Town of North Stonington SPECIAL TOWN MEETING MINUTES June 29, 2021

A Special Town Meeting of electors and citizens qualified to vote in Town Meetings of the Town of North Stonington, Connecticut was held at the North Stonington Education Center Media Center, 298 Norwich-Westerly Road, North Stonington, Connecticut on Tuesday, June 29, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. and online through Zoom.

Present: First Selectman Michael Urgo, Selectman Robert Carlson, and Selectwoman Nita Kincaid. Also present at the meeting were Board of Finance Chairman Dan Spring, Administration & Finance Officer Christine Dias, IT Manager Jim Russell, Assessor Darryl DelGrosso, Republican Registrar of Voters Amy French, and Democratic Assistant Registrar of Voters Joan Kepler.

First Selectman Michael Urgo called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. He stated that he would like to have an informal discussion and feedback on the first item of the call "State of the Town Update Presentation" before the election of the Moderator and the continuation of the meeting. First Selectman Urgo gave a detailed PowerPoint presentation regarding project updates, including the school projects, the 298 Norwich-Westerly Road building, the second phase of the Cedar Ridge/Meadow Wood area paving project, and solar projects. He also highlighted grants received by the town. First Selectman Urgo gave finance updates regarding town debt and land use updates. He indicated that the expenses shown in the meeting handout regarding expenses for 298 Norwich-Westerly Road show the expenses incurred prior to March 3, 2021. Discussion followed regarding the presentation.

First Selectman Urgo asked for a **MOTION** from the floor to elect a Moderator. A **MOTION** made by Dan Spring, seconded by Brett Mastroianni to elect Lisa Mazzella as the Moderator. A **MOTION** made by Dan Spring, seconded by Anne Nalwalk to close all nominations. **MOTION TO CLOSE ALL NOMINATIONS CARRIED. MOTION TO ELECT LISA MAZZELLA AS THE MODERATOR CARRIED.**

Moderator Lisa Mazzella stated the rules of the meeting and voter eligibility requirements. She noted that paper ballots would be used for voting at this meeting. Moderator Mazzella asked Town Clerk Antoinette Pancaro to read the call of the meeting.

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 Media Center, 298 Norwich Westerly Road & via Zoom: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_UB-0eIWdStuSCBEbvdL2oQ

Webinar ID: 853 1781 0008

Date: June 29, 2021

Time: 7 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 12 pm on June 29. In person attendance will be available following COVID-19 guidelines.

- 1. State of the Town Update Presentation
- 2. Shall the Town of North Stonington approve an additional appropriation in the amount of \$96,752 for the maintenance, utilities and expenses for the North Stonington Education Center located at 298 Norwich Westerly Road as recommended by the Board of Finance?

A MOTION made by Anne Nalwalk, seconded by Dan Spring to approve the call. MOTION carried. First Selectman Michael Urgo gave a presentation regarding the expenses for 298 Norwich-Westerly Road. He stated that the total amount of the expenses is \$96,752, and these were the expenses incurred prior to March 3, 2021. He gave the history regarding this section of the building and that this section was always to remain. First Selectman Urgo gave a PowerPoint presentation showing the timeline of events regarding the school project and this building. He indicated that different options were looked at to alleviate expenses to the taxpayer. Discussion and questions followed. A MOTION made by Brett Mastroianni, seconded by Nicole Porter to vote on the question. MOTION carried.

Before voting on the question, Moderator Mazzella asked Town Clerk Antoinette Pancaro to again read Question 2:

2. Shall the Town of North Stonington approve an additional appropriation in the amount of \$96,752 for the maintenance, utilities and expenses for the North Stonington Education Center located at 298 Norwich Westerly Road as recommended by the Board of Finance?

Vote by paper ballot to approve the question was 26 YES, 14 NO. MOTION carried.

A **MOTION** made by Dan Spring, seconded by Nicole Porter to adjourn the meeting. **MOTION carried.** Moderator Lisa Mazzella adjourned the Special Town Meeting at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Antoinette Pancaro Town Clerk Town of North Stonington