

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE WARDEN AND BOARD OF BURGESSES
THURSDAY, August 25, 2022

4 NIBANG AVENUE and VIA ZOOM

A Regular Meeting of the Warden and Board of Burgesses was held on Thursday, July 28, 2022. Notice of the meeting was posted in a timely manner on the Fenwick kiosk and on the website.

PRESENT: Warden Newt Brainard, Frank Keeney, Art Wright, Jonathan Gengras, Ann Pulver, Duby McDowell, Pam Christensen, General Manager Jeff Champion (GM), and Zoning Enforcement Officer/Land Use Administrator Marilyn Ozols (ZEO), Treasurer Bob Gay

PRESENT via ZOOM: None

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Present: Bill Webster, Robyn Gengras, Peppi Jones, Genevieve Neely

Present via Zoom: None

1. Call to Order

The Warden called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m.

2. Moment of Silence

A moment of silence was observed in memory of Patricia Tenney and Jennifer McCann.

3. Approval of Residents Meeting Minutes from July 28, 2022

A Motion was made by F. Keeney, seconded by P. Christensen, to approve the July 28, 2022 minutes.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

4. Open Forum for Fenwick Residents to Speak

None

5. General Manager's Report

J. Champion reviewed the items in his report:

- Pier Update: J. Champion is communicating with Harbor Engineering. A September planning meeting will be scheduled.
- Golf Course: August 2022 revenue from daily ticket sales remains strong and will likely exceed those of last year.
- Surveyor: The project to get a Borough-wide map showing proprietary underground utilities with approval of expenses not to exceed \$4250 has been moved to the fall to be part of the 2022/2023 fiscal year budget.

- Widen Sidewalk at Pier Entrance: This project is on hold, pending a decision on the placement of the gate. P. Christensen suggests consulting Rick Worcester for input.
- Seasonal Help: We are losing staff weekly as they return to high school sports and college. Currently, there will be no lifeguard on duty Monday, 8/29 and Saturday, 9/3.
- Trash/Recycling Waivers: Completed. All waivers have been signed.
- Bulletin Boards for Golf Course: Board is installed on 7. The board at started shack will be installed soon.
- LoCIP: A LoCIP: We are waiting for approval from the State of CT. The funds will be used for the Pettipaug Ave. road repair in the fall. J. Champion will contact JJ Dibble for a start date and updated cost.
- Cyber Liability Insurance: Work on acquiring insurance continues. N. Brainard will speak with C. Fortuna, Old Saybrook First Selectman, re: sharing resources with the Town of Old Saybrook. J. Champion will contact CIRMA (Connecticut Interlocal Risk management Agency).
- Grove Entrance: Plans are being made to move the Grove entrance in the fall. Planning will include coordination with and input from LPLT.
- Mugwort: Invasive mugwort and mile-a-minute vine are becoming a huge problem. Dan McGowan, Borough Environmental Staffer, will file a report soon.
- Tennis Wall: A plan is underway to determine the best material for a repair or replacement.
- Nighttime Activity: There has been an exorbitant amount of nighttime activity including: fishermen, kids on golf carts, noise near the pier as well as residents witnessing reckless behavior. J. Champion suggests reviewing the days/times park monitors are on duty.

6. Treasurer's Report

B. Gay reports that the Borough of Fenwick remains in good financial shape.

7. Formation of a Nominating Committee for the 2023 Election

N. Brainard is in the process of identifying a chairperson. More information will be available in September.

8. Memorial Policy

A. Pulver is working on a proposal for the memorial plan. She asks for another month to further develop a plan that will best reflect the needs of those in the Borough.

9. Play Class Request

R. Gengras made a proposal to request funding to hire an Aquatic Director for the next play class season. The director would be in charge of the waterfront including hiring and supervision of lifeguards and swim and sailing instructors. Qualifications for this person would include certifications in sailing, life saving and water safety instructor. R. Gengras

noted that, if approved, the hiring process should begin soon, to assure finding the right person. Safety at the waterfront is one of the main goals to consider. After a lengthy discussion, it was determined that more information was needed. Discussion will continue in September.

10. Resiliency Report

- The response on the Long Island Sound Futures Fund grant for regional resiliency plan isn't expected until October but we've had some positive feedback, are continuing to stay on top of other grant options, and are coordinating well with Old Saybrook and Westbrook planners. There will be a meeting in the next week or so to make sure that our respective Hazard Mitigation Plans coordinate with the resiliency plan. We should think about creating a small committee or appointing a representative in addition to staff to move forward with the resiliency plan once we get started since we want to keep things moving.
- Old Saybrook has started the 5-year update to the Hazard Mitigation Plan; the contract will again be with GZA; this time Fenwick won't be an add-on but will be part of the process from the start. This is clearly spelled out in the contract with GZA.
- The Old Saybrook beach associations continue to meet with the intent of moving forward on infrastructure improvements; M. Ozols is monitoring their work; they are setting up their own 501(c)3 so they can be eligible for grants but Fenwick does not need this since it's already eligible as a municipality.
- M. Ozols had a Zoom meeting this week with US Fish and Wildlife Service and DEEP about the revised Coastal Barrier lines which are about to be finalized. All of the houses on the point will be coming out of the coastal barrier boundary except 102B Sequassen. She could not get that property or the properties on Folly Point excluded from the area because they did not meet the criteria in 1982.

11. Board, Commission, and Committee Reports

- a. HDC: Pam Christensen – Meeting 9/10/22
- b. LPLT: Pam Christensen – Meeting scheduled 8/27/22. Officers will be appointed.
- c. Concerns Committee: Pam Christensen – Meeting will be scheduled after Labor Day.
- d. Commissions Coordinator: Nothing to report.
- e. Harbor Management: Jonathan Gengras – Meeting was held 8/23/22. Minutes are posted on the Borough of Fenwick website.
- f. ZBA: Ann Pulver – No meeting.
- g. Park Commission: Frank Keeney – Golf course will be closed on 8/27 - 2pm-5pm for McCann memorial.
- h. FIF: Art Wright – The “Sip & Stroke” Event on 8/6 was a success. A new brochure will be developed for October.
- i. P&Z: Art Wright – No meeting.
- j. 4 Nibang Committee – A committee has been formed. P. Christensen is the Burgess liaison. Members are Ashley Gengras, Mike Reynolds, Kristen Robertson, and Christopher Rehm.

12. Warden's Report

N. Brainard read a letter from C. Renshaw and Brooke Girty detailing issues of property infringements & violations in the Borough of Fenwick. After a lengthy discussion, more work will need to be done in this area.

13. Other Business –

Concern was expressed about road surface integrity in the area from Sequassen to Crab Creek. N. Brainard, B. Gay and P. Christensen all felt that the degraded surface makes bike riding difficult.

14. Next Meeting

Thursday, September 22, 2022 at 4 Nibang Ave and via Zoom.

15. Burgess Comments

None

16. Adjournment

There being no further business, a Motion was made by P. Christensen, seconded by A. Pulver, to adjourn the meeting at 6:22 pm.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectively Submitted,

Nancy Marikar, Clerk