



Board of Finance

BOARD OF FINANCE – REGULAR MEETING
Craigin Memorial Library – Linwood Avenue
September 16, 2009

RECEIVED
COLCHESTER, CT
2009 SEP 18 PM 4:14
NANCY ABBRAY

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Bruce Hayn, Michael Ryan, Ronald Crabb, Brian Smith, Ronald Goldstein

MEMBERS ABSENT: John Ringo.

OTHERS PRESENT: First Selectman Linda Hodge, CFO Maggie Cosgrove, Fire Chief Walter Cox
Treasurer Jon Sandberg, Selectmen Stan Soby, Rosemary Coyle; Town Planner Adam
Turner, members of the Colchester Land Trust; First Selectmen Candidates Gregg
Schuster and Glenn Morron.

1. CALL TO ORDER.

Chairman Hayn called this Regular Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

2.1 September 2, 2009 – Regular Meeting Minutes

Motion by: B. Smith

to accept the minutes of the September 2, 2009 Regular Meeting minutes as read.

Second by: R. Goldstein.

Vote: Unanimous.

Motion by: R. Goldstein

to move Item 9.1 to this point in the agenda.

Second by: R. Crabb.

Vote: Unanimous.

9. Old Business

9.1 Land Acquisition - McDonald Road Property

Adam Turner explained the property on McDonald Road has been surveyed and appraised. The Assessor's office had the property at 24 acres, the survey came in with 31 acres. The Town has funds in the Open Space and Fee in Lieu accounts in the amount of \$140,000 for the purpose of purchasing land. The Norcross Wildlife Foundation and a partnership with the Land Trust will help with the purchase of this property.

Discussion followed on the value of the land. The Board of Finance members received the documents by email today and have not had time to review them. A meeting with the surveyor to discuss perc tests and the potential for more than one lot will be scheduled and then a joint meeting of the Board of Selectmen and Board of Finance will be held to finalize the decision giving the Board time to review the information and contract.

- Motion by:** R. Goldstein
to table the land acquisition decision pending further review of information and the planned joint meeting.
- Second by:** R. Crabb.
- Vote:** Unanimous.

3. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

3.1 Finance Department

M. Cosgrove submitted reports on Revenue and Expenditures through August 31, 2009.

3.2 Tax Collector

Tax Collector Tricia Coblenz provided a written report regarding tax collections.

4. CITIZENS COMMENTS

None received.

5. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

None requestd.

6. FIRST SELECTMAN'S REPORT

6.1 Transfer Requests

None requested.

6.2 Selectman's Update

6.2.1 Ambulance Billing Proposal

W. Cox explained that the firm being used to collect insurance payments at this time is charging a percentage to collect the outstanding bills, however, they let the bills go out 120 days. In speaking with other companies, percentages varied and one company stood out with their collection times. The Fire Department would like to sign a contract for one year with Shared Response.

Motion by: B. Smith

to endorse the request to the Board of Selectmen for the Fire Department to explore a new contract with Shared Response.

Second by; M. Ryan.

Vote: Unanimous.

6.6.2 New Fire Truck – Prepay?

W. Cox said the new fire truck could be prepaid up front and in full for a savings of \$3,000. Discussion followed and the consensus was to not prepay the new truck.

Selectman Hodge stated that the committee reviewing the vehicles is giving a short presentation at the next Board of Selectmen meeting. After all data is collected a joint meeting will be scheduled.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

None at this time.

8. LIAISON REPORTS.

R. Goldstein stated that the Board of Education is reporting an increase of 78 students at the beginning of this school year. Some of the increase is in part from previously home schooled students coming into the system, students living with grandparents due to difficult economic times, and private school students now attending the public school.

9. OLD BUSINESS.

9.1 Land Acquisition – McDonald Road Property

As above.

10. NEW BUSINESS.

M. Ryan asked about an article he recently read in the paper regarding the Chevrolet dealership on South Main Street. Selectman Hodge stated that the State had leased an area between the road and the property line to the dealership but that lease has expired. The Historic District Commission and A. Turner have contacted the State to allow the Town to restore the area with landscaping instead of blacktop.

11. ADJOURNMENT.

Motion by: M. Ryan
to adjourn.

Second by: R. Crabb.

Vote: Unanimous.

Chairman Hayn adjourned this meeting at 8:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Jane Slade
Clerk