

THE BOROUGH OF WOODMONT
Minutes of the Board of Warden & Burgesses
August 21, 2017

The meeting of the Board of the Borough of Woodmont was held on Monday, August 21, 2017 at Woodmont Borough Hall.

The meeting was called to order by Senior Burgess Barrett at 8:02 P.M. In attendance were Burgesses: Kelley Graham, Robert Kish, Chuck Rockwell, and Christopher Schmeisser.

Also present were: Clerk Wm. Guelakis, Treasure Robert Listorti, and Beautification Committee Chair Pat Del Vecchio.

Initiate of Allegiance

Approval of Minutes

The August 7, 2017 minutes were reviewed by the Board. Burgess Graham made a Motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Burgess Schmeisser, and the Motion passed unanimously.

Freeholders I

Greg Fields of 173 Kings Highway said that everyone runs the stop sign at from Mark St to Kings Highway. A discussion followed. Burgess Graham will contact the police dept. concerning this issue. Greg Fields suggested the use of bicyclical and foot patrols.

Mickey Bisch of 159 Kings Highway wanted to know if you needed a permit for a bond fire on the beach. Burgess Graham said that you do need to apply for a permit.

Debbie Mac Neil 159 Kings Highway is concerned about the sign at Anchor Beach that is blocking the view for the residents at Pelican Cove. Jim Mallico said that it has been moved from Blackwall St. Pat Del Vecchio said that the Milford Recreation Department has put up the no ball playing signs. Debbie Mac Neil asked that the sign be moved so not to block and obstruct the view. A discussion followed.

Susan Chadwick of 159 Kings Highway, president of the Pelican Cove Condo Assoc., also requested that the sign is higher than the fence and should be moved. A discussion followed. Burgess Schmeisser suggested that a first step would be to email Warden Bonessi concerning this situation.

Pat Del Vecchio of 56 Mark St. said that the stop sign issue at Mark St and Kings Highway is a dangerous situation and requested that a designated cross walk is also needed. In addition, folks are also driving in the wrong direction.

Report of the Tax Collector

No Report.

Report of the Warden

No Report.

Report of the Constable

No Report.

Report of the Clerk.

No Report.

Report of the Treasurer

DISBURSEMENTS AUGUST 2017

BOROUGH OPERATING		LIBRARY	
James Freda	\$115.44	Frontier	\$49.11
James Freda	\$100.00	Demco	\$34.91
Ed Bonessi	\$30.82	TOTAL	\$84.02
Richard Carey	\$250.00		
James Mallico	\$53.16		
Jane Eager	\$200.00		
Lynn Foss	\$825.00		
Lynn Foss	\$675.00		
		BOROUGH CAP RESERVE	
Cindy Phelan	\$200.00	Bor of Woodmont	\$19,869.64
Robert Conklin	\$200.00	B&G Sport Inc	\$209.41
City of Milford	\$2,234.32	TOTAL	\$20,079.05
City of Milford	\$1,363.22		
Tims Auto	\$94.19		
Tims Auto	\$114.09		
Teddi Mikus	\$90.00		
Hearst Media Services	\$240.64		
Optimum	\$111.79		
Optimum	\$111.79		
Citizens Bank	\$322.11		
So Conn Gas Co	\$117.07		
Regional Water Authority	\$234.82		
Quality Data Services	\$2,675.18		
United Illuminating Co	\$38.73		
United Illuminating Co	\$670.34		
TOTAL	\$11,067.71		
		CITY ACCOUNT	
Mallico Paving	\$4,500.00		
E&D Landscaping	\$3,403.00		
City of Milford	\$15,833.00		
RJ Thomas Mfg	\$2,791.00		
Bor. Of Woodmont	\$4,040.00		
Bor. Of Woodmont	Cap Res	\$105,915.00	
United Illum Co	\$1,891.21		
TOTAL		\$138,373.21	

Committee Reports:

Planning & Zoning

No Report.

Police & Safety

No Report.

House

No Report.

Lighting

No Report.

Beaches

Burgess Kish said in response to the request to improve the beach at the end of Anderson Ave. In summary:

- What can we do about removing the gravel? Burgess Kish said that he has concluded that you cannot remove the gravel, it protects the beach.
- Burgess Barrett asked Burgess Kish if he has had discussions with DEEP concerning this issue. Burgess Kish responded that he has put calls into DEEP but they have not been returned. Burgess Barrett stated that he to called DEEP to follow up on questions raised by freeholders at the meeting. Burgess Barrett explained the re-organizations under DEEP and that currently under the Division of Land and Sea, nobody within that organization is familiar with us nor have they responded to me or Burgess Kish.
- Burgess Kish said that we are not going to move or remove gravel from the beach and has some ideas for future work to improve the beach if permissible:
 - Trim vegetation to increase the size of the beach
 - Use a sifting machine to regrade and clean up sand
 - Bring in sand

We need to engage DEEP about this and these ideas are for next year

- Burgess Barrett said that we are on hold until we engage DEEP.

Burgess Kish submitted the following report to share concerning the beach at the end of Anderson Ave:

What can residents expect for late summer 2017?

The Warden has agreed to send a crew to perform another round of "debris cleanup", repeating what was done in late June to kick-off the summer. That is pick up trash & straw on the sandy area, the sea grass area and against the concrete wall.

I've been advised that raking the straw and seaweed out of the gravel ridge is futile, because more ocean debris comes and goes very quickly no matter how much cleaning is done. If there are folks who disagree, the Warden may agree to fund a one-time cleanup to test if futile or not futile.

What is being done to address resident's fundamental complaint about too much gravel on the beach?

I have connected some dots and formulated a personal position (my opinion) about the gravel. I'm agreeable to modifying this opinion as new information comes in, but this the opinion I have now:

IT IS FUTILE TO MESS WITH THE BEACH GRAVEL

- Mother Nature giveth and taketh when it comes to sand and gravel.
- It's been reported that this beach has more footage overall, be it sand or gravel, than it had

years ago. Material placed on western beaches has migrated there by natural forces and has actually increased the size of the beach.

It's been reported that there is more gravel on this beach than in previous years. We know of no practical way to direct what material is deposited on what beach. Some beaches get sand, some get gravel, some get both. It changes overtime. Rosemary Court has gorgeous sand. Anderson Ave has both sand and gravel. If some gravel is taken away, new gravel will take its place over time.

- The gravel ridge, or hump, protects the beach. If we scrape some of it away, say 12 inches deep, we will create a valley and allow the tide to come up further. And next year's gravel ridge will be closer to shore. This could also expose the upper area sand to being sucked out to sea. Any attempt to change the contour of a narrow (~75 feet) width of beach would only cause the lower spots to fill-in with more gravel, i.e. blend in with the east and west neighboring sides.
- Finally, if the gravel is removed, it would need to be brought somewhere. We can't push it east or west. We can't push it into the ocean without consultation with CT DEEP. We would not want to bring it closer to the concrete wall because that would cover up the nice sand. It would need to be carted it away and that would be costly. Embarking on costly work can be a folly for the Borough because nature's forces, effects and time lines are not so predicable.

What is being done to address residents' fundamental complaint about insufficient sandy beach area?

Proposed step 1

- Remove the vegetation, i.e. mostly sea grass, growing in the public section of beach. This would slightly increase the size of the sandy beach area. We need to consult with CT DEEP to ensure its okay to remove sea grass above the high tide mark.
- Estimated cost is \$600-1000 (E&D Landscape)

Proposed step 2

- Hire an outfit that can sift the sandy area to clean up the sand. Sifter machine access would require cooperation with one or more beach front neighbors. We believe the logistical challenge of repeatedly emptying the hopper on the sifting machine can be overcome.
- Estimated cost is \$2500-3000 (Hannon)

Proposed step 3

- Bring a load of clean sand (referred to "sand re-nourishment"). A six inch deep layer of sand would serve to dress-up the upper portion of beach that is above the gravel ridge, and maybe even temporarily enlarge the sandy beach area by a few feet. It hard to say how long the sand would "stay put" but likely longer if we don't interfere with the protective gravel ridge.
- Estimated cost is \$4000+ (Mallico \$TBD)

Public Works

No Report.

Finance

No Report.

Library

No Report.

Beautification

Beautification Committee Chair Del Vecchio reported:

- 3 Plaque orders placed for last 3 Memorial Benches along the beach.

- Phase I of Memorial has been completed with the last replacement bricks inserted.
- Phase II of patio: 5th deposit: \$100.00 for Last Chance Memorial Bricks for a total of \$2300.00 to date with 44 bricks sold.
- Final order place with E and D Landscaping including:
- Brick applications to date, listed in order of applications received:
 1. A. Catapano \$50.00
 2. L. Natowich \$50.00
 3. M. Treat \$50.00
 4. E. Penn \$100.00 *payment for multiple bricks.
 5. E. Penn
 6. S. Davis \$50.00
 7. S. Steady \$50.00
 8. J. Ressler \$50.00
 9. J. Lynch \$50.00
 10. K. Neff \$100.00 *payment for multiple bricks.
 11. K. Neff
 12. K. Murphy \$50.00
 13. K. Cummings \$50.00
 14. T. Chaucer \$150.00 *payment for multiple bricks.
 15. T. Chaucer
 16. T. Chaucer
 17. N. Austin \$50.00
 18. S. Bliss \$50.00
 19. T. Crutchfield \$50.00
 20. M. Burgard \$50.00
 21. B. Cummings \$50.00
 22. P. Cuzino \$50.00
 23. P. Doheny \$50.00
 24. N. Holt \$00.00 * in appreciation for photo collection donation.
 25. S. Stein \$250.00 *payment for multiple bricks.
 26. S. Stein
 27. S. Stein
 28. S. Stein
 29. S. Stein
 30. K. Frost \$50.00
 31. H. Gil \$50.00
 32. R. Goulart \$50.00
 33. D. Griffin \$50.00
 34. J. King \$50.00
 35. C. Langley \$50.00
 36. K. Murphy \$50.00 * for B. Wetch
 37. M. Noonan \$50.00
 38. P. Porter \$50.00
 39. P. Proulx \$150.00 *payment for multiple bricks.
 40. P. Proulx
 41. P. Proulx
 42. K. Walker \$50.00
 43. Milford Prev. Council \$50.00
 44. G. Vitale (E. Dyer) \$50.00
- Asked E and D Landscaping to remove dying tree at New Haven Av garden and to replace both tree in the fall.
- Removed advertisement signs from the garden.

Approval of Bills

Bills are going around.

Unfinished Business

None.

Old Business

New Business

- **To consider changing the meeting time for the Board of Warden and Burgesses**

Burgess Barrett Motioned to Table the Motion, seconded by Burgess Rockwell, and the Motion passed unanimously.

- **Self Insurance for the Borough**

Burgess Rockwell Motioned to Table the Motion, seconded by Burgess Barrett, and the Motion passed unanimously.

- **New Plumbing for Basement Subpump**

Burgess Rockwell explained what is required to fix the Borough Hall sub-pump and plumbing for the sub-pump. A discussion followed.

Burgess Rockwell Motioned to approve \$3,500 to come the Borough Reserve fund for a new sub pump and plumbing, seconded by Burgess Kish, and the Motion passed unanimously.

Freeholders II.

Carmen Corvino of 31 Chapel St wanted to know whether the Agenda item to consider changing the meeting time would be addressed at the Annual meeting or next Borough Board meeting. Burgess Barrett said it would be addressed at the next Borough Board meeting on Sept. 7th.

- At 8:44 P.M. Warden Bonessi entertained a Motion to adjourn the meeting. The Motion was made by Burgess Schmeisser, seconded by Burgess Rockwell and the Motion carried unanimously.

Minutes taken by William Guelakis
Woodmont Clerk