

Town of Waterford Shellfish Commission

Special Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, April 14, 2020 – 10:00 a.m.
Remote Meeting Via Zoom

1. Call to Order

Chairman Lawson called the Special Meeting to order at 10:09 a.m. after establishing a quorum.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Roll Call

Present were Commissioners Lawson, Francolino, Havens, Calkins and Drennen. Absent were Commissioners LeBelle and Malley.

4. Approval of the March 3, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes

Motion made by Commissioner Francolino, seconded by Commissioner Calkins to approve the meeting minutes of March 3, 2020 as submitted. Discussion, none, voice vote, 5-0, all in favor, motion approved.

5. New Business

- a. Discussions regarding the opening of the recreational shell fishing areas in Waterford waters on April 1st.

Chairman Lawson stated the recreational shell fishing areas are currently closed to due 1.14 inches of rainfall.

- b. Discussion regarding the lack of locations for the public to purchase recreational shell fishing permits for the 2020 season due to Covid 19 pandemic closures and re-stock discussions.

Chairman Lawson stated that with the exception of limited access to purchase permits at the Town Hall there are currently no other options for the public to purchase recreational shell fishing permits at this time due to the Coronavirus pandemic. He stated it would be a good opportunity to take this time to re-stock with the hopes of opening for Memorial Day weekend. Discussions were held regarding options for permits and restock and it was the consensus of the Commission members to extend the Administrative Closure of the recreational shell fishing areas until May 15, 2020 to allow the Commission the opportunity to secure and depurate re-stock into the recreational waters for the upcoming season. Discussions were held regarding testing and optimal water temperatures for restock.

Motion made by Commissioner Francolino, seconded by Commissioner Calkins to extend the Administrative Closure of the recreational shell fishing areas for the purpose of re-stock and depuration of the hard shell clams. Discussion, none, voice vote, 5-0, all in favor, motion carried. An email will be sent to the DA/BA as well as to the Town Clerk and the First Selectman's office requesting the closure be published on the Town's website for notification to anyone who is interested in purchasing permits.

A discussion was held regarding securing little neck clams and oysters for re-stock. Chairman Lawson stated he has been in touch with the supplier who will deliver the materials as requested.

Motion made by Commissioner Francolino, seconded by Commissioner Drennen to authorize Chairman Lawson to secure product for re-stock into the recreational shell fishing areas as soon as the water temperature allows and to request a purchase order from the Finance Department for the purpose of purchasing the hard shell clams and oysters and the labor costs from the distributor for delivery at his discretion. Discussion, none, voice vote, 5-0, all in favor, motion carried.

9. Adjournment

There being no additional items for discussion a Motion was made by Commissioner Francolino, seconded by Commissioner Havens to adjourn the special meeting at 10:34 a.m. Discussion, none, voice vote, 5-0, all in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Audrey Ulmer

Recording Secretary for the Town of Waterford Shellfish Commission