

**BOROUGH OF FENWICK  
BOARD OF WARDEN AND BURGESSES  
SPECIAL MEETING  
FRIDAY, MAY 19, 2017**

**APPROVED**

**PRESENT:** Warden Fran Adams, Frank Keeney, Valerie Bulkeley, Jonathan Gengras, Ethel Davis, Arthur Wright, Treasurer Robert Gay, General Manager Larry DeBlasiis, ZEO Marilyn Ozols.

**ABSENT:** Pam Christensen.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** None.

**1. CALL TO ORDER:**

The Warden Called the Meeting to order at 4:03 p.m.

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

None.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**A Motion was made by E. Davis, seconded by V. Bulkeley, to accept the Burgess Minutes from April 28, 2017 meeting as presented.**

**PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**4. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT:**

Larry DeBlasiis reported:

- He had investigated temporary lighting at the Borough entrance based on the Road Committee's concern about safety. One light pole, for a cost of \$7500, can be installed in a location that will not require moving when other work is done on the entryway. A temporary solar light will require ground panels, will need to be removed when the road work is done, and will likely cost about the same amount as the permanent light.
- The lights along the seawall are consistently being affected by wind/weather and mice and a number of repairs were required this year. Going forward annual maintenance will be scheduled and will include retightening or replacing the gaskets, which are loosened by the wind, in an attempt to minimize the need for replacement.
- The DEEP citation for storing the Yacht Club float in South Cove has been addressed.
- The Fire Department Golf Tournament was a success; a car was awarded for a hole in one; the course was left in good condition. He was asked to ensure that the thank you banner is in place prior to the holiday weekend.
- The US Navy, in cooperation with the Coast Guard and the University of Oregon Graduate School is conducting a study at Lynde Point of wave action and tidal currents at the inlet and how they affect the fresh and salt water boundaries in the area. A mobile radar unit is stationed on the lighthouse property, is manned at all times, and will be removed by July 1.

**a. Approval of Budget**

The Burgesses discussed the draft budget at length along with the need to build funds for capital projects. Any "surplus" contained in the budget is intended to be the annual contribution to capital to be utilized for current or anticipated capital expenses. The mil rate has remained relatively static for the last three years; an increase of one tenth of one mil can be expected to raise approximately \$17,000; an increase of two

tenths of one mil will raise the amount to be contributed to capital to approximately \$100,000 provided there are no unexpected expenses and anticipated revenue is realized.

**F. Keeney moved to increase the mil rate for FY17-18 by two tenths of one mil, which will be an increase from 3.23 to 3.43 mils. E. Davis seconded the motion.**

The motion was discussed and it was agreed that regardless of the priority, a number of capital projects will need to be addressed in the next few years; the Burgesses have a responsibility to maintain the community infrastructure; the budget should include the accrual of funds in anticipation of capital projects.

V. Bulkeley moved the question and the **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**b. Discussion and Approval of Capital Budget Draft**

No action was taken on the draft Capital Budget, but there are a number of large and smaller ticket items will need to be addressed in the near future (marsh preservation / dune restoration, pier – lower west and south sides, entranceway, Golf Course Master Plan implementation, road paving, breakwater, handicapped access / maintenance at 4 Nibang, playground, etc.). Interest was expressed in polling residents over the summer about their priorities with the recognition that weather or other unanticipated events can alter whatever priorities are set.

**5. TREASURER'S REPORT:**

Bob Gay stated that the Borough has options for funding major expenditures, one of which is increasing or extending the amount of the current mortgage. He noted that long term debt can be preferable to short term debt for municipalities and that, with proper structuring, it is possible to borrow additional funds and not increase the annual debt service. He will prepare a pro forma on the cost of various loan/mortgage options for Burgess review.

**6. BOARD, COMMISSION AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

- Frank Keeney, Park Commission – The replacement tree for the Norway Maple by the beach was planted in the location previously identified; the cost of the tree, transportation, and planting was covered by a donation; the location on the south side of the hedge is on property subject to a deed restriction that prohibits anything over 2½ feet in height; the cost to relocate the tree is approximately \$5,000. After discussion, it was agreed that F. Adams and F. Keeney will work on a way to address the situation.
- V. Bulkeley, HDC – The Commission met in May with no significant items to report.
- P. Christensen, LPLT – Not present.
- A. Wright, P&Z – The next meeting is Saturday.
  - V. Bulkeley asked whether Zoning Regulations address property rental; the Burgesses discussed their understanding of permitted occupancy; A. Wright will bring this up with the Commission.
- R. Gay, ZBA – There has not been a meeting since the last Burgess meeting.

**a. Approve Appointments to Commission Vacancies**

On a motion by J. Gengras, seconded by F. Keeney, it was voted unanimously to appoint Greg Millard to the Park Commission for the FY 17-18 term.

Burgesses discussed the July 1 vacancies. Action was deferred until the next meeting in order to allow time to contact potential appointees.

**7. WARDEN'S REPORT:**

- Election Results.

Warden: Newt Brainard  
Treasurer: Bob Gay  
Clerk: Julie LeBlanc  
Tax Collector: Matt Myers  
Burgesses: Frank Keeney  
Art Wright  
Peter Brainard  
Pam Christensen  
Jonathan Gengras  
David Savin

- Old Saybrook Coastal Resiliency Plan.

The Old Saybrook Coastal Resiliency Plan, although promoted as a town-wide plan, does not include Fenwick. The Warden met with the First Selectman and indicated that it would need to include Fenwick for it to be valid as a town-wide plan. The First Selectman consulted with the Town Planner and agreed with her recommendation not to include Fenwick. There will be a public hearing on the Plan on June 7 from 6:00 to 7:30 at the Pavilion. All are urged to attend; their presence will indicate their concern that Fenwick is not included.

- Residents' Meeting.

The Annual Residents' Meeting will be on Saturday, May 27 at 9:00 at St. Mary's by the Sea. A Burgess meeting will follow.

- Thank You from Kay Tucker.

A thank you note was received from Kay Tucker. It was circulated and will be posted in the office.

#### **8. OTHER BUSINESS:**

None.

#### **9. NEXT MEETING:**

The next meeting will follow the Annual Residents' Meeting on Saturday, May 27. A June meeting is set for Friday, June 16 at 4:00 p.m.

#### **10. ADJOURNMENT:**

**Being no further business, at 6:44 p.m., on a motion by V. Bulkeley, seconded by A. Wright, it was voted unanimously to close the meeting.**

Respectfully Submitted,  
Marilyn Ozols  
Acting Clerk