

ANNUAL FENWICK RESIDENTS' MEETING ST. MARY'S BY THE SEA

MAY 27, 2023

Warden N. Brainard called the meeting to order at 9:02am.

Brainard asked that those able, please stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

A moment of silence was held to remember members of the Fenwick Family who have passed away in the past year.

Pat Tenney

Jennifer McCann

Jack Rehm

Linda Frankel

Elizabeth Barrett Clevinger

Dick Berluti

Brainard announced the births of new Fenwick Residents

Mary Wien Malkin Haviland: born July 2, 2022. Parents are Elizabeth and Jordan Haviland

Henry Swift Malkin Haviland: born September 23, 2022. Parents are Elizabeth and Jordan Haviland

Harper Joy Petry: born October 28, 2022. Parents are Emily and Quinn Petry (grandparents are Vicki and Rich Rosenthal).

Charles Bennett Robertson III: born November 13, 2022. Parents are Kristen and Charlie Rob

Alexander Sunshine Funk: born February 27, 2023. Parents are Lela Ilyinsky and Samuel Funk

Hazel Isabel Shea: born May 9, 2023. Parents are Molly Patterson Shea and Neil Shea

New Residents Welcome:

Bill and Janet Ghio, 9 Pettipaug Ave.

Welcome All to Summer 2023

N.Brainard highlighted moments in Fenwick history 50, 75, 100 and 125 years ago.

125 years ago (1898): Morgan G. Bulkeley purchased most of the vacant land in the Borough that was formerly owned by the New Saybrook Company.

100 years ago (1923): JHK Davis started the Service Record Book for the Fenwick Chapel. J.D. Clark was hired as Borough Superintendent.

75 years ago (1948): Valley Industries applied to the Army Corps of Engineers to construct a fishpond in the South Cove. The Fenwick Yacht Club protested vigorously and the pond was not built. In April, a fire set by vandals destroyed Mitchell Little's yacht, Shadow. Borough Superintendent Francis Harvey noticed the fire, down where the Fenwick fleet was stored by South Cove. He called the fire department and thus saved the rest of the fleet.

50 years ago (1973): Ned Coll of Hartford brought a group of inner-city kids by bus to the Fenwick beaches.

Introduction of Borough Staff:

Brainard thanked them for all that they do, adding great job!

Jeff Champion, General Manager
Daryl Aresco, Superintendent
Matt LaChance – Golf Operations Manager
Marilyn Ozols, Zoning Enforcement Officer
Jenny Belval, Borough Office
Mary Jane Sheehan, Borough Office

Highlights of the Past Year:

Brainard recognized the current Board of Burgess members, thanking them for their hard work all year: Art Wright, Pam Christensen, Frank Keeney, Ann Pulver, Jonathan Gengras and Duby McDowell.
He also recognized Bob Gay, Treasurer, Nancy Marikar, Clerk and Laurie Goldsmith, Treasurer.

Additionally, Brainard recognized those stepping down:
Art Wright: Burgess 2006-2023
Ann Pulver: Burgess 2018-2023
Bob Gay: Treasurer 2009-2023

Election results May 1, 2023
New Burgesses: Margaret Wade and Chris Millard
New Treasurer: Rick Neely

Projects:

- *Under the stewardship of Frank Keeney and partnership with FIF, Tee rebuilding projects continue #5 & #9.
- *Sidewalk replacement of both public and private walks is underway, due to be completed before July 1, 2023.
- *Water fountains are being rebuilt and replaced.
- *This fall, Pettipaug Ave between Fenwick Ave and Pattaquasset (including Pattaquasset) will be resurfaced with gravel.
- *A new fence and gate have been installed at the pier.

Hammer Law/Ordinance Update:

No commercial lawn service on Fri/Sat/Sun from Memorial Day through Columbus Day. Additionally, no parking on Borough roads including sides and shoulders. Please alert your lawn service provider.

Golf:

From July-Labor Day: The course is closed on Fri/Sat/Sun at 4pm for use by Fenwick residents. No tee times required.

Golf Cart drivers must have a valid drivers license. Please do not let your young, unlicensed teens drive.

Property Revaluation:

The town of Old Saybrook will conduct a property revaluation this fall. It is likely that property values will increase. It is also expected that the mill rate will go down. The impact will be realized in the 2024 tax bills.

Lynde Point Lighthouse:

The Lynde Point Lighthouse has been determined to be excess to the needs of the Department of Homeland Security United States Coast Guard (USCG). The property is being made available at no cost to eligible entities. As Burgess liaison, Duby McDowell will oversee the formation of a committee that will make an initial application on behalf of the Borough of Fenwick and explore all aspects and implications of potential ownership by the Borough.

Boards and Commissions:

The functioning of the Borough depends on the active participation of residents. Involvement of the entire Borough is needed. Please volunteer!

Budget:

Treasurer, Bob Gay presented the 2023-2024 Budget. Gay thanked the Fenwick community for their support over the years, additionally thanking General Manager, Jeff Champion for his support and Daryl Aresco for making plans a reality. The strategy over the last 14 years has been to run a surplus while continuing targeted repairs. Gay reports that the Borough has a balanced budget and a surplus, with no need for a tax increase this year.

Gay urged residents to consider shoreline resiliency, especially at Sequassen and Scum Beach. N. Brainard clarified that the Borough of Fenwick is part of a resiliency group including Old Saybrook, Clinton and Westbrook. This group is actively addressing seashore resiliency concerns.

Questions:

Carol Robertson asked if the rock jetty at the pier is identified for repair. N. Brainard stated that a permit is in place for repair, at a cost of over one million dollars.

General Announcements:

The Memorial Day Weekend Golf Tournament on Saturday afternoon, May 27, between 2 pm and 3 pm. This event raises funds for the Gold Star Mothers of Connecticut. This organization exists to support families who have lost a family member who wore the uniform of the United States in service of the freedom we are privileged to enjoy on this weekend and always as citizens of this free country.

There being no further business, Frank Keeney made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:47am.

Respectively Submitted, Nancy Marikar, Clerk