

Old Lyme Board of Selectman Meeting Minutes

03 January 2023 at 5:30 PM

The meeting was hybrid - held in person in the Meeting Hall of the Memorial Town Hall with a phone-in option. In attendance: (in person) First Selectman Timothy Griswold, Selectman Matthew Ward and Selectwoman Martha Shoemaker.

First Selectman Griswold called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Approval of Minutes: 5 December 22 (Reg.) and 12 December (Spec.) 2022

Selectman Ward made a motion to approve the 5 December 22 regular meeting minutes and Selectwoman Shoemaker seconded the motion. Discussion: None The motion passed.

Selectwoman Shoemaker made a motion to approve the 12 December 22 special meeting minutes and Selectman Ward seconded the motion. Discussion: None. The motion passed.

Public Comment:

George Frampton, Tantummaheag Rd.: Mr. Frampton voiced his concerns about the dispute over the ownership of Tantummaheag Landing. He asked the Board of Selectmen to acknowledge the truth of the facts he has presented. He left 12 copies of a report he prepared for public distribution. He would like to avoid litigation and hopes to devise a long-term public access plan that is agreeable to all Town residents.

1. Communications: None

2. Appointments: Will require a special meeting

First Selectman Griswold said a special meeting will be scheduled later in January.

3. Old Business:

a. Project Updates

i. Halls Rd. Improvement – Update

First Selectman Griswold said 3 engineering bids were received on 14 December: BSC Group - \$429,900, Jacobson Engineering - \$260,700 and AI Engineering at \$148,500. The Committee will interview the firms and make a recommendation to the Board of Selectmen. The project has \$135,000 available from an ARPA grant.

ii. Sound View Sidewalks – Update

First Selectman Griswold said the punch list items will be completed by Memorial Day and about \$14,000 of unused grant funds will be returned to the State.

iii. Sound View Sewers: No Report

iv. Senior Ctr. Expansion: No Report

v. Ferry Road Sidewalk: Update

First Selectman Griswold met with the engineer and the owners of 11 Ferry Rd. about the vinyl fence that is in the Town right of way. The engineer is working on a plan that the Committee will review.

vi. Swan Brook Outlet: Update

First Selectman Griswold said the Town received 2 quotes to remove the blockage in the western pipe. Work will be completed the week of January 16th. Selectman Ward made a motion that the Town enter into a contract with Monster-Vac LLC for the Swan Brook Outlet project at a cost of \$2,000 per day and Selectwoman Shoemaker seconded the motion. The project should take no more than 3 days and work must be performed on either side of low tide. Work could go longer if unforeseen issues arise.

Selectwoman Shoemaker would like daily updates. The motion was approved.

b. Tantummaheag Landing: Update

First Selectman Griswold showed two sample signs created by Edie Twining. Selectwoman Shoemaker asked if the Board should sort things out with the abutters prior to installing the signage? First Selectman Griswold said hopefully yes - he would like to come to an agreement without litigation.

c. 36-1 Buttonball Rd.: Update

First Selectman Griswold is concerned about the ecological effects to the marsh if a floating dock is installed and the public is allowed access to the marsh. Hopefully, the hydrographic study, commissioned by then Harbor Management Commission, will confirm whether the Horse Neck channel wide enough and deep enough to allow boats proper access to the Black Hall River. The Committee will meet later in January and there is more work to be done to improve cooperation among its members. This is a work in progress and members must work cooperatively to come up with the best outcome possible.

Selectman Ward asked that the townspeople take a step back and asked the Committee members to work together in the new year. Selectwoman Shoemaker agreed.

d. Shoreline Gateway Committee: Public Survey Being Evaluated

Selectman Ward said the Committee is working on an Executive Summary

e. Executive Assistant to the First Selectman – Katie Balocca started today!

f. Retirement Party for Marilyn Clarke - 15 December 2022

First Selectman Griswold said Martha and others hosted a nice retirement event at the Senior Center.

4. New Business:

a. Swearing in of Cadet Ethan Kula - 15 December 22

First Selectman Griswold Ethan Kula was a Ranger for 3 years and will start at the Police Academy this month. Upon successful completion, he will join the Old Lyme Police force in July 2023.

Selectman Ward made a motion to amend today's Agenda to add the new Transfer Station Fee Schedule as New Business item b. Selectwoman Shoemaker seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

b. Transfer Station Fee Schedule:

First Selectman Griswold said the cost for disposing bulky waste at the Transfer Station will increase from \$120 per ton to \$150 per ton due to the sharp increases the Town pays to dispose of these materials. In addition, fees to dispose of some other materials will be increased also, in accordance with the new fee structure (attached).

Selectwoman Shoemaker motioned to accept the new Transfer Station fees, as long as a schedule is posted on the Town's website. Selectman Ward seconded the motion and the motion was approved. First Selectman Griswold said the fee schedule is posted on the Town's website.

5. Other Business:

Selectwoman Shoemaker would like to meet with the Board of Finance to discuss how the Opioid Settlement funds will be disbursed. While the amount received to date is small – more funds will be coming over the years to come.

As a similar issue, Selectman Ward asked how the State funds received from the "Alcohol Nips" surcharge will be disbursed. While we know they must support recycling, more information is needed. Selectwoman Shoemaker said she forwarded information received at the CCM convention to the Solid Waste & Recycling Committee and she recommended a spring cleanup campaign.

In response to a letter from Joanne DiCamillo, Chair of the Tree Commission, about a tree planting plan, the Selectmen agreed to invite her to the next Selectmen's meeting in February.

6. Adjournment: Selectman Ward made a motion and Selectwoman Shoemaker seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:31 p.m. The motion passed.

Minutes prepared by: Suzanne McAuliffe