

Town of Waterford Shellfish Commission  
Meeting Minutes of Tuesday, December 7, 2010  
Waterford Town Hall  
7:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order

Chairman Lawson called the regular meeting of the Waterford Shellfish Commission to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Welcome Members and Guests

4. Roll Call

Present were Commissioners Lawson, Meehan, McBride and Miller. Absent were Commissioners Corriveau, Francolino and Facchini.

5. Approval of the Minutes of the November 9, 2010 regular meeting and the November 18, 2010 special meeting.

Motion made by Commissioner Meehan, seconded by Chairman Lawson to approve the meeting minutes of November 9 and November 18, 2010. Discussion, none, voice vote, 4-0, all in favor, motion carried.

6. Public Input – none.

7. Correspondence

Chairman Lawson reviewed various agendas, minutes and correspondence including an invitation to attend the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Gathering of the Shellfish Commissions on Saturday, January 11, 2011 from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. in New Haven. He stated if any of the Commission members would like to attend to confirm with him prior to December 31, 2010 to reserve a seat. Chairman Lawson discussed a bill submitted for payment to the Waterford Shellfish Commission for two and one half hours of patrolling by the East Lyme/Waterford warden. He stated he will contact the warden to ask them to add the date and time of the service provided and what, if any action was taken during the patrol on future timesheets.

8. Treasurer's Report

Commissioner Francolino was not present to discuss the Treasurer's Report with the Commission.

9. Monthly Monitoring and Sampling Report

Chairman Lawson stated the recreational shellfishing areas are open. The Waterford Shellfish Commission will close the recreational shellfishing areas for the months of January, February and March. During this time it will be the responsibility of the lease holders to do their own water sampling. The shellfishing areas will officially close on December 31, 2010 and re-open to the public on April 1, 2011 after satisfactory samples are taken.

10. New Business

a. Discussion regarding the 2011-2012 Waterford Shellfish Commission budget request.

Chairman Lawson indicated the 2011-2012 budget has been submitted as requested to the First Selectman's office along with the Annual Report. He stated he will attend the budget meetings as the process moves along.

A discussion was held regarding clams and the Thames River. Chairman Lawson stated he has been in contact with Jim Marco who has been involved with the testing of the mud and waters in the Thames River and it has been determined the clams from this area are very polluted and if they are transferred to the recreational shellfishing areas in Waterford for re-stock they may contaminate the area. Chairman Lawson stated he does not want to pursue the option of relocated clams from the Thames River into the recreational shellfishing areas due to these findings and stated the Commission will purchase certified clams from commercial growers in the spring. A discussion was held regarding the best time to put the clams in the waters. Chairman Lawson stated the waters must be at least fifty degrees or the clams will not take in the shellfishing beds. The Commission will start to monitor the temperature of the waters in April and May and re-stock as soon as the waters reach the required temperature to do so.

A discussion was held regarding the possibility of cleaning up the parking area on Reed Avenue for public access to the recreational shellfishing areas. Chairman Lawson stated this could be a potentially great area for a warden to walk out to the recreational shellfishing beds and check people for shellfishing permits without having to use the boat.

11. Old Business

Chairman Lawson stated that he would like to work on the 2011 recreational shellfishing permits over the next couple of months to determine the most efficient form of issuing permits, how many copies are required of each, properly numbering each permit for sale, adding a map of the recreational shellfishing areas to each permit sold for clarification regarding exactly where it is permitted to harvest clams and making it more user friendly.

12. Adjournment

Motion made by Commissioner Meehan, seconded by Commissioner McBride to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Audrey Ulmer, Recording Secretary for the Town of Waterford Shellfish Commission