

**GUILFORD SHELLFISH COMMISSION  
MINUTES**

**November 13, 2019**

**7:30 P.M.**

**Town Hall, Selectmen's Meeting Room, Second Floor**

Commissioners: Chair Ed Lombard, John Sieviec, Keith Harvey, Peter Charland, John Hall  
Vice Chair Bob Burger, Anthony DeLucia, Don Kowalsky (Alt)  
Absent: None  
Wardens: Allyn Brown, Greg Marsh  
Commercial: None  
Guests: Jonathan McGee, Ivoryton resident

At 7:37 pm Chair Ed Lombard called to order the regular meeting. The Chair and six regular members were present for a quorum. There was one alternate.

**1. Public Forum**

Jonathan McGee, Ivoryton resident and owner of New England Sea Farms, submitted an August 14, 2019 revised map showing coordinates for a proposed five acre kelp farm. The original had been submitted to the DEEP and the harbormaster had requested that the site location be moved to accommodate the course of boat traffic. Jonathan described the proposed farming operation advising that kelp lines and gear would be installed in November and removed by June 1. If approved, Jonathan will set one line this year at about four feet below the water's surface and check on it once a week. He will install warning buoys around the farm area. The Army Corp of Engineers will dive at the site to inspect. DEEP annual fees are \$50 per acre.

Discussion was held on clarification needed regarding whether DEEP or GSC has jurisdiction, and how The CT Blue Plan is impacted. GSC has concerns that it could lose its commercial lots if DEEP supercedes with kelp farming and other ventures. GSC may set a precedent if it agrees to these types of operations which may obstruct current shellfish grounds. Jonathan advised that he would like to add shellfish beds in the future.

*Motion: Keith Harvey moved that upon further investigation, at the January 11, 2020 Annual Gathering of CT Shellfish Commissions, of jurisdiction issues, the proposal be tentatively approved, seconded by Bob Burger.*

*Vote: Carried - Unanimously*

**2. Minutes of October 9, 2019 meeting**

*Motion: Bob Burger moved to approve the October 9, 2019 minutes as presented, seconded by Keith Harvey.*

*Vote: Carried - Keith Harvey, John Sieviec, Bob Burger, Peter Charland, John Hall  
Abstained - Tony DeLucia (October absent)*

### 3. Commercial Activity and Licenses - Peter Charland

Chair Lombard and Treasurer Charland will review commercial license agreements and obtain commercial activity information for the December meeting.

### 4. Bills and Correspondence

#### Bills

Treasurer Peter Charland reported :

Brown's Boatyard - boat fuel	\$	31.93
- boat fuel	\$	75.51
Bob Burger - water sampling	\$	129.92
Warden Allyn Brown - September	\$	160.00
Warden Greg Marsh - September	\$	400.00
Nancy Matyasovsky - data entry	\$	69.00
Judy Anderson Castellano, Rec. Secretary	\$	87.50
Ed Lombard - Stocking expense	\$	311.97
Aquaculture Research Center (ARC) Seed Clams	\$	<u>18,931.00</u>

Total : \$20,196.83

It was noted that the ARC seed clam order had been short on the count.

*Motion: John Hall moved to approve payment of the bills, seconded by John Sieviec.*

*Vote: Carried - Unanimously*

#### Correspondence

An annual donation request, dated October 21, 2019, from the Town Health Director Dennis Johnson for the East Shore District Health Dept. new Pump-Out Boat. (see later discussion)

### 5. Wardens' Report

Warden Allyn Brown reported that recreational shellfishing at Great Harbor was going well.

### 6. Subcommittees

#### A. Recreation – Peter Charland / Keith Harvey

The 2020 recreational shellfishing licenses will be printed in bright orange.

#### B. Water Sampling – Ed Lombard / John Hall / Warden Fred Hill / Bob Burger

Bob Burger reported that water sampling is up to date. The last water sampling for 2019 will be done the first week of December then the boat will be stored for the winter.

**C. Boat - John Hall / Ed Lombard**

Bob Burger reported that the boat engine had stalled while water sampling. The boat had been used recently for the annual seed clam stocking. For the past few years, discussion has reviewed the engine's age. Bob Burger submitted an estimate from East River Marine for a new boat with a six year warranty. Discussion reviewed different brands and the need to obtain additional quotes.

*Motion: Bob Burger moved to approve up to \$14,000 from the GSC Fund Balance, to purchase a boat, authorizing Chair Lombard and Vice Chair Burger to choose the boat, seconded by Tony DeLucia.*

*Vote: Carried - Unanimously*

Bob Burger will research information on trading in the engine.

**D. Stocking – Anthony DeLucia / John Hall / John Sieviec**

The annual seed clam stocking took place October 28. Chair Lombard reported that the 380,000 clams from new vendor ARC were a good size and high quality. ARC offered to use seed clams from Guilford waters to grow out for stocking and can grow out algae to feed the clams. Bob Burger and Chair Lombard were impressed during their tour of the facility and its' operation. They encouraged commissioners to visit the facility. ARC holds an annual Open House in October.

Fisherman Kim Granbery has been growing out clams and also has 1,500-2,000 large oysters whose buyer decided not to purchase. He has offered to sell the ten bushels to GSC for \$400 for stocking in spring 2020.

Chair Ed Lombard had also spoken with The Sound School administrators who offered to donate 500,000 seed clams to be spawned in January and grown out by June. Ed will obtain further information for GSC to make these decisions.

**E. Finance - Peter Charland / Ed Lombard**

Peter Charland reported on recreational license sales:

- Sales by GSC members :	1 annual resident	
	1 nonresident senior	
	1 annual nonresident	\$ 159.00
- Capt. Morgan Bait Shop :	3 annual resident	
	1 annual resident senior	
	14 daily	
	8 annual nonresident	
	1 annual nonresident senior	<u>\$ 1,024.00</u>
Total Revenue :		\$ 1,183.00

Discussion reviewed the Town Finance Dept. October Operating Statement.

Total Revenue : \$ 22,062      Expenditures : \$10,402      Fund Balance : \$157,444

**F. Special Projects – John Hall / Peter Charland / Warden Brown**

There was no new information.

**G. Signs - Anthony DeLucia / Warden Brown**

Tony DeLucia reported that he had changed the open/closed signs today.

**H. Website - Ed Lombard / Keith Harvey**

Peter Charland reported that the GSC Facebook page has increased to 80 followers. He will obtain the information on all season water safety during recreational shellfishing, a list of license vendors, and include information on the public purchasing recreational licenses as gifts.

**7. Updates**

**A. Land Acquisition Commission (LAC) - John Sieviec**

John Sieviec reported that the LAC is reviewing Open Space along the West River acquired from the Long Hill Road Estates development and is discussing land near Timberlands Preserve.

**B. Sea Grant Advisory Board (SGAB) - John Sieviec / Bob Burger**

John Sieviec advised there was no new information to report.

**C. Harbor Management Commission (HMC) - Keith Harvey / John Sieviec**

Keith Harvey reported that there was no new information from HMC.

**D. Docks, moorings and other potentially impacting projects / John Sieviec/Keith Harvey**

John Sieviec reported that the Town project to install the Daniel Avenue/Mulberry Point water main system has been completed. Water quality test results are good.

**8. Old Business**

**A. Review Shellfish Management Plan**

Discussion will be held when further information is obtained from the DEEP.

**B. Adopt Wardens' Guidelines**

Vice Chair Burger and Chair Lombard will condense the draft Wardens' Guidelines and provide for review at the January.

**9. New Business**

Chair Lombard submitted a document with photo from the East Shore District Health Department. Since 2000, the District has administered a Federal Clean Vessel Act grant funded through CT Dept. of Environmental Protection (DEEP). Funds provide for the Branford Sewage Pump-Out Boat, a partnership among the Health District, Town of Branford and the Branford River Project serving Branford, East Haven, Guilford, New Haven and West Haven. Boaters can go to their Town Marinas for the service. In addition, the DEEP U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro along with Branford and East Shore District Health Dept. launched the world's first, full size, solar, electric pump-out boat. 75% of funds were federal with 25% from the Health District.

Discussion was held on replacing the reflective letter and stripes on buoys and markers. This will be done in the spring 2020. Warden Greg Marsh offered to donate his used mushroom buoys.

**10. Adjournment**

*Motion: At 8:30 pm, John Hall moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Keith Harvey.*  
*Vote: Carried - Unanimously*

Respectfully submitted,

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*Judith Anderson Castellano*  
Recording Secretary