public will be able to attend the meeting in person or via Zoom with the following link: <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88370082113?pwd=MWMvTnFFTG15WUhlWjY2aE8rZjVHQT09">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88370082113?pwd=MWMvTnFFTG15WUhlWjY2aE8rZjVHQT09</a>

Or via Zoom App-Enter Meeting ID: 883 7008 2113 Passcode: 621436

Or listen only via telephone by calling 646 558 8656 and enter Meeting ID: 883 7008 2113

# **MINUTES:**

- **1. Call to order/Roll Call:** Call to order at 6:32pm. 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:** Selectman Porter attended the Conservation Commission meeting. The Conservation Commission will be participating in their 1<sup>st</sup> Annual 7 Rivers Festival this year. Selectman Mastroianni attended the Hewitt Farm Committee meeting. The Farmer's Market is moving forward and the first one will be held on May 15<sup>th</sup> at Hewitt Farm.
- **5. First Selectman Report/Correspondence:** First Selectman Carlson met with the North Stonington Ambulance Association. Additionally, First Selectman Carlson met with CT State Senator, Heather Somers, and a representative for small houses that is interested in building small houses in North Stonington.
- 6. ARPA Request:

- a) Rec Program \$15,000: North Stonington's Recreation Commission is requesting \$15,000 from ARPA funding. Emily Mastroianni gave a presentation on what the \$15,000 could potentially be used for. The Recreation Commission would like to use this money for different programs, day trips, and more. Motion to approve the Recreation Commission's request of \$15,000 from ARPA funding by Selectman Mastroianni, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Selectman Porter; motion approved 3-0-0.
- **7. Sustainability Committee Update:** The Chair of the Sustainability Committee, Alexis Kahn, gave a presentation. The Sustainability Committee is currently working towards Silver Certification. The Sustainability Committee is trying to raise awareness about their committee and recruit additional members.

### 8. Old Business:

# a. FY22/23 Budget Discussion:

- The Board of Finance asked both the Board of Education and the Board of Selectmen to each cut \$106,000 from their budgets.
- The BOS agreed that the \$50,000 for the school's parking lot resurfacing (Line C5.01) can be postponed for a year.
- Selectman Porter stated that she did not support reducing Line B30.03 (Wheeler Library) by \$10,000.
- Selectman Mastroianni made a motion to reduce Line B30.03 (Wheeler Library) by \$10,000, decrease the capital amount in half for Line C2.03 to bring it to a total of \$46,000, and eliminate Line C5.01 (Parking Lot Resurfacing) from this year's budget. Additionally, \$101,259 would be added into revenue for Line A.100 and \$14,400 would be added into revenue for Line A5.15 (Property Rent). This motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Selectman Porter and approved 3-0-0.
- Motion to move budget forward as presented to the BOF by Selectman Mastroianni,
   2<sup>nd</sup> by First Selectman Carlson; motion approved 3-0-0.
  - b. 298 Norwich-Westerly Rd: First Selectman Carlson gave an update on 298 Norwich-Westerly Rd. The individual interested in opening an Early Learning Center is now looking at doing so on the first floor of 298. The Theatre Group

interested in 298 is now looking at using the workshop on the first floor and parts of the second floor.

- **9. AFSCME Contract Ratification:** The AFSCME contract is a 3-year contract with wage increases of 2.75% for year 1, 2.5% for year 2, and 2.25% for year 3. Other changes to the contract included changes to their health care contributions, 5 weeks of vacation when you hit the 20 year mark of employment, and a 3 step pay schedule added for hiring. Selectman Porter made a motion to ratify the AFSCME Contract as presented, 2<sup>nd</sup> by First Selectman Carlson; motion approved 3-0-0.
- **10. Tax Refunds:** Motion to approve the tax refunds as written for a total of \$1,231.40 by Selectman Porter, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Selectman Mastroianni; motion approved 3-0-0.

## 11. Minutes

- **a. March 8, 2022 Meeting:** Motion to approve the minutes as written by Selectman Porter, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Selectman Mastroianni; motion approved 3-0-0.
- 12. Public Comments\*
- **13. Next Meeting:** April 12, 2022 6:30pm
- **14. Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn at 8:18 pm by Selectman Porter, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Selectman Mastroianni; 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