# MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF WARDEN AND BURGESSES FRIDAY, AUGUST 18, 2017 AT 4 PM AT 4 NIBANG AVENUE, FENWICK, CT.

**Present:** Warden Newt Brainard, Frank Keeney, Pam Christensen, Jonathan Gengras, Peter Brainard Jr., David Savin, Robert Gay, ZEO Marilyn Ozols.

Not Present: Arthur Wright, GM Larry DeBlasiis

**Others Present:** Cindy Patterson, Bill Webster, Duby McDowell, Skip Gengras, JD Rehm, Kathy Rehm, Hall Wilson, Connie Wilson, Mimi Brainard,

The Warden called the Meeting to Order at 4:02 PM.

## The Floor was opened for Public Comment.

JD Rehm requested the Burgesses consider reestablishing the Concerns Committee given the current issues over the safety and security concerns that have arisen in the Borough this summer. The Committee should be given the charge to investigate options available to the Borough to implement measures to ensure the safety and security of the Residents. Multiple residents concurred with his sentiments citing past research into Associations, privatizing and security guards.

Bill Webster mentioned the heavy grasses along Sequassen that were impeding sight lines and thus creating a driving safety concern. He also mentioned the idea to have a year end meeting for the Residents concerning the Hepburn Preserve Project and other upcoming projects within the Borough to inform and educate the Residents.

Cindy Patterson mentioned that she had sight lines issues on her street and Daryl cut the impeding grasses when she reported the issue.

# **Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made by Frank Keeney seconded by Jonathan Gengras to approve the July 21, 2017 Minutes as presented. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

#### **GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT**

Larry DeBlasiis was not at the Meeting but provided a written report. Robert Gay reviewed the current financial condition of the Borough. Golf revenues are on track for the budgeted number for this fiscal year. The Borough will be changing from using current gmail system to the Borough's webmaster First Class. This should take place on September 1. Marilyn Ozols is in charge of the project.

Robert Gay requested from the Burgesses comments on the current financial tables provided to them for the Meetings. All felt that they needed to be redesigned to be more user friendly. He suggested using the accountant with input from him and will inquire as to the cost for the redesign.

Marilyn Ozols will be the point person with GZA for the Hepburn Preserve Project. GZA will the present to the Burgesses in mid-December a concept for the Project with various options.

## **BOARD AND COMMISSION REPORTS**

LPLT- Pam Christensen reported that the Land Trust met one week ago. They discussed the concern that the Borough Residents did not fully understand the LPLT's role in the Borough. A subcommittee is being formed to further discuss and to come up with ways to educate the Residents. In addition, they spoke at length about easements throughout the Borough and encroachments on the easements by the abutting property owners. Two properties are being investigated and the LPLT has requested that a joint Committee be formed with three individuals from LPLT and three Burgesses to look at the properties and recommend remediation.

Also discussed, was the lack of conservation concerning the golf course in the Golf Course Master Plan.

**PARK COMMISSION-** Frank Keeney reported that he was pleased at the turnout for the Golf Course Master Plan presentation last Saturday. He is requesting written feedback from the Community and will review the comments with Daryl Aresco and Tim Gerrish and modify the Plan and present to the Burgesses later this year.

## **WARDENS REPORT**

The Warden reported that they will begin interviewing for the General Manager's position next week. The position was posted on three different sites and applicant response was encouraging. The goal is to have the position filled by the end of September, early October. In the interim, Bob Gay will assist with the financial issues with the Office Manager, Frank Keeney will assist with Daryl Aresco, and Marilyn Ozols will follow up with the Warden.

A motion was made by Frank Keeney seconded by Jonathan Gengras to authorize the Warden to spend up to \$2000 out of the operating budget for a retirement gift for Larry DeBlasiis.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Pam Christensen reported on the meeting held with Linda Frankel, Daryl Aresco, Frank Keeney, Robyn Gengras, and Margaret Wade concerning the condition of the Beach Furniture and timing of opening/closing the Beach. They discussed a timeline and

creating an inventory of the furniture including needed repairs and items to be ordered over the winter. It was noted that residents indicated the need for more chaise lounges and for fold up movable chairs.

A Motion was made by Pam Christensen seconded by Jonathan Gengras to approve purchasing beach furniture and repair parts for the Beach Area for up to \$15,000 to be funded by FIF.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Discussion then took place for the need to include in the upcoming budgets \$2000 for repair parts to fix the beach furniture. If maintained and repairs are made on an ongoing basis the furniture should last for many years. After the inventory is completed at the end of the summer, we will have an indication of the true cost to for maintenance.

A Motion was made by Jonathan Gengras seconded by Pam Christensen to authorize the Warden on behalf of the Burgesses to sign the CIRCA Municipal Resilience Grant application prepared by GZA for the Hepburn Dune Preservation Project and a letter of support for such Project.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

The Warden then discussed creating a new committee to look into various options available to the Borough to provide better security and safety for the Community. Pam Christensen and Jonathan Gengras will lead the Committee and will come back at the next meeting with scope, recruiting of members, and timing to the Burgesses for approval. The request is that the Committee provide education and facts as to the options for the community.

OTHER BUSINESS- None.

NEXT MEETING: Thursday August 31 at 5 PM.

Being no further business, a Motion was made by Jonathan Gengras seconded by Pam Christensen at 6:15 PM.
PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully Submitted,

Julie G. LeBlanc