

**New Shoreham Town Council**  
**Town Hall, Old Town Road, Block Island**  
**Tuesday, September 7, 2010**  
**7:00 p.m.**

**Present:** First Warden Kimberley H. Gaffett, Second Warden Raymond J. Torrey, Town Councilors Peter B. Baute, Kenneth C. Lacoste and Richard P. Martin. Also present: NOD, Attorney Katherine Merolla. Fiona Fitzpatrick was present to take the minutes of the meeting.

First Warden Gaffett called the meeting to order at 7:00.

**Warden's Report:** First Warden Gaffett reported Party Primary Elections will be held at Town Hall September 14, 2010. Selected town roads will be oiled on September 20, so plan your travel accordingly. Power washing will be available at the Town Garage if people drive too quickly and get oil on their cars. Councilor Lacoste reported he will meet with some Old Harbor commercial slip holders to discuss final details of piling placement and other aspects of the Old Harbor Dock project. Councilor Baute reported he estimates the is Town generating 6,000 to 4,000 kW per monthly from the photovoltaic panels at Town Hall, a savings of about \$700 in July.

**1. Receive and act on Frederick H. Nelson's August 25, 2010 letter and July 6, 2010 public input**

Mr. Nelson was present and asked for the Council's reasons for treating Heinz Field with organic fertilizer, which costs more than chemical fertilizer. First Warden Gaffett reviewed the process: the Conservation Commission recommended the Town adopt an integrated pest management policy. The IPM was adopted by the Council after two meetings and a show of public support. The fertilizer line was discussed and adopted at budget hearings. At Financial Town Meeting voters defeated Mr. Nelson's motion to reduce the Town budget by substituting chemical fertilizer for organic fertilizer. Discussion ensued.

**2. Discuss status and plan for the Spring House Pump House building (Plat 8, Lot 83)**

The historic Spring House Pump House building on the Spring House Ice Pond has deteriorated gravely. Maintenance responsibility of the building is not clearly set out in acquisition and easement documents between the Town, the Block Island Land Trust and the Spring House. First Warden Gaffett suggested the Council take the position that the Spring House Pump House building will be torn down at the end of the year if another plan does not come to light. Second Warden Torrey said he researched the building while he served on the Land Trust and he believes the wooden building is a hazard that cannot be saved. He believes it should be destroyed. Alteration of the building and its foundation will require DEM and CRMC permitting and may effect the very active spring and pond. Road Superintendent Mike Shea and engineer Jim Geremia will look at the building and surrounding wetlands, the Town Solicitor will examine the documentation to determine where responsibility for the building lies.

**3. Boards, Committees, and Commissions:**

**• Receive Catherine Puckett's letter of resignation from the Shellfish Commission**

Ms. Gaffett moved to accept the resignation with a letter of thanks, seconded by Mr. Lacoste.

Ayes: 5 (Gaffett, Torrey, Baute, Lacoste, Martin) Nays: 0

**• Announce Shellfish Commission member vacancy**

The Shellfish Commission needs a member with a strong science background and/or practical experience to work on aquaculture, water quality and pond restoration issues.

**• Island Energy Plan committee appointment**

Dr Baute moved to appoint David Simmons to the EIP to the same term as other members: until December, 2010. Motion seconded by Ms. Gaffett.

Ayes: 5 (Gaffett, Torrey, Baute, Lacoste, Martin) Nays: 0

Mr. Simmons does not replace Neil Lang, served who as a Planning Board representative on the IEP committee until his recent retirement.

- 4. Correspondence: TNS Historic District Commission re: Ethics Commission advisory on Historic architects; BI Tourism Council re: NSPD financial support**  
No action was needed or taken on the correspondence.

- 5. Minutes: July 7, 2010 (open and closed), August 18, 2010**  
The July 7, 2010 closed session minutes were not available.

Ms. Gaffett moved, seconded by Mr. Martin, to approve the open session minutes of July 7, 2010 and August 18, 2010.

Ayes: 5 (Gaffett, Torrey, Baute, Lacoste, Martin) Nays: 0

- 6. Receive and act on letter from Prentiss Law Firm re: Cooneymus Road (Portions of this discussion may be held in closed session pursuant to Rhode Island General Laws § 42-46-5-(a) (2) for sessions pertaining to litigation)**

Ms. Gaffett moved, seconded by Mr. Martin, to enter closed session pursuant to Rhode Island General Laws § 42-46-5-(a) (2) for sessions pertaining to litigation.

Ayes: 5 (Gaffett, Torrey, Baute, Lacoste, Martin) Nays: 0

At 8:30, a motion to adjourn the closed session and seal the minutes was made by Mr. Lacoste and seconded by Mr. Martin.

Ayes: 5 (Gaffett, Torrey, Baute, Lacoste, Martin) Nays: 0

First Warden Gaffett reported no motions were made in closed session.

At 8:30, a motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Gaffett, seconded by Mr. Lacoste.

Ayes: 5 (Gaffett, Torrey, Baute, Lacoste, Martin) Nays: 0

Minutes approved September 15, 2010

Fiona Fitzpatrick,  
Town Clerk