

**BOROUGH OF FENWICK
BOARD OF WARDEN AND BURGESSES
SPECIAL MEETING
FRIDAY, MAY 13, 2016 AT 4 PM.**

APPROVED

Present: Warden Fran Adams, Frank Keeney, Arthur Wright, Jonathan Gengras, Valerie Bulkeley, Ethel Davis, Pam Christensen, General Manager Larry DeBlasiis, ZEO/LUA Marilyn Ozols.

Also Present: Robert Boody, Rick and Debby Neely.

The Warden called the Meeting to order at 4 PM.

The Warden opened the Floor for Public Comment.

Rick Neely addressed the Burgesses concerning the effect of the State Budget and the Town of Old Saybrook Budget on the Borough's Budget and the Mill rate. The Warden responded in stating that the Town lost \$650,000 in state education funding that could affect residents in their taxes to the Town but that there is no correlation between the Town and Borough taxes.

**A Motion was made by Ethel Davis seconded by Valerie Bulkeley to accept the April 30, 2016 Burgess Meeting Minutes as presented.
PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

General Manager's Report-

Coyotes- DEEP did not grant permission to trap the coyotes. It has been observed that the den has been abandoned and it seems that they have been spotted in many areas in the Borough. A landscaper noticed four pups at the McDowell residence. Police were called and were very responsive. The Gengras residence noticed pups under their house and coyotes have been seen roaming near the Bulkeley residence. It is unknown if there are more pups or the same number as identified at the prior den.

Crab Creek- Concrete was poured today. When the project has been completed the company will move to repair the broken railings and cement work at the Pier.

Budget- The General Manager presented the Budget with an average increase per residence of \$329. This Budget would include the \$50,000 surplus to build a Capital Projects Reserve Fund. The Burgesses reiterated the need to have a cushion as experience has proven the need for emergency funds i.e.: Irene and Sandy Storm Damage. In addition, it also represents a \$12,000 tax savings from the Borough to the Town. It should also be noted that revenues from the golf course are down \$8000 in August due to the Member Guest Tournament. The Budget also includes funds only for the emergency cutting of trees. The ZEO/LUA Marilyn Ozols also

stated that interim tax bills will be sent out for residents that received their Certificates of Occupancy on July 1. It would be for the three month time period.

A Motion was made by Frank Keeney seconded by Valerie Bulkeley to present this Budget that includes a 6 1/4% mill rate increase to the Residents at the Annual Meeting May 28, 2016.

FOR: Bulkeley, Davis, Wright, Keeney, Gengras

AGAINST: Christensen

MOTION PASSES

Capital Projects: The Burgesses then discussed Capital Projects priorities and the importance of identifying the most important assets to the Borough and what is important to the Community. The preliminary discussion included the importance of maintaining the Roads and Pier and the Golf Course in terms of revenue. At the June Burgess Meeting, the Burgesses will prioritize the Capital Projects after receiving an update from the Road Committee.

Treasurer's Report- Bob Gay was not at the Meeting but delivered his Report identifying five options for the Burgesses to address given this Budget cycle.

Board Reports-

HDC- Valerie Bulkeley discussed the issue of the Gate down at the Pier and the plantings. The HDC told the Borough it would have to have the gate opened and add the hedge back and the path was not approved or would be.

LPLT- Pam Christensen reported that the LPLT would join the National Alliance that all the surrounding Land Trusts belong. They would also use their Standards and Practices. The Committee also is assigning each member easements that they will be responsible for monitoring. If an issue arises they will need to contact the Park Commissioner or residents for compliance. In addition, the LPLT is required to notify the Borough if there are any violations.

Park Commission- Frank Keeney reported that they met with Tim Gerrish and walked the Golf Course and the process has started for an operational plan for the Strategic Master Plan.

The Warden appointed Frank Keeney as the President of the Park Commission.

A Motion was made by Jonathan Gengras seconded by Valerie Bulkeley to appoint Peter Bulkeley, Margaret Wade, Bob Gay and Robyn Gengras to the Park Commission for one-year terms.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

The Burgesses then discussed various members of the Community and their potential appointments to various Commissions. The Warden will ask the individuals whether they wish to serve and will report back at the next meeting.

**A Motion was made by Ethel Davis seconded by Frank Keeney to appoint Jim Mitchell as Dock Master for a one-year term.
PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

A Resolution was made by Valerie Bulkeley and seconded by Ethel Davis:

**Resolved, that the Board of Warden and Burgesses authorize the Treasurer of the Borough of Fenwick to select and appoint Sandra Wellwood, LLC as the Auditor for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2017.
PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Warden's Report- A request has been made to use Borough Property on July 6-9 2017 by the Bornstein Family. There was no decision pending further research into precedent and policy.

Other Business- It was brought to the attention of the Burgesses that a few residents were not mowing their lawns and a discussion took place if there was a blight ordinance in the Borough. It was discussed that the Warden would talk to the residents citing safety and health issues. In addition, a proposed amendment will be upcoming concerning home occupation businesses and their not being allowed in the Borough.

**There being no further business, a Motion was made by Frank Keeney seconded by Arthur Wright to adjourn the meeting at 6:45 PM.
PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Julie G. LeBlanc, Clerk

ANNUAL MEETING: SATURDAY, MAY 28, 2016 AT 9 AM