

**BOROUGH OF FENWICK
BOARD OF WARDEN AND BURGESSES
SPECIAL MEETING
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2016 AT 4pm**

APPROVED

PRESENT: Warden Fran Adams, Frank Keeney, Arthur Wright, Valerie Bulkeley, Ethel Davis, Pam Christensen, Jonathan Gengras, ZEO Marilyn Ozols, and Robert Gay.

Others Present: David Savin, Bill Webster, and Jessica Gay.

The Warden called the Meeting to order at 4 PM. He then requested a Moment of Silence for John Dexheimer and Betsy Moore who passed away since the last Burgess Meeting.

The Warden opened the floor for Public Comment.

Jessica Gay inquired as to the ticketing policy of the Old Saybrook Police Department concerning illegally parked cars in the Borough. She has called the Police Department multiple times concerning the same car parked on Sequassen. The Police respond but only tell the individual to move his car and then he comes back the following day. The Warden stated that the Officer will not issue a citation for the illegally parked car. He will look into the matter with the further with the Police Department and report back.

Frank Keeney speaking as a Resident wanted to thank the Borough staff for the excellent job they did preparing the Borough for the potential hurricane last week.

**A Motion was made by Ethel Davis seconded by Valerie Bulkeley to approve the August 29, 2016 Burgess Minutes as presented.
PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

General Manager's Report

General Manager Larry DeBlasiis was not at the Meeting but forwarded his report. Greens fees from the month of September were surprisingly lower than expected. There was no explanation for the lack of players but there is an indication that competing golf courses had multiple promotions in effect and that could have been a contributing cause for the decrease in players. It was noted that golf course merchandise sold at the Starter Shack brought in \$3000 and it was stated that merchandise sold is only golf hats, ball, tees and soft drinks. A Golf Course Turf Nursery is in the process of being built near the blue tee on the first hole. The LPLT has agreed to support this project that will allow the Borough to replace turf when necessary and will assist in controlling expenses with maintenance and further development of the greens. It is being funded out of the maintenance budget and

will be bordered by vegetation so it will be hidden from view. Tom Ryder through a donation to FIF has donated funds to provide enhancements to the Ryder Course. The project entails smoothing out swales in the fairway and filling in the area near the practice tee. Discussion took place concerning any additional maintenance costs with the improvements. Additional watering would be needed in the beginning but after that no additional costs. The Burgesses further discussed the need to analyze all potential projects for the additional operating costs for maintenance to Borough. This issue will be a future item on the Agenda for the next meeting.

**A Motion was made by Frank Keeney and seconded by Jonathan Gengras for the Board of Burgesses to authorize a \$15,000 expenditure through FIF to level out the two areas on the Ryder Course.
PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Last, there is a rebate anticipated from the Water Bill Company from misread water meter readings from the last two years.

Treasurers Report

Bob Gay reported that golf revenues will probably not meet budgeted numbers this year. He also reviewed that in the future the Burgesses need to identify where on the balance sheet capital surpluses should be reported. In the past, it has been done implicitly and it should be verbally done and noted in the Minutes.

Recreation Fees for 2017

**A Motion was made by Frank Keeney seconded by Ethel Davis for the Board of Burgesses to approve a 2017 Recreation fee schedule and a Non-Resident Fee Schedule for Golf and other Activities that is not changed from the 2016 schedule.
PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Board, Commission and Committee Reports

Park Commission- Frank Keeney reported that the project on the 1st and 9th fairways is progressing and will be completed in the next ten days. The play on the golf course has continued through the construction. The Master Golf Course Plan will be finalized and presented to the Burgesses at the November meeting. Tim Gerrish and Larry DeBlasiis will present. Last, trees have been and continue to be an issue in the Borough. The budget for tree maintenance needs to be more than \$5000.

Mr. Keeney met with a tree arborist and reviewed the issue and conditions in the Borough. Trees were categorized as:

- a. serious safety issue and need to take the tree down
- b. dead and need to be taken down within a year
- c. trees that can be saved

The Norwegian Spruce trees are dead and/or dying in the Borough from tree root and canker. The Sugar Maples are being stressed because of the environment and the cost for treatment to save one tree a year is \$500. LPLT has been informed and has reviewed the issue with the Park Commission.

Historic District- Valerie Bulkeley reported that a Special Meeting has been scheduled to review a request by the Arutes. She also discussed the addition for Birdhouses to be on the list of items that need to be approved by the HDC. The Public is not necessarily in favor of the addition but the Commission approved the requirement. It was brought up that a birdhouse purchased from the Audubon Society is \$50 and the cost for that application to have it approved is \$150. Mrs. Bulkeley felt that the HDC could work with the Committee to work out an equitable solution for the disparity to encourage birdhouses in the Borough.

P&Z- No meeting

FIF- Arthur Wright reported that two new members were appointed to the Board: Kecia Greenho and Chris Millard. Jessica Gay asked if any action had been taken by FIF to remove a LPLT member from the Board at her request. No action had been taken.

LPLT- Pam Christensen reported that they approved the application for work to be performed. Two approvals by the Committee were to remove and replant a tree for the 1st and 9th Fairway project and the Turf Area Green. The LPLT is considering sharing fifty percent funding with the Borough for a new mower for the Marsh. The new easement application is being edited as the Attorney felt it was too long. Finally, the LPLT promotes the use of Birdhouses. She reported that all the osprey nests are filled as well as the purple martin birdhouses. Additionally, osprey nests are needed because the young return to the place where they were born.

ZBA-Bob Gay reported that there was an August meeting where the Sciame request for variances was denied.

Nominating Committee- Jonathan Gengras reported that the Committee was meeting Sunday to finalize the Slate.

Warden's Report-

Maintenance of Birdhouses: The LPLT has requested the Borough to maintain the Purple Martin Birdhouses which entails taking them down for the winter, cleaning them and then putting them up again in the spring. The Warden turned down the request indicating that the Borough workers did not have the time.

Junior Program-The Warden discussed the need to create a structure for the Junior Program so that volunteers were covered for liability and that property could be

accepted under the entity. The Warden is going to put together a Committee including present Junior Program volunteers to create such structure.

A Motion was made by Pam Christensen seconded by Ethel Davis to have the Borough accept the donation of a 420 sailing boat from Jennifer McCann. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

It was discussed that the FYC should have a role in the Junior Sailing Program.

West Parcel Lawsuit- Piece of Paradise is alleging that the Borough has taken the West Parcel of Land. The ZBA ruled that there was not enough land to build a home. The Borough has hired Attorney Wise to defend the Borough and is required to reply to the suit within thirty days.

NEXT MEETING: November 4, 2016 at 4 PM.

Being no further business, a Motion was made at 5:45 PM by Arthur Wright seconded by Ethel Davis to adjourn the meeting. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully, Submitted,

Julie G. LeBlanc, Clerk