

**MINUTES
COMMISSIONERS' MEETING
SIXTH TAXING DISTRICT, City of Norwalk
July 8, 2015**

**Rowayton Community Center
8:00 p.m.**

PRESENT: Commissioners Tammy Langalis, Mike Barbis, John Igneri, District Fire Marshal and Property Manager Ed Carlson, District Ass't. Property Manager Jason O'Donnell, District Clerk Andrea Woodworth

ABSENT: District Treasurer John Verel

Commission Chair Tammy Langalis called the July 8, 2015 meeting of the Sixth Taxing District Commissioners to order at 8:20 p.m. She welcomed everyone and announced that approval of the minutes would take place at the end of the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

The topic of the Sixth Taxing District possibly assuming ownership of Greens' Ledge Lighthouse was discussed. The Commission is possibly interested in this and they are in the process of researching the liability to be assumed and the maintenance that it might require. Commissioner Barbis said that a letter would be sent to the General Services Administration indicating the initial interest of the district in the lighthouse. It is believed that the Coast Guard would continue to maintain the light. Maggie Trujillo, 59 Sammis Street, asked that if someone doesn't take it over, would it be put on the market for sale. Instances of other lighthouses that have become private or used for commercial purposes were named. In any case, we would like to have more information about it.

OLD BUSINESS

Commissioner Barbis explained the current driveway project and showed a map of what is being done. The parking area will be made up of pavers through which grass can grow. There will be speed bumps installed on the driveway. Some quiet day before Labor Day, we'll plan to stripe the lower lot and the new driveway and parking area. They're making good progress on the driveway as of now and the Commissioners are happy with the work. There are some electrical lines that were not in the original survey. There was some damage since they weren't where they

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should be. Mrs. Langalis said that she would wish to see some indication at the exit, as there is at the entrance, that traffic will be crossing a sidewalk. Tammy is on record as not being in favor of the speed bumps. It was argued that they were needed as some traffic speeds on the center's grounds. Maggie Trujillo said that what they use in front of Pinkney Park on Farmers' Market days has been quite effective. You can't have something that will harm cars. Mrs. Langalis asked when the proposed parking in front of the building would take place. Mr. Barbis said that that would take big money and we're not doing that now.

Assistant Property Manager Jason O'Donnell said that we did get a proposal for the sewer work under the area we are going to repave and the estimated cost is \$6525.00. We are eliminating the previously proposed granite crosswalk which was expected to cost \$10,000. That money could be used to pay for the sewer work as well as the speed bumps. Commissioner Ignieri said that he was OK with this since it doesn't require additional funds and that it is within the budget. This project was **APPROVED** on a vote of the Commissioners.

REPORTS

Commission Chair Tammy Langalis publicly thanked DPW for having people clearing the poison ivy, sumac and other vines in front of 39 Wilson Avenue. Homeowners are responsible for keeping the sidewalks clear, but they hadn't done that. The new head of the DPW is very nice and looks for remedies for situations. However, he is just an interim DPW head.

Mrs. Langalis also said that Rowayton Avenue resident Terry Atkin was instrumental in getting the sidewalk in front of Pinkney Park repaired. Now, they are trying to get the cement curbing around the cannon fixed. Ms. Atkin would like our help in getting a letter to the Mayor and the DPW head about this. The state of the sidewalks in town is generally not good. It was noted that there's a \$450,000 project to repair the sidewalk between Roton Middle School and Brien McMahon. We would like to put pressure from a lot of angles on the city to take care of the repair of the sidewalks.

The repair of the bathroom attached to the Pinkney House in Pinkney Park was brought up. District Property Manager Ed Carlson said that there had been a clog in the line in the basement. That was cleared up and then there was another problem. A plumber suggested that the house trap be removed since it's not needed anymore. That was completed today. However, part of the problem has been that there was not enough air coming from the roof vent which was partially blocked with leaves, etc. They put a screen over the vent today and the toilet should be working well now. Tammy said that if it doesn't work, let's look at getting a stronger, industrial strength toilet.

Tammy said that we have one trash can at Pinkney and could that please be monitored more often. Ed Carlson said that they could leave some more there. There is also only one small recycle bin. Maybe we need another bigger recycle bin there? Al Kery picks up the park trash three times a week on Monday, Thursday and Saturday.

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The Commissioners had received an email from Wendell Livingston asking if the garbage could be removed from the beach containers more often on days with large attendance. It was all overflowing the night of the Fourth of July. Ed said that Don had emptied the cans three times that night but people weren't recycling and there was an overflow.

Tammy said that she had received a call from a resident in Pine Point saying that some of her neighbors were not taking advantage of the second weekly pick up of trash. Notices will be placed on our web site and on Facebook. It was noted that any recycle material should not have any food residue on it. That just requires a sorter to do extra work. We will endeavor to let people know what should not go into the recycle bins.

Commissioner Mike Barbis said that he wanted to publicly thank the gate guards at Bayley Beach on the Fourth of July. They did a very good job! We had about 500 cars come in and the parking lot was full as of 5:30 p.m. There were about 2,000 people on hand to view the fireworks. Everyone did what they were asked to do and there was great control. A big THANK YOU goes to the RCA for planning such a successful event.

Rowayton Fire Department has their hoses tested every year. This year, most of the hoses failed. They are now buying all new hoses for \$16,500. They are warranted for one year.

The new owner at 8 Wilson Avenue has been cutting back some of our brush. Ed Carlson spoke with her and she was very nice upon learning that the area belonged to the district.

Mike also said that we have \$600,000 in content insurance for the Community Center. He suggested that they do a walk through of the building to inventory the contents in order to see if they have the right amount of insurance.

There was a discussion of possibly offering benefits to part time employees. No consensus was reached. We have another issue now with the possibility of offering employees an IRA. Tom Robinson will be asked to find out how the RR guards feel about having one. If we decide to do this, the district will need to match a certain amount of donations to it. We will look into this further.

We are waiting to hear from the city about a tax revenue short fall of \$65,000 coming back to the district.

We are also still working on the library insurance claim because of the winter flood. As we get insurance money sent to us, we need to pass that along to the library.

Rob Frazier, 158 Highland, suggested that there are groups that offer HR packages to small employers. He and/or Maggie Trujillo, 59 Sammis Street, will let the Commissioners know of the name(s) of any such company.

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Report of the District Treasurer

July 2015

John Verel

(The following report of the District Treasurer was accepted by the Commissioners, in Mr. Verel's absence).

**Sixth Taxing District
Treasurer's Narrative Report
To
Commissioners' Meeting
July 8, 2015**

Handouts to Commissioner*:

- Budget v Actual report as of June 30, 2015 for FY 14 – 15
- Treasurer's Report of Bank Balances as of June 30, 2015
- Capital Funds Project Balances report
- Report of Bills Paid in June 2015

Comments on Reports:

- **On the District Budget v Actual Report**
Our expenses are at 104% of the budgeted expenses and our income is at 98% of the budgeted income for FY 14 – 15

Events:

- The 2014 – 2015 Fiscal Year has ended. Any new invoices/bills must be dated with a July 2015 date.
- We are reviewing the response that was received from the City with regards to the Tax Revenue deficit
- We are also starting the audit review process.

*Please note, these are preliminary drafts and not final audited reports.

(The statistical reports will be attached at the back of the Minutes).

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It was mentioned that Roton Point wanted to know if we took their safety zone buoys. The State moved them out to be 1000 ft. from the barge from which the fireworks were launched. We didn't know anything about the missing buoys.

Commission Chair Langalis asked the other commissioners their opinion on having a regular meeting in August. The August meeting is traditionally cancelled. However, this year, we have the issue of the tax revenue shortfall from the city of \$65,000. It was suggested that we could call a special meeting. That, however, requires the placement of an expensive notice in the paper. It was decided that there would be a meeting on August 5 at 8:00 p.m. in spite of the fact that Commissioner Igneri will not be in attendance. The District Treasurer must be there.

A motion to approve the June minutes as submitted and the May minutes as corrected was made by Commissioner John Igneri and seconded by Commissioner Mike Barbis. The June minutes were **APPROVED as submitted** and the May minutes were **APPROVED as corrected**.

Commissioner Igneri made a motion to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by Commission Chair Tammy Langalis. The July 8, 2015 meeting of the Sixth Taxing District Commissioners was adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Andrea J. Woodworth
Clerk, 6th Taxing District