

**Borough of Fenwick  
Board of Warden and Burgesses  
Residents' Meeting  
May 27, 2017**

The 2017 Annual Residents' Meeting was called to order by the Warden, Fran Adams. There were approximately 50 residents in attendance.

The Warden asked for the Residents to stand for a Moment of Silence for the passing of the following Residents:

Jim Dow  
Elinor Fredrickson Fisher  
Chip Spencer  
Mark Gengras  
Betsy Moore  
John Dexheimer

**Annual Budget**

Bob Gay, Treasurer, introduced the 2017-2018 Annual Budget and noted the two main issues affecting the budget: golf course revenues have been disappointing and dramatic changes to the shoreline, in particular the Hepburn and Sequassen dunes and Scum Beach, will require attention to curtail erosion caused primarily by wave action. The Borough will be engaging a coastal engineer to design living seashore approaches to address the erosion as detailed in the Annual Financial Review that he provided. He recapped the current year, noting work on the 9<sup>th</sup> hole drainage, Crab Creek Bridge, and a number of miscellaneous smaller projects, and indicated that the Borough has limited options for financing capital expenses – borrowing/restructuring the current mortgage, selling assets, or budgeting a surplus to apply to capital expenses. The Burgesses are recommending a \$96,000 surplus in the proposed budget. Of this amount \$20,000 is committed to shoreline engineering and \$27,000 will address current year deficits; the remainder will be applied to capital expenses. In the discussion of options, it was noted that based on the Special Act, the Borough cannot make special assessments, but it can raise the mil rate temporarily to cover the cost of a specific project or loan payment. Residents added that they could also hold a fundraiser as had been done in the past for specific projects. B. Gay stated that the actual estimated cost of the shoreline work should be known by the end of the summer and the Borough will aggressively seek grants and work to coordinate use of material from nearby dredging projects to decrease the cost.

**Other Business**

F. Adams reviewed the slate of officers who will take office on July 1:

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

F. Adams introduced Chuck Mercer, Park Monitor for the 2017 summer season and thanked all who served on the various boards and commissions. He especially recognized those whose terms will expire on June 30: Sam Jones (Harbor Management Commission), David Savin (Historic District Commission), and Peter Bulkeley (Park Commission as well as a number of other positions over the years). He also thanked staff members, Larry DeBlasiis, Daryl Aresco, and Marilyn Ozols, and the entire team and noted that Rita Barrett has begun work as the new office manager. Finally, he stated that it had been an honor and pleasure to serve as Warden, especially with such a dedicated Board of Burgesses.

D. Savin asked about fishermen along the beaches. C. Mercer will monitor this once he starts work; fishermen are permitted below the high tide line but cannot access over private property. N. Brainard suggested that the Borough consider enacting a prohibition against night fishing.

J. Gay stated that the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual LPLT Newsletter will be in the resident packets and reminded everyone of the Beach Clean Up at 1:00.

C. Chadwick stated that the Planning & Zoning Commission will be updating the Borough's Plan of Conservation & Development as is required every 10 years; the new plan will likely include information on sea level rise. He noted that there will be public hearing some time over that summer and invited residents to attend.

C. Millard reminded everyone about the golf tournament in the afternoon with all contributions going to the Gold Star Mothers of Connecticut.

F. Adams acknowledged Bill Webster for all his work on sea level rise which led to the proposed plans to address the Hepburn and Sequassen dunes. C. Patterson announced the meeting on the Old Saybrook Resiliency Plan on June 7 at 6:00 at the Pavilion. The Plan does not include the Borough of Fenwick which is one third of its coastline.

A. Wright, speaking on behalf of the Burgesses, thanked Fran Adams, Valerie Bulkeley, and Ethel Davis for all of their contributions to the Borough and presented them with framed photographs in appreciation.

F. Keeney moved to adjourn at 10:08 a.m. The motion was duly seconded and approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,  
Marilyn Ozols, Acting Clerk