

Housatonic River Commission

"To coordinate on a regional basis the local management and protection of the Housatonic River Valley in northwestern Connecticut"

860-491-9884

59 Torrington Road, Goshen, Connecticut 06756

To: Environment Committee
From: William Tingley, Chairman Housatonic River Commission
Date: February 17, 2016
Re: S.B. 81, An Act Concerning the Designation of Certain Areas of the Housatonic River as a Wild and Scenic River

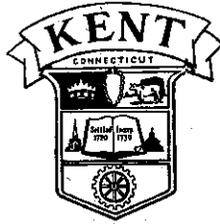
The Housatonic River Commission (HRC) is the regional coordinating body with the responsibility to pursue efforts that protect the water quality and scenic beauty of our section of the Housatonic River. For many years, we have studied and considered whether pursuing "Wild and Scenic" designation of the river would aid us in this effort. After much consideration the Commission now believes that it very much would. **We urge your support for S.B. 81 to help us continue to protect the Housatonic River's outstanding natural resource values.**

Attached to this testimony are the resolutions of support for Wild & Scenic designation from the seven towns that this section of the river runs through: North Canaan, Canaan, Salisbury, Sharon, Cornwall, Kent, and New Milford. Over the last two years, the River Commission has held several public forums and conducted countless hours of outreach to educate our town's residents about Wild & Scenic designation through the 2(a)(ii) process. This outreach resulted in the letters of support you see attached here.

We believe Wild and Scenic Designation for the Housatonic River is important because it will:

- Enable HRC to more effectively protect the River and implement the Housatonic River Management Plan,
- Gain wider recognition of the unique nature of the Housatonic River, and
- Help to ensure that federally funded or permitted projects are carried out in a way that will not adversely affect the outstanding resource values that make the Housatonic River worthy of Wild & Scenic status.

With the recent increase in the frequency of extreme storm events, more projects along the river to channel water or stabilize banks may be proposed. These types of projects could have an adverse impact on the wild & scenic qualities of the river. If the river is designated "Wild & Scenic", projects such as these which require a permit from the Army Corps of Engineers will be reviewed to make sure that they are done in a way that does not detract from the wild and scenic nature of the river. We hope you will support this critical piece of legislation.



TOWN OF KENT

January 8, 2014

Housatonic River Commission
17 Sackett Hill Rd
Warren, CT 06754

LETTER OF SUPPORT

Re: Wild & Scenic Designation of the Housatonic River

The Kent, CT Board of Selectmen supports the Housatonic River Commission in its efforts to move forward with the "Wild and Scenic" designation process for the section of the Housatonic River that runs through our town.

We understand that this designation of the river will protect it from major projects that might negatively impact the water quality and scenic beauty of the river.

We understand that the next step in this process is to ask the State Legislature to pass a resolution supporting "Wild and Scenic" designation of the river. We hereby ask our State Representatives and the Governor to assist in advancing this designation process..

Sincerely,

Bruce Adams
First Selectman
Town of Kent



Office of Selectmen

TOWN HALL • 100 PEASE STREET #1 • CANAAN, CONNECTICUT 06018
TELEPHONE (860) 824-7313 FAX (860) 824-3139

LETTER OF SUPPORT:

Re: Wild & Scenic Designation of the Housatonic River

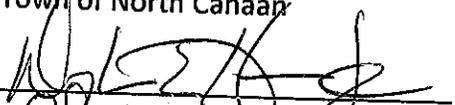
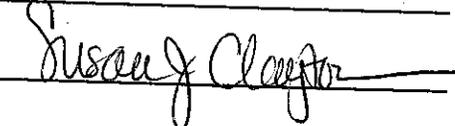
December 2, 2013

The Town of North Canaan Board of Selectmen/Town Council supports the Housatonic River Commission in its efforts to move forward with the "Wild and Scenic" designation process for the section of the Housatonic River that runs through our town,

We understand that this designation of the River will help protect it from major projects that might negatively impact the water quality and scenic beauty of the River.

We understand that the next step in this process is to ask the State Legislature to pass a resolution supporting "Wild and Scenic" designation of the River. We hereby ask our State Representatives and the Governor to assist in advancing this designation process.

Sincerely,
Board of Selectmen
Town of North Canaan


Charles P. Perotti

Susan J. Claffor

1732



1739

TOWN OF SHARON
OFFICE OF SELECTMEN

Letter of Support

Re: Wild & Scenic Designation of the Housatonic River

Monday, December 16, 2013

The Board of Selectmen of the Town of Sharon, Connecticut supports the Housatonic River Commission in its efforts to move forward with the "Wild and Scenic" designation process for the section of the Housatonic River that runs through our town.

We understand that this designation of the River will help protect it from major projects that might negatively impact the water quality and scenic beauty of the River.

We understand that the next step in the process is to ask the State Legislature to pass a resolution supporting "Wild and Scenic" designation of the River. We hereby ask our State Representatives and the Governor to assist in advancing this designation process.

Sincerely,.....

The Board of Selectmen of the Town of Sharon, Connecticut

Post Office Box 385, 63 Main Street, Sharon, CT 06069-0385
(860) 364-5789 • FAX (860) 492-7021
www.sharonct.org

TOWN OF CORNWALL

P.O. Box 97, Cornwall, CT 06753
(860) 672-4959 Fax (860) 672-4068
cwselectmen@optonline.net



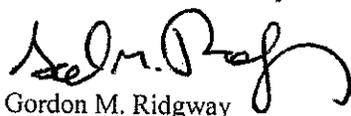
May 20, 2014

William R. Tingley, Chairman
Housatonic River Commission
17 Sackett Hill Road
Warren, CT 06754

Dear Mr. Tingley:

The Cornwall Board of Selectmen supports the Housatonic River Commission in its efforts to move forward with the "Wild and Scenic" designation process for the section of the Housatonic River that runs through our town. We understand that this designation of the River will help protect it from major projects that might negatively impact the water quality and scenic beauty of the River. We understand that the next step in this process is to ask the State Legislature to pass a resolution supporting "Wild and Scenic" designation of the River. We hereby ask our State Representatives and the Governor to assist in advancing this designation process.

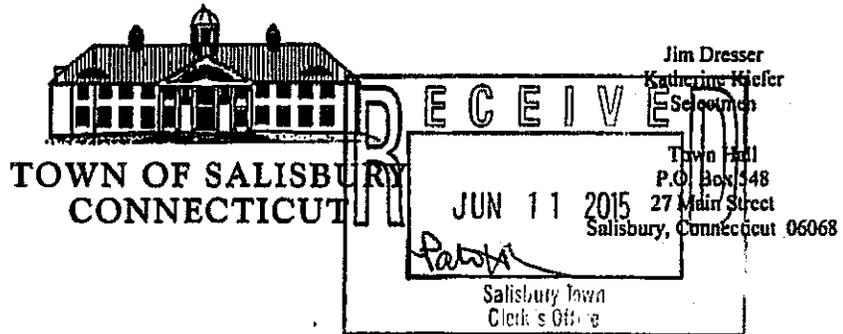
Sincerely,


Gordon M. Ridgway
First Selectman

GMR/jh

CURTIS RAND
FIRST SELECTMAN

Telephone: 860-435-5170
Fax: 860-435-5172
Email: townhall@salisburyct.us



BOS – Minutes – 6.1. 2015

The Regular Board of Selectmen Meeting minutes of June 1, 2015.

Present: Curtis Rand, First Selectman; Jim Dresser, Selectman; Katherine Kiefer, Selectman; Emily Egan, Secretary; members of the press and public.

The meeting was called to order at 4pm.

K. Kiefer made a motion to approve the agenda with the addition of (#6 b.), to hear a presentation from the Lakeville Conservancy. J. Dresser seconded the motion, and the agenda was approved as amended unanimously.

K. Kiefer made a motion to approve the draft minutes of the May 11, 2015, Board of Selectmen's Meeting. J. Dresser seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved unanimously.

Citizen Comments

Bob Douglas thanked Resident Trooper Sorrell and Jason Wilson (Fire Chief), as well as the Town, for the speed indicators on Rt. 44/41 in Lakeville. Mr. Douglas says that the indicators are very effective in slowing traffic.

First Selectman's Report

The First Selectmen gave a brief update on the Amesville/Water Street Bridge. He has signed the Notice to Proceed and expects the bridge to be passable in December of 2015. He also mentioned that the 17 Perry Street (former Decker's Laundry) project will continue this week. Mr. Rand also mentioned that he has heard from the CT Dept. of Transportation that they will provide the remaining funding for the Route 44/41 Intersection project. The final design should be complete this summer, to be bid on in the fall, with work to begin in the spring of 2016.

Old Business:

-
- a. The Selectmen discussed the recommendation from the Housatonic River Commission for Wild & Scenic designation of the Salisbury section of the Housatonic River, noting that this has been deliberated for over a year, including petitions for and against designation, informational sessions. The Selectmen decided at this meeting to take action on the proposal. K. Kiefer made a motion that the Board of Selectmen approve the recommendation from the Housatonic River Commission to designate the Salisbury section of the Housatonic River as Wild & Scenic. J. Dresser seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously. The Selectmen noted that this approval does not include the separate land use regulations, and they emphasized the need for the concerns of the Amesville residents to be heard. They further noted that they want the present representation of two representatives from each town to the Housatonic River Commission.
 - b. Susan Galluzzo, representing the Lakeville Conservancy asked about the next steps that might be required to create gardens and walkways in the town- owned public spaces in

Town of Canaan
108 Main Street
P.O. Box 47
Falls Village, CT 06031-0047



Connecticut Tax Town 021
AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER,
PROVIDER AND HOUSING ADVOCATE

Telephone: 860 824-6707
Fax: 860 824-4506
E-mail: canaan021selectmen@comcast.net

Special Board of Selectmen's Meeting
Tuesday, July 21, 2015 @ 10 AM
108 Main Street, Falls Village, Connecticut 06031

The special Board of Selectmen's meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM by First Selectman Patricia Mechare. Board members Charles Lewis and Greg Marlowe were also in attendance. In addition, the Town's representatives to the Housatonic River Commission Ellery Sinclair and Karl Munson were present.

In the first item of business there was a lengthy discussion regarding supporting the "wild and scenic" designation of the Housatonic River. The Board posed numerous question and scenarios which were answered. On a motion by Lewis, seconded by Marlowe it was moved that the Town of Canaan through its Board of Selectmen approve application to the State of Connecticut to designate the Housatonic River as wild and scenic through the boundaries of the Town of Canaan. Unanimous.

In the last item of business Mechare provided an explanation for transferring the contract the Town has with the Women's Institute to David Bertl of Housing Enterprises. On a motion by Marlowe, seconded by Lewis it was moved to transfer the contract currently in force with the Women's Institute to Housing Enterprises as soon as possible with precisely the same language and a written explanation as to the reasons that the Women's Institute can not fulfill such contract. Unanimous.

There being no further business to come before the Board it unanimously adjourned on a motion by Lewis, seconded by Marlowe at 10:50 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Patricia Allyn Mechare".

Patricia Allyn Mechare
First Selectman

4. **APPOINTMENTS**

Farmland Preservation Committee (correction regarding party affiliation)
Kathleen M. Castagnetta (U) 09/28/2015 – 11/30/2017
Filing remainder of term left by Dan Readyoff (U)

Mr. Bass moved the Town Council approve the appointment by the Mayor of Kathleen M. Castagnetta (U) to the Farmland Preservation Committee for the term September 28, 2015 through November 30, 2017. The motion was seconded by Mr. Failla and carried unanimously.

5. **MAYOR'S COMMENTS**

6. **UPDATES**

- **Director of Health and Chairman of the Local Emergency Planning Committee**

7. **ARTIFICIAL TURF CONSTRUCTION COMMITTEE**

Discussion and possible action to approve the artificial turf field project with the following resolution; "The Town Council hereby resolves to approve the artificial turf athletic field project to construct two artificial turf athletic fields and a track at the New Milford High School, as designed, and to expend up to \$4 million to pay for that project."

Mr. Bass moved the Town Council approve the artificial turf field project with the following resolution; "The Town Council hereby resolves to approve the artificial turf athletic field project to construct two artificial turf athletic fields and a track at the New Milford High School, as designed, and to expend up to \$4 million to pay for that project." The motion was seconded by Mr. Failla and carried unanimously.

8. **MAYOR'S OFFICE**

- A. **Discussion and possible action on the Wild and Scenic and Recreational designation for the Housatonic River from Boardman Bridge and points north within New Milford.**

Mr. Esposito moved the Town Council approve the Wild and Scenic and Recreational designation for the Housatonic River from Boardman Bridge and points north within New Milford. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bayer and carried unanimously.