



**Town of North Stonington  
Board of Selectmen Meeting  
North Stonington Education Center & Zoom Meeting  
January 11, 2022  
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/81538273223?pwd=KzlwN2tiOEJpZlZVY0lYVzlyQzBpZz09>

Or via Zoom App-Enter Meeting ID: 815 3827 3223

Passcode: 942852

Or listen only via telephone by calling 646 558 8656 and enter Meeting ID: 815 3827 3223

## **MINUTES**

1. **Call to order/Roll Call:** Call to order at 6:00pm. 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 stated that there will be an Eagle Scout Award Ceremony on Saturday (1/15/22) at 2:30pm at Wheeler Library.
6. **Old Business**
  - a. **Community Conversation Report:** Stephanie Mastroianni gave a report on the Community Conversation that took place on January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022. 60 people registered for the event and there were approximately 50 participants both virtually and in person. The public was informed about the event through email invitations, social media, information published on the Community Conversation website, information published on North Stonington's website,

and information published in the Westerly Sun. The original budget for the Community Conversation was \$2000. The committee spent \$716 with bills outstanding. To date, 11 people completed surveys. The Community Conversation Committee asked to appoint one of their moderators to be a part of the Community Conversation committee.

- b. Registrar of Voters Presentation:** The BOS reviewed and discussed four items presented by the Registrars of Voters. The BOS will review dates with the Registrars of Voters for availability prior to setting a date for Town Meetings or Referendums. Regarding referendum times for voting, the times will be from 12:00pm-8:00pm, with the exception of election day in November. First Selectman Carlson explained that if the town deviates from those times and wants to go earlier in the morning, then a selectmen vote will be required and an approval at a town meeting would be needed. The third item was consideration to change the term of office for the Registrars from a 2-year term to a 4-year term. Selectman Porter made a motion to extend the term of Registrars from 2 years to 4 years, 2<sup>nd</sup> by First Selectman Carlson. Discussion followed. Motion failed 1-2-0. Selectman Porter in support and First Selectman Carlson and Selectman Mastroianni against. The fourth item was whether or not to relocate the Registrar's office back to Town Hall. Motion to move registrar's office back to Town Hall by Selectman Porter and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Selectman Mastroianni. Discussion followed. Selectman Porter asked questions. One of North Stonington's Registrars, Connie Berardi, answered questions. First Selectman Mastroianni asked what the time frame for the move will be and First Selectman Carlson thinks the move could take place in the next couple of weeks. Motion approved 3-0-0.
- 7. Update from Cultural Coalition:** Wendy Bury gave an update on the Cultural Coalition via Zoom. The Cultural Coalition was given 1% of ARPA funds previously. Meetings have already taken place and will continue to do so. Topics of discussion have included identifying the needs of the creative community, how funds can be used to support North Stonington's Agricultural Fair and North Stonington's

Festival, the possibility of a portable stage that could be shared by various organizations across town, and marketing/promotion. First Selectman Carlson asked if the Cultural Coalition could give notice to the public when their upcoming meetings will be.

**8. Town Wide Mask Mandate Discussion:** First Selectman Carlson explained how this discussion came about. First Selectman Carlson contacted Voluntown, Preston, and Griswold to see if they implemented a town wide mask mandate. These towns are not enforcing a mandate, with the exception of only at their Town Halls. Reasonings for no town wide mask mandate include undue pressure on small businesses, small businesses having trouble enforcing it, and the town having trouble enforcing it. At this time, First Selectman Carlson believes a town wide mask mandate should not be enforced. Selectman Mastroianni agreed with First Selectman Carlson. Selectman Porter expressed her views as a healthcare professional.

**9. Minutes**

- a. December 13, 2021 Special Meeting:** Motion by Selectman Porter to approve the minutes, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Selectman Mastroianni; motion approved 3-0-0.
- b. December 14, 2021:** Motion by Selectman Porter to approve the minutes, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Selectman Mastroianni; motion approved 3-0-0.
- c. December 20, 2021 Special Meeting:** Motion by Selectman Porter to approve the minutes, 2<sup>nd</sup> by First Selectman Carlson; Motion approved 2-0-1. Selectman Mastroianni abstained.

**10. Public Comments\***

**11. Next Meeting:** January 25, 2022, 6:30pm

**12. Adjournment:** Motion by Selectman Mastroianni to adjourn at 7:40pm, 2<sup>nd</sup> 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