

TOWN OF STONINGTON - DRAFT COPY-  
SELECTMAN'S MINUTES April 6, 2026

PRESENT: Donna Brewer, Evelyn Duncan, Travis Fifield, John Robbins

PUBLIC: Kathleen Billings, Linda Nelson, Rob DeGennaro, Morgan Eaton,  
Jack (newspaper), Michael Johnston (state police)  
On zoom Michael Bloom, Christina Hardy, Roger Albright, Sandra Ward

Minutes: Moved Brewer second Robbins to accept April minutes Vote 4-0

Warrants: Moved Brewer second Duncan to approve account payable warrants Vote 4-0

Fish Pier: Duncan reported that the Harbor committee and the harbor masters have found a 10' longer ramp for the skiff dock. The present ramp is much too steep at low tide. There will be some installation labor to install the new ramp. The ramp will be 3' wide and 40' long. The price quote is \$13,000 delivered to the pier. The Harbor committee would like to pay for the ramp out of the fish pier capitol savings account. Moved Brewer second Robbins to purchase the ramp for a cost including installation of up to \$15,000. Funds to be removed from savings for the purchase. Vote 4-0

Office: Billings is requesting that the Town Office temporarily change its hours to 8AM to 12PM Monday through Friday. She feels that this is necessary due to staff shortages, new staff training requirements, and additional bookkeeping requirements for grant projects. The staff would continue to work until 4PM on bookkeeping, etc. The Board realizes the problem of finding staff, and also realizes the current staff is also handling the water company and sanitary district books. Billings also reported that hiring an outside firm to do payroll has not yet worked out. Moved Duncan second Brewer to change the office hours to 8-12 Monday through Friday, starting April 13<sup>th</sup>. Vote 4-0

Police: Michael Johnston was present to inform the Board that the State police will again help with patrolling the island. This area is designated as slot 1. They will be involved with traffic violations as well as call outs for emergencies. This does not mean that they will be replacing the three day contract we had with Hancock.

Beach: Rob DeGennaro was present representing the family owning Sand Beach. They are concerned about a couple of downed trees. Is it their responsibility or the Towns (as the Lessee), to make the access safe. Billings thought it might be their responsibility to get the permits to remove trees in the shoreland. She will ask the code enforcement officer to mark the trees involved. Robbins said he could help oversee if the town crew did any cutting. The family also wants a porta pottie placed on the property during the summer months. There is a flat area where it could be placed close enough for a truck to empty it. Cost is \$ 160.00 per month. The family has offered to pay for the porta pottie. Written requests and perhaps an amendment to the lease will be needed. Board willing to work with owners.

Old/new: Duncan reported that she has been going over the proposed school budget. She had a meeting with the superintendent and with Rhonda Eaton. The budget is high, there are some areas that may still be reduced. The budget does not include infrastructure repairs to either building. The cost of maintaining and operating the high school with so few students is very high.

Old/New: Duncan reported she had emailed questions to the video stream company. She reported that because of different locations equipment costs would rise and because of different meetings \$300 fee would rise. She reported that at the present time there is no line to cover this expense in the current approved budget for 2026.

Nelson reported that the Town has applied for a \$2,800,000 grant for planning to raise the fish pier. She has also applied for a \$ 5,000,000 grant to actually raise the pier. Whether the Town will get the grant is unknown.

Nelson passed out the new brochures resulting from a grant for business improvement. The economic development committee has been working on this project which also included the Puffin project and Home for the Holidays project. This will also tie into the village partnership project regarding roads, signs, parking. etc.

Nelson reported that the comprehensive plan committee has met and is starting work on the revised comprehensive plan.

Nelson reported that the school elevator project has hit ledge but there is a budget line for ledge removal, so there will not be a cost overrun.

Letter: With the passing of Sonny Bartlett the Selectmen wanted to express their sadness and to send a resolution to Sonny's wife acknowledging all his work for the town. Board signed the resolution and send it to Muffin.

Meeting adjourned 8:45PM

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