

## Town of Waterford Shellfish Commission

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Regular Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, October 4, 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, Francolino, and LeBelle. Absent were Commissioners Havens, Calkins and Meehan.

5. Approval of the September 6, 2016 regular Meeting Minutes

Motion made by Commissioner Francolino, seconded by Commissioner Miller to approve the September 6, 2016 regular meeting minutes as reviewed and submitted. Discussion, none, voice vote, 6-0, all in favor, motion carried.

6. Public Input

There was no one present from the public to address the Commission at this meeting.

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 in order to keep them up to date throughout the month and between meetings.

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 has yet to renew his lease of the one hundred and six acres of bottom land located near Magonk Point. He will keep the Commission members updated as to the status of the lease as he gets it.

Chairman Lawson discussed an invitation he received from Tess Getchis for the Launch of the Connecticut Shellfish Initiative to be held on October 20<sup>th</sup> from 4-7:00 p.m. at the Branford House on UConn's Avery Point campus. He explained the event will feature a shellfish themed menu, music, art show and an auction. He explained that attendance is free but registration is required and he urged any of the members who are interested in attending to register before the close of registration this week. He stated the Initiative is aimed at celebrating Connecticut's shellfish heritage and its dynamic and evolving future.

Chairman Lawson stated the Seasonal Scallop Permits for the Waterford-East Lyme Shellfish Commission will be available for purchase soon. The scallop season will open on Saturday, December 3, 2016 at 8 am and close on Tuesday, January 31, 2017 at sunset as determined by the Commissioner. The notice for the season will be published in the local newspaper twice before the season opens. The hours for harvesting scallops in the Niantic River from the south side of Boston Post Road to the north side of Route 156 sandbar and bridge will be from 8:00 am until sunset only. The Niantic Bay is not open to scalloping activities. The regulations are listed on the permit and the permit fee is thirty five dollars. There is a ¼ bushel or two gallon per day maximum of scallops per permit holder.

Chairman Lawson stated that the demarcation buoy and mushroom anchor need to be removed. He inquired if anyone from the Commission can assist him with the task and Commissioner LeBelle offered to help. They will work out the best time and tide to retrieve the buoy in the upcoming weeks.

#### 8. Treasurer's Report

Commissioner Francolino discussed the Treasurer's Report with the latest data he received from the Waterford Finance Department through August 31, 2016. He discussed revenues and expenditures incurred throughout the month. He stated the Commission has received the lease payments for two of the three leases to date as well as revenue from permit sales. A bill was submitted for Warden hours in the amount of three hundred and thirty one dollars.

A discussion was held regarding revenue from leases and permit sales this season.

Motion made by Commissioner Malloy, seconded by Commissioner Miller to approve the Treasurer's Report as reviewed. Discussion, none, voice vote, 6-0, all in favor, motion carried.

#### 9. Monthly Monitoring and Sampling Report

Chairman Lawson stated the recreational shell fishing areas are currently open. The recreational areas were closed between September 19, 2016 and September 28, 2016 due to heavy rain fall. 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 stated he will collect any remaining permits from Riverside Grocery prior to their closing for the winter months.

11. Old Business

a. Update regarding restock for the 2016 recreational shell fishing season..

Chairman Lawson stated over eighteen thousand certified little neck clams were distributed into the recreational shell fishing areas this 2016 season and he looks forward to scheduling restock for the 2017 season in order to keep enough stock in the waters to promote permit sales.

b. Update regarding lease agreements and permit sales.

Chairman Lawson stated the Russell lease has yet to be signed and he will look into whether or not they are still interested in leasing the areas.

12. Adjournment

Motion made by Commissioner Francolino, seconded by Commissioner Corriveau to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m., discussion, none, voice vote, 6-0, all in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted by:

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