

Town of Waterford Shellfish Commission

Regular Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, September 6, 2016 – 7:00 p.m.
Waterford Town Hall

1. Call to Order

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

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Welcome Members and Guests

4. Roll Call

Present were Commissioners Lawson, Miller, Malley, Corriveau, Havens, LeBelle and Calkins. Absent were Commissioners Francolino and Meehan.

Alternate Commissioner Calkins was appointed to sit as a regular voting member of this meeting in the absence of Commissioner Meehan and alternate Commissioner Havens was appointed to sit as a regular voting member in the absence of Commissioner Francolino.

5. Approval of the August 2, 2016 regular Meeting Minutes

Motion made by Commissioner Miller, seconded by Commissioner Corriveau to approve the August 2, 2016 regular meeting minutes as reviewed and submitted. Discussion, none, voice vote, 7-0, all in favor, motion carried.

6. Public Input

Mr. Timothy Londregan of Niantic Bay Shellfish was present to update the Commission members regarding a project he is working on with the University of Connecticut and local shellfish Commissions as well as to inquire regarding possible bottom land he can utilize for commercial shell fishing in the future. He stated he is looking at bottom land around Millstone Point triangle for potentially growing scallops in Waterford waters the future if he can get all of the proper permits to do so. Several discussions were held regarding the process of scallop harvest and what it takes to have a successful growing season. The Commission asked Mr. Londregan if he could submit a map with coordinates that

depict the exact location that he is interested in utilizing so that they can determine if it is currently in use or can possibly be used for the purpose of potential growing of scallops in the future.

A discussion was held regarding activity in the Niantic Bay.

A discussion was held regarding the possibility of growing steamers and mussels in Waterford waters.

7. Correspondence

Chairman Lawson reviewed various meeting minutes, agendas, emails and correspondence sent to the Shellfish Commission over the past month. He discussed correspondence regarding sampling, closures and activity as it relates to the Waterford Shellfish Commission that was sent to him either by regular postal mail or email over the course of the past month. He stated that he forwards all correspondence he receives over the month to the Commission members as he gets them.

Chairman Lawson stated he received notification from the First Selectman's office that the three shellfish leases have been prepared by the Town Attorney and are ready for signatures from all parties but to date only two have been executed. He is waiting on the third lease holder to send in payment and sign the lease and will keep the Commission updated as he gets more information.

8. Treasurer's Report

Commissioner Francolino was not present to give the Treasurer's Report so Chairman Lawson reviewed the Treasurer's Report with the latest data he received from the Waterford Finance Department in his absence. He discussed revenues and expenditures incurred throughout the month and stated permit sales have been consistent due to the dry weather conditions and there were minimal closures but stated permit sales are down from last year because of the newly implemented year round shell fishing procedures. He stated that a permit expires one year from the date of purchase so many people have not had to purchase permits at the beginning of the season this year as they have in the past when the recreational shell fishing areas closed during the months of January, February and March. He stated the Commission has received the lease payments for two of the three leases to date.

Motion made by Commissioner Malloy, seconded by Commissioner Miller to approve the Treasurer's Report as reviewed. Discussion, none, voice vote, 7-0, all in favor, motion carried.

9. Monthly Monitoring and Sampling Report

Chairman Lawson stated the recreational shell fishing areas are currently open. He stated he will keep the Commission members posted via email as to the openings and closings of the recreational shell fishing areas throughout the month as he receives them.

10. New Business

Chairman Lawson discussed permit sales and revenues from the sale of the permits and the payments of the leases. He stated it is his goal to continue to work toward the goal of becoming a completely self sufficient Commission in the upcoming years. It is his hope that one day the Commission will not have to rely on funding from the Town of Waterford for daily operations and restock costs.

11. Old Business

- a. Update regarding oyster and little neck clam restock.

Chairman Lawson stated over eighteen thousand certified little neck clams were distributed into the recreational shell fishing areas last month and he will contact the Wardens to ensure that they are patrolling the areas to check that those that are harvesting the clams have purchased a permit to do so.

12. Adjournment

Motion made by Commissioner Calkins, seconded by Commissioner Malley to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 p.m., discussion, none, voice vote, 7-0, all in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted by:

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