

Town of Waterford Shellfish Commission

Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, November 10, 2020 – 7:00 p.m.
Remote Meeting via Zoom

2020 NOV 12 AM 8:25
TOWN OF WATERFORD
SHELLFISH COMMISSION

1. Call to Order

Chairman Lawson called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. after establishing a quorum.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Roll Call

Logged into the meeting via Zoom were Commissioners Lawson, Francolino, Drennen and Havens. Absent were Commissioners LeBelle, Calkins and Malley. Also logged into the meeting was Fred Wise.

4. Approval of the October 6, 2020 Zoom Meeting Minutes

Motion made by Commissioner Francolino, seconded by Commissioner Drennen to approve the October 6, 2020 Zoom Meeting Minutes as filed. Discussion; none, voice vote, 4-0, all in favor, motion carried.

5. Correspondence

Chairman Lawson stated he forwards all correspondence to the Commission members via email as he receives them throughout the month to keep everyone up to date in between meetings.

6. Treasurer's Report

Commissioner Francolino reviewed the Treasurer's Report for the Waterford Shellfish Commission.

Motion made by Commissioner Drennen, seconded by Commissioner Havens to approve the Treasurer's Report as reviewed. Discussion, none, voice vote, 4-0, all in favor, motion carried.

7. Monthly Monitoring and Sampling Report

Chairman Lawson stated the recreational shell fishing areas are currently open. He stated a discrepancy regarding notification of closures has been rectified. He stated the signs are down for the winter months so that they do not get destroyed by the harsh weather. The recreational shell fishing areas will be closed administratively from December 31, 2020 until April 1, 2021.

8. New Business

a. Review and approve the Waterford Shellfish Commission FY22 Budget Request

The Commission members reviewed the Town of Waterford Shellfish Commission FY22 budget request drafted over the past month and as requested by the Town's Finance Department. During the current fiscal year the Shellfish Commission generated a little over four thousand dollars in revenues from permit sales and lease agreements that greatly offset the operating costs of the Commission. Because of the revenues generated from the permit sales and lease agreements the Commission is in a position to request less than half of the cost required to run the Commission during the course of the fiscal year. The Waterford Shellfish Commission is requesting three thousand (\$3,000) dollars for the FY22 fiscal year to help to cover the costs of Clerical and Technical, FICA, Professional Fees mandated by the State of Connecticut for testing and to purchase restock of certified little neck clams to be distributed into the recreational shell fishing areas.

The Commission members reviewed the numbers and it was the consensus of the Commission members to vote to forward the budget as drafted and reviewed to the Finance Department per their request once the approved budget request is signed by Chairman Lawson.

Motion made by Commissioner Francolino, seconded by Commissioner Drennen to authorize Chairman Lawson to sign the proposed budget request as reviewed and to forward to the Town of Waterford Finance Department for consideration. Discussion, none, voice vote, 4-0, all in favor, motion carried.

9. Old Business

a. Discussions regarding Waterford Shellfish Commission leases.

Chairman Lawson stated he has not been in contact with the Town Attorney regarding the renewal of the lease or for the updated Shellfish Management Plan. A discussion was held regarding options for extending the lease administratively if the Covid restrictions continue to limit the productivity of the legal process. Chairman Lawson stated he will try to make contact with the Town Attorney for an update regarding these issues and will report back to the Commission members with his findings if any.

10. Public Input regarding Waterford Shellfish Commission Business Only

Fred Wise stated he did not have anything to discuss with the Commission at this time.

11. Adjournment

There being nothing further to discuss there was a Motion made by Commissioner Francolino, seconded by Commissioner Drennen to adjourn the meeting at 7:22 p.m. Discussion, none, voice vote, 4-0, all in favor, motion carried.

The next regularly scheduled meeting for the Waterford Shellfish Commission is scheduled for December 1, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Audrey Ulmer
Recording Secretary for the Waterford Shellfish Commission