



**Town of North Stonington  
Board of Selectmen Meeting  
North Stonington Education Center & Zoom Meeting  
January 10, 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/84879587464?pwd=VllQWVBUbmtmRkjaSlUw5dmxZUT0>  
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Or via Zoom App-Enter Meeting ID: 848 7958 7464

Passcode: 535998

Or listen only via telephone by calling 646 558 8656 and enter Meeting ID: 848 7958 7464

**Link to 1/10/23 Meeting Video:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PKesg1fUP84>

## 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 reported that the North Stonington Early Learning Center hopes to open in early February. There will be an Agricultural Forum in March for farmers to attend.
6. **Old Business**
  - a. **Demolition of One Story 298 Norwich Westerly Road:** The demolition is back on track. First Selectman Carlson will attend his normal contractor weekly meeting tomorrow and will receive new updates.
  - b. **Vacancies & Appointments:** None
  - c. **Tax Relief Committee:** The Tax Relief Committee will focus on relief for older citizens and Veterans. Motion to appoint John Olsen, Louis Gingerella, Brian Rathbun, Betty Russ, Connie Berardi, and Anne Nelson by Selectman Mastroianni, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Selectman Porter; motion approved 3-0-0. This committee will have 60 days to come up with recommendations.

- d. ARPA Funds Update and Discussion:** The BOS received an update on ARPA funds. The deadline for the EDC's North Stonington Works Program was 12/31/22 and the leftover funds will be discussed and reallocated at a future meeting.
- e. Plan of Conservation & Development Update:** Juliet Hodge is the consultant working on the Plan of Conservation and Development. Along with her, there is a steering committee of 6 people working on this. Focus group meetings will occur in February and neighborhood meetings will be starting in March. A mailer will be sent out containing the information for both the neighborhood and focus group meetings.

## **7. Capital Plan Review:**

- a. Highway Department Capital ask:** \$39,000 to upgrade two F150's to two F250's for the purpose of using these trucks for utilities and to plow small areas. Additionally, \$25,000 for the tractor mower lease payment.
- b. Transfer Station/ Bulky Waste Area Capital ask:** \$10,000 for Transfer Station maintenance and improvements. \$203,000 for the front end loader. The walking floor trailer that the Town was interested in last year was priced at \$92,000. \$46,000 was saved in the last budget to go towards this. Prices have increased and \$57,450 is the remaining amount now needed to purchase the walking floor trailer in full. \$25,000 was put towards the bulky waste pile closure in last year's budget. The Town knows that eventually they will have to close up the bulky waste pile. There will be a future conversation in an upcoming BOS meeting to discuss the idea of implementing bulky waste fees.
- c. Selectmen Capital ask:** The Hewitt Farm 1750 House had a \$30,000 capital ask last year and a \$40,000 capital ask this year. First Selectman Carlson explained that all new windows have been put in. However, some repairs are still needed. The roof on the back porch is falling down, trim work needs to be done, and the building needs to be painted. The Town is receiving an income of \$20,000 from the tenant renting the 1750 House. Selectman Mastroianni stated that there is no capital ask for the Recreation Facility to be updated. Selectman Mastroianni wants to have a discussion on what the

plan is for the future of the building. Administration & Finance Officer Christine Dias stated that \$15,000 has already been put aside from a previous budget for a hood for the kitchen and to construct an office for the Recreation Director. Discussion followed. The ask for computer expenses is \$4,000 for replacing broken or failing equipment, \$6,000 for replacing 4 Town PC computers, and \$4,000 for server maintenance and upgrades for a total of \$14,000. There will be a \$3,000 decrease in capital ask for IT because certain line items should be changed to operating line items. For Town Building Maintenance, \$30,000 has already been earmarked for paving, repaving, and resurfacing parking lots for town owned property. \$10,000 has been requested for Land Acquisition funds. The Town needs updated flight & mapping work done. Ideally, this should be done every 5 years for accuracy for zoning and assessments. The Assessor is going to call Groton to see if we can share this service to lower the cost. The thought is that this work will cost around \$50,000 if the Town does not share this service. First Selectman Carlson recommended putting "X" amount of dollars towards this each year until we build up to that amount. The North Stonington Ambulance Association is asking for \$20,000 to replace their Lucas Device. Additionally, there is an ask for \$10,000 to replace five portable radios. The North Stonington Volunteer Fire Company is asking for \$21,000 for general gear and \$22,000 for specialized training. For the Tanker Lease, we are on payment number 3 out of 7. The NSVFC would like to purchase a used ladder truck. The first payment out of 3 would be \$75,000. The NSVFC would also like to purchase a F350 service truck. First Selectman Carlson will do a visit there.

- d. The overall capital ask is \$785,431. The capital ask last year was \$408,000. Discussion followed.

- 8. **Animal Shelter:** There will be a discussion about the possibility of an Animal Shelter at an upcoming BOS meeting. The current ACO will attend.
- 9. **Tax Refunds:** Motion to approve the Tax Refunds as written by Selectman Porter, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Selectman Mastroianni, motion approved 3-0-0.

<u>REFUNDS</u>	<u>AMOUNTS</u>
Honda Lease Trust	\$105.10
Honda Lease Trust	\$217.53
Brown Kim Marie	\$1,256.26
Maple Lane Farms LLC	\$84.09
Travers Jerry A	\$21.84
Nelson Erik P	\$89.54
Nissan Infiniti LT LLC	\$123.67
Pascoe Lee	\$370.92

**Total: \$2,268.95**

<u>REFUNDS</u>	<u>AMOUNTS</u>
Perez Sean M & Kerri L	\$51.78
USB Leasing LT	\$87.48
Eisley Anthony S	\$13.72
Lambrechts Alan J	\$142.13
Daimler Trust	\$389.63
Brown George C & Brown Ann Cummin	\$142.33
Milligan James R	\$42.14

**Total: \$869.21**

**10. Minutes**

- a. **December 13, 2022 Meeting:** Motion to approve the minutes as written by Selectman Mastroianni, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Selectman Porter; motion approved 3-0-0.

**11. Public Comments\***

**12. Next Meeting:** January 24, 2023

**13. Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn at 8:01pm 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