

**ANNUAL FENWICK RESIDENT'S MEETING  
SAINT MARY'S BY THE SEA  
MAY 25, 2019**

The Meeting was called to Order by the Warden at 9 AM.

The Warden held a Moment of Silence for deceased Residents and past Residents of the Community:

Eunice Tenney  
Tony Autorino  
Marion DuBosque  
Bill Phillips  
Christopher Barrett

The Warden then announced “new” residents of the community of children born to residents:

Claiborne Robertson  
Chloe Millard Czajkowski  
Kelso and Brooke Finnegan  
Grace Haviland  
Thomas Neely  
Christian Sciamé  
Octavia Sciamé  
Blythe Morrison McLeish

The Warden introduced the New Residents to the Community:

Antoine and Natalia Arnault  
Dana and Jonathan Keller  
Robin and Joseph Zubretsky

The Borough Staff was introduced:

Rita Barrett: Office Manager  
Daryl Aresco: Superintendent  
Marilyn Ozols: Zoning Enforcement Officer  
Jeff Champion: General Manager

The Warden thanked the Staff for their commitment to the Borough and for their hard work.

The Warden then discussed the past Election results. The Borough had 118 Electors to which 68 voted. Voter turnout was underwhelming. After three terms as Burgess David Savin will be leaving. Julie LeBlanc will be leaving her position as Clerk and will become a Burgess and Suzanne Stanners will be Clerk. Matt Myers is leaving his position as Tax Collector and Peter Duncan will be taking on the position.

Town Revaluation of Property: The Borough had a 6.3% increase in the Grand List. Twenty five properties in the Borough appealed their revaluation and most of the appeals were advantageous to the homeowner. There will be a small mill rate increase from Old Saybrook.

**Short Term Rentals:** Planning and Zoning has a new proposed Regulation concerning Short Term Rentals within the Borough. The Public is invited to voice their opinion at a Public Hearing that will be held on July 20th at 9 AM.

**Annual Appeal for Golf Cart Use:** The Warden reiterated the law concerning golf cart use and urged that only licensed drivers be allowed to drive golf carts in the Borough. This is a real problem in the Borough and asked all parents and grandparents etc. to please follow the rules that govern golf cart use. Safety for all Residents is the Priority.

### **Budget: Bob Gay**

Bob Gay presented the Budget to Residents. His comments included:

- the Borough is approaching a limit on nonresident golf revenues due to shifts in demographics whereby local golfers are beginning to decline
- Marketing initiatives are taking place to reach out to the larger community of golfers to increase play
- new sources of income: managing cash balances, tight control over expenditures and a royalty arrangement to sell Fenwick merchandise at Essex Golf in Old Saybrook.
- Praised the Burgesses and LPLT for approving the Living Shoreline Project at the cost to the Borough of 10% of the Project cost which is very low and is due to the assistance of Andy Fisk of the Ct River Conservancy.
- An increase in property taxes averaging about \$575/cottage
- A projected operating surplus of about \$50,000
- A conservative estimate of \$295,000 in nonresident greens fees
- A specific allocation of \$20,000 to fund the purchase or lease of golf course equipment as old equipment is retired
- An allowance for planned increases in the Connecticut minimum wage
- potential capital project: renovate Borough Entrance

**Hepburn Family Preserve Update: Living Shoreline Project:** Executive Director-Andy Fisk from the Ct River Conservancy, Cindy Patterson and Marilyn Ozols-ZEO

Andy Fisk provided an overview of the Connecticut River Conservancy and the role they are taking in the Shoreline Living Projects in the Borough. Cindy Patterson provided the history of Dune Destruction starting in 2011 with the Storms Irene and Sandy and Marilyn Ozols explained the emergency repair for the Hepburn Pond by DEEP which completed the Project with no expense to the Borough.

Andy Fisk is responsible for applying for and managing the Grants for the Hepburn Dune Project with the anticipation to also find grants for the Sequassen and eventual Scum Beach Projects as well. The type of work that will be done in the Borough is work that has been done in the Mid

Atlantic for many years with great success. He has found that many Grantors are interested in funding these Projects and is optimistic that he can fulfill the entire amount of the Project funding.

Questions from the Residents included:

The Marsh behind David Savins house has been filling in. Is the State required to repair the Marsh? The Marsh will be left to develop naturally. The area that was questioned is an area that developed soon after the Marsh Restoration Project was completed.

What are the risks that the Dune Restoration if not successful? Climate change and the effects Storms could have on the Dune could impact the success of the Project. There is no cost to the Borough if they decide to not move forward with the construction of the Dune. The estimated cost of the Project will be completed next week but should come under \$650,000.

### **Open Resident Forum/Questions**

Frank Keeney thanked Andy Fisk and the Connecticut River Conservancy for all their assistance with the Shoreline Living Project and provided information on how Residents could become Members. The Warden also reiterated his thanks to Andy and to Cindy Patterson for all their hard work on these Projects.

Volunteers from the Playclass asked that Residents and their Renters should send in Registration Forms as soon as possible. The Playclass Program is going through a demographic change and they are requesting support from the community so that the Programs will be maintained. Donations are accepted! Also, they wanted to note that the Playclass pays for one lifeguard for the season which they do not derive any income from which means that they start each season fiscally behind.

Sallie Boody asked that the Burgesses seriously consider Daryl Aresco's letter to the Burgesses from the last Burgess Meeting. The Warden stated that the Burgesses have addressed his concerns in an Executive Session and that details could not be discussed at this time but that changes will be forthcoming and he appreciated Daryl's comments.

Charlie Millard announced the Memorial Day Weekend Tournament being held today. \$20 entrance fee which is a donation to the Gold Stars Mothers of Connecticut. Please contact Charlie for a tee time.

Beach Clean Up today from 11-1. Please meet at the Tennis Courts.

Frank Keeney moved to adjourn the Meeting at 10am.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Julie LeBlanc, Clerk