

New Shoreham Town Council Minutes
Monday, November 1, 2010
Town Hall, Old Town Road, Block Island
7:00 p.m.

Present: First Warden Kimberley H. Gaffett, Second Warden Raymond J. Torrey, Town Council members Peter B. Baute, Kenneth C. Lacoste and Richard P. Martin. Also present was Town Manager Nancy O. Dodge and Finance Director Amy Land. 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 reported the RI Coastal Resources Management Council is scheduled to rule on the Champlin's Marina case on November 23. She was also pleased to report BI School student Joe Quackenbush has been working with the Road Crew to the benefit of all involved. Joey is expected to stay with the Road Crew for the foreseeable future. Tomorrow is Election Day, sample ballots are still available. In a more general discussion, it was reported the foghorn signal at Old Harbor is malfunctioning again, the Town Manager was asked to send a letter to the Coast Guard asking them to fix it or take it away.

Public Input: Verna Littlefield announced the BI School's varsity Hurricanes soccer team won again, the coed team is undefeated at 10-0 games. Go Hurricanes!

1. Receive and act on Fiscal Year 2010 Audit.

Frank Champi of Lefkowitz, Garfinkel, Champi & DeRienzo, PC presented the audit for fiscal year 2010 with Danielle Santamaria, CPA and Senior Accountant. The auditor's opinion was unqualified. Finance Director Amy Land was also present. Discussion ensued.

Dr. Baute moved to accept and approve draft financial statements of LGC & D with a change to page 9 of the management report (to "Actual expenditures exceeded budgeted expenditures by \$386,999"), seconded by Mr. Lacoste.

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

Nays: 0

2. Act on resolution re: Refunding Town of New Shoreham bond issues

Finance Director Amy Land presented FirstSouthwest's bond refunding proposal for bonds issued in 1998, April 2002 and November 2002. The total outstanding on the bonds is \$5,590,000. Maturity dates will not be extended. Present value savings net of all refunding costs is estimated at \$290,000 or 5.2% of refunded principal, but the exact amount cannot be determined without knowing the interest rate. Discussion ensued.

First Warden Gaffett moved to adopt the resolution to refund three bonds as discussed, seconded by Mr. Torrey.

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

Nays: 0

3. Act on Alexander Chapman's appeal of TNS Motor Vehicle for Hire Commission decision dated September 1, 2010

Mr. Chapman was not present. In his absence, a full discussion of the appeal did not take place.

Dr. Baute moved that, in the absence of Alexander Chapman, the decision of the Commission on Motor Vehicles for Hire stands.

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

Nays: 0

4. Establish process for reviewing and developing maintenance policies and goals for Island-wide public access points

A brief discussion ensued.

First Warden Gaffett moved, seconded by Second Warden Torrey, to direct the Town Manager to oversee the Highways Department and to use any other resources appropriate such as the Conservation Commission to better maintain public access points, and to bring any questions of policy to the Town Council.

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

Nays: 0

5. Receive Town Manager updates:

- **Old Harbor Dock project**
- **Discussion re: Verizon on-island service**

Town Manager Nancy Dodge updated the Town Council on progress on the Old Harbor Dock project. The contractor is digging behind the bulkhead to remove fill. Excavated boulders are being stockpiled at the town beach parking lot and may be used to repair erosion along Corn Neck Road. A few test sheet piles have been driven successfully by the contractor. Water and sewer lines have been jumped. Engineer Bob Fairbanks has been on site when needed.

Verizon representatives were on Island Thursday, there will not be a five days per week presence in the winter. They plan to send technicians as needed by boat or plane. The Town would like two service people on Island during the summer season. Verizon has conducted an audit of their equipment on Island and has designated someone to track Island service calls. The Town Manager wants to hear from people who are having trouble with phone service. The Block Island Times will publish an article about people's difficulty getting repairs.

6. Act on restructuring the 350 Committee

Ms. Gaffett reported the 350 Committee is having trouble finding a quorum. They sent a memo to the Town Council requesting the group be restructured.

First Warden Gaffett moved to restructure the 350 Committee according to the request received as follows. Full (voting) members are Co-chair Connie La Rue, Co-chair Fran Migliaccio, Treasurer Beth Rousseau, Martha Ball, Zena Clark, Pam Gasner and Henry Peterson. Alternate members are now George Dodge, Rita Draper, Bruce Johnson, Sharon Lehman, Teri McCombe,

and Bill Wilson. Consulting Members are Betsy Barker, Edith Blane, Kari Curtis, Fraser Lang and Kathy Szabo. Motion seconded by Mr. Martin.

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

Nays: 0

7. Correspondence: RI Historical Preservation & Heritage Commission re: Solviken site

Because an application has been received to demolish the existing building and construct a new house on the Solviken site at Plat 5, Lot 5-3 Corn Neck Road, the RI HPHC reviewed the historical and archeological significance of the site. No action was needed or taken. A copy of the letter will be forwarded to the Historical Society.

8. Minutes: October 18, 2010 meeting with Water Commission and Sewer Commission, October 19, 2010 Public Hearing on Charter Referenda Questions, October 20, 2010 (open and closed)

A brief discussion ensued.

Ms. Gaffett moved to approve the minutes of October 18, October 19, and the open and closed sessions of October 20, 2010 with changes noted. Motion was seconded by Mr. Lacoste.

Ayes: 4 (Gaffett, Torrey, Baute, Lacoste)

Nays: 0

Abstain: 1 (Martin)

At 9:20, Mr. Martin moved to adjourn, seconded by Dr. Baute.

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

Nays: 0

Minutes approved December 6, 2010

Fiona Fitzpatrick
Town Clerk