

*Town of*  
*North Stonington*  
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING  
MINUTES  
June 27, 2022

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 Monday, June 27, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. and online through Zoom for viewing and public comment only.

Present: First Selectman Robert Carlson, Selectman Brett Mastroianni, and Selectwoman Nicole Porter. Also present at the meeting were Town Attorney Robert Avena, Planning, Development & Zoning Official Nathan Reichert, Administration & Finance Officer Christine Dias, IT Manager Jim Russell, and Registrars of Voters Constance Berardi and Emily Lewis.

First Selectman Carlson called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. and gave a brief overview of the format of the meeting. He then asked for a **MOTION** from the floor to elect a Moderator. A **MOTION** made by Gary Smith, seconded by Brian Rathbun to elect Shawn Murphy as the Moderator. A **MOTION** made by Anne Nalwalk, seconded by Nick Mullane to close all nominations. **MOTION TO CLOSE ALL NOMINATIONS CARRIED. MOTION TO ELECT SHAWN MURPHY AS THE MODERATOR CARRIED.**

Moderator Shawn Murphy 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  
Date: June 27, 2022  
Time: 6 PM

Only those attending the meeting in person will be able to vote. The meeting will be available for public comment and viewing through Zoom at the link below, but those attending virtually will not be able to vote.

1. Shall the Town of North Stonington have permission to lease a portion of 298 Norwich Westerly Road to an early childhood education center subject to final review of the lease agreement by the town attorney?

A **MOTION** made by Nick Mullane, seconded by Anne Nalwalk to approve the question. First Selectman Robert Carlson gave background information regarding the lease agreement. Discussion and questions followed. Vote by a show of hands was 28 YES, 0 NO. **MOTION carried.**

2. Shall the Town approve \$100,000 in American Rescue Plan Act funds to replace lost public sector revenue and fund a Small Business Program as prepared by the Economic Development Commission?

A **MOTION** made by Jennifer Dayton, seconded by Mike Anderson to approve the question. Planning, Development & Zoning Official Nathan Reichert gave background information regarding the Small Business Program that was prepared by the Economic Development Commission. Discussion and questions followed. Vote by a show of hands was 31 YES, 0 NO. **MOTION carried.**

3. Shall the Town approve \$120,000 in American Rescue Plan Act funds to replace lost public sector revenue and fund the operating expenses for 298 Norwich Westerly Road through June 30, 2022?

A **MOTION** made by Anne Nalwalk, seconded by Paul Simonds to approve the question. First Selectman Robert Carlson gave a presentation regarding the history of the building and the expenses. He explained that the ARPA funds can be used to offset the expenses but cannot be used to lower taxes. He indicated that the expenses are over \$90,000 and any money that is left over will go back to the ARPA fund. Discussion and questions followed, with First Selectman Robert Carlson and Administration & Finance Officer Christine Dias answering questions and clarifying information. Vote by a show of hands was 29 YES, 3 NO. **MOTION carried.**

4. To hear and act upon the following Resolution: Resolved: that the Board of Selectmen is hereby, authorized and empowered to obtain loans at current interest rates for loans to municipalities in anticipation of the receipt of tax collections and in anticipation of the receipt of federal and/or state grants with respect to a project or program on such terms and conditions as follows: (a) the amount borrowed shall not exceed \$1,000,000, at any one time; and (b) the Board of Finance shall receive, as early as possible, prior notification of any borrowing? The Board of Selectmen is further authorized and empowered to execute any and all documents necessary and required.

All supporting documentation will be available on the town website, [www.northstoningtonct.gov](http://www.northstoningtonct.gov)  
Zoom link for viewing and public comment only:  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88595238930?pwd=azg3WINFOWNIbVdrOHVQMmtJbmlhQT09>

A **MOTION** made by Paul Simonds, seconded by Nick Mullane to approve the question. First Selectman Carlson gave background information regarding this resolution. He explained that the intent of this resolution is in the event of an unforeseen event or emergency, it gives the Board of Selectmen the ability to quickly borrow money. Former First Selectman Shawn Murphy gave a brief overview of the resolution. Former First Selectman Nick Mullane explained that this resolution comes up every year for a vote and the town has not had to use it. Selectman Brett Mastroianni indicated that he checked with other towns and the towns also use this same resolution with the same wording. Discussion and questions followed, with First Selectman Robert Carlson and Administration & Finance Officer Christine Dias answering questions and clarifying information. More discussion and questions followed. A **MOTION** made by Anne Nalwalk,

seconded by Paul Simonds to move the question to a vote. **MOTION carried.** Vote by a show of hands was 29 YES, 3 NO. **MOTION carried.**

A **MOTION** made by Anne Nalwalk, seconded by Nick Mullane to adjourn the meeting. **MOTION carried.** Moderator Shawn Murphy adjourned the Special Town Meeting at 7:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Antoinette Pancaro  
Town Clerk  
Town of North Stonington