

**New Shoreham Town Council Meeting
Town Hall, Old Town Road, Block Island
Tuesday, July 6, 2010
7:00 p.m.**

Present: First Warden Kimberley H. Gaffett, Second Warden Raymond J. Torrey, Town Councilor Peter B. Baute, Town Councilor Kenneth C. Lacoste and Town Councilor Richard P. Martin. Also present was Town Manager Nancy O. Dodge. Town Clerk Fiona Fitzpatrick was present to take the minutes of the meeting.

First Warden Kimberley H. Gaffett called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Warden's Report: First Warden Gaffett announced the CRMC has scheduled two more hearings for Champlin's Realty Inc.'s application to expand their marina into the Great Salt Pond: Thursday, July 15 at 9:30 a.m. and Wednesday, July 28 at 9:00 a.m. both at the Narragansett Town Hall. Chief Carlone was present and reported on a largely problem-free holiday weekend. There was a robust police presence on the mainland, Interstate Navigation kept all passengers' coolers on the main deck on the way over to the Island, signs on the ferry and on the Island warned of consequences for breaking the law. He said the prominent display of state and local police on the Island helped. He estimated crowd on the beach behind the Surf Hotel was at 4 -5,000. He believed the portajohns and dumpster helped. (When bags of trash were surrounding the dumpster were removed the following day an inebriated young man was uncovered unharmed.) Chief Carlone said an additional dumpster would help contain the crowd. He said the State Police wanted more arrests and prosecutions. The Council voiced their appreciation to the NSPD, State Police, dispatchers, fire and rescue personnel for their work over the long weekend, the Lions Club for help in Town during the parade, and the citizens who cleaned trash from the beach on July 5, 2010 including Everett, Russell and Kirk Littlefield, Ann Henault and many others. The Town Manager reported there were 1,859 boats in New Harbor on Saturday.

At 7:20 Councilor Martin left to help with an emergency at the Block Island Power Company.

Public Input: The economics of the Town Council's IPM policy was questioned by Fred Nelson. Verna Littlefield noted the rocks under Dr. Shanley's hedge are in the Town's travelway.

1. Review PUC schedule and act on Town of New Shoreham position re: Docket 4185
Docket 4185 is the amended docket for Power Price Agreement between Deepwater and National Grid. Council discussed the preliminary schedule.

The Town filed to intervene and opposed the Conservation Law Foundation's request to dismiss the application. Others who have moved to intervene: Deepwater, National Grid, the Attorney General, Poycorp, Toray Plastics, and Joe McGair has moved to represent the following, who will intervene together: Tom and Pat Doyle, James O'Neil, Rosemarie and Jonathan Ives, Michael Beauregard, and Lawrence Ehrhardt. Discussion ensued.

In order to take the lead on the allocation calculations, Ms. Gaffett moved to authorize Richard LaCapra to prepare testimony for this round of hearings that would simply offer the Town's support for the statutory approach to allocation now contained in the new legislation and support for the project. The motion was seconded by Mr. Torrey.

Ayes: 4 (Gaffett, Torrey, Baute, Lacoste) Nays: 0 Absent: 1 (Martin)

2. Act on request of Mary D. Ball Committee re: Town of New Shoreham sponsorship.
The Mary D Ball Committee asked for Town sponsorship of the August 7, 2010 Mary D. Ball at the Sullivan House.

Dr. Baute moved, seconded by Mr. Torrey, that the Town sponsor the event and waive the fee.

Ayes: 4 (Gaffett, Torrey, Baute, Lacoste) Nays: 0 Absent: 1 (Martin)

3. Receive and act on letter from Frances O'Loughlin re: cemetery lots

Peg O'Loughlin is making arrangements to transfer six unneeded family cemetery lots to the American Legion. The Town Council remarked on her generosity. Ms. Gaffett noted that veterans with neither family nor means who have passed away on the Island have been buried in Legion plots at the Legion's expense.

First Warden Gaffett moved to authorize the transfer by deed of six cemetery lots from the O'Loughlin family to the American Legion, and directed the Clerk to send a warm letter of thanks for her consideration. The motion was seconded by Mr. Lacoste.

Ayes: 4 (Gaffett, Torrey, Baute, Lacoste) Nays: 0 Absent: 1 (Martin)

4. Approval of Loan Resolution for USDA Loan for Water Facility

The Town Manager explained the \$450,000 RUS loan (the grant amount is \$366,544) was prepared on behalf of the Water Commission and will be used to extend the water line extension to New Harbor and on to E. Searles Ball. Several larger businesses in the extension area have already signed up for allocation. Mr. Lacoste, who has a business in the area, participated because he is part of a larger class of people who will be effected by the water line.

First Warden Gaffett moved to authorize the loan resolution for water facility upgrade and expansion, and to authorize the Town Manager to sign any documents in connection with the transaction.

Ayes: 4 (Gaffett, Torrey, Baute, Lacoste) Nays: 0 Absent: 1 (Martin)

5. Boards, Committees and Commissions

• **Receive and act on letter from Neil Lang re: Planning Board**

Mr. Lang resigned for health reasons.

Ayes: 4 (Gaffett, Torrey, Baute, Lacoste) Nays: 0 Absent: 1 (Martin)

Ms. Gaffett moved to accept Mr. Lang's resignation with a letter of thanks for time served, seconded by Mr. Torrey.

• **Announce opening on the Planning Board**

In addition to the vacancy created by Mr. Lang's resignation, one or more members may not ask to be reappointed when their terms end in December.

• **Establish committee to prepare for 350th anniversary of 1661**

A brief discussion ensued.

First Warden Gaffett moved to establish a 350th anniversary committee for Block Island and to appoint Bill Wilson, Edith Blane, Martha Ball, Connie Larue, Beth Rousseau, Bruce Johnson and Henry Peterson at this time and to hold the committee open for additional appointments in the future. Motion seconded by Ray Torrey.

Ayes: 4 (Gaffett, Torrey, Baute, Lacoste) Nays: 0 Absent: 1 (Martin)

Ms. Gaffett will call the first meeting.

• **Receive letter from Joe Fallon re: Shellfish Commission membership**

Mr. Fallon sent a letter offering to serve on the Shellfish Commission but there are no vacancies at this time.

Ms. Gaffett moved to direct the Clerk to acknowledge Mr. Fallon's letter and keep it on file, seconded by Mr. Lacoste.

Ayes: 4 (Gaffett, Torrey, Baute, Lacoste) Nays: 0 Absent: 1 (Martin)

Receive and Act on letter from Taubman Law Offices re: Sewer regulation

The letter is a from the Sewer Commission's departing attorney. It requests permission from the Town Council to increase fines for repeated grease trap violations. A brief discussion ensued. It

is the opinion of the Town Council that the Water and Sewer Commissions are empowered to establish their own fees and fines by regulation.

First Warden Gaffett moved, seconded by Dr. Baute, to direct the Clerk to send a response that the Water and Sewer Commissions may set fees and fines by regulation and if their new solicitor wants the town to rescind or amend ordinances, a request should be made identifying the ordinances in question and explaining the need to amend.

Ayes: 4 (Gaffett, Torrey, Baute, Lacoste) Nays: 0 Absent: 1 (Martin)

Consider and act on request of LNG WG to adopt a TNS Resolution re: Hess Weaver's Cove LNG Offshore proposal

A brief discussion ensued, most members asked for more information. Ms. Gaffett will invite LNG WG representative Ellen Winsor to an upcoming meeting.

Dr. Baute moved to table the item to seek more information, seconded by Mr. Torrey.

Ayes: 4 (Gaffett, Torrey, Baute, Lacoste) Nays: 0 Absent: 1 (Martin)

Minutes: June 2, 2010, June 18, 2010 and June 22, 2010

Minor changes to the minutes were discussed.

Ms. Gaffett moved to approve the minutes of June 2, 2010, June 18, 2010 and June 22, 2010 with minor changes, seconded by Mr. Lacoste.

Ayes: 4 (Gaffett, Torrey, Baute, Lacoste) Nays: 0 Absent: 1 (Martin)

At 8:30 a motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Torrey and seconded by Dr. Baute.

Ayes: 4 (Gaffett, Torrey, Baute, Lacoste) Nays: 0 Absent: 1 (Martin)

Minutes approved July 21, 2010

Fiona Fitzpatrick
Town Clerk