

Board of Finance Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, December 3, 2014
Town Hall Meeting – 7:00 p.m.

Members Present Chairman Rob Tarlov, Art Shilosky, John Ringo, Rob Esteve, Tom Kane

Members Absent: James McNair

Others Present: First Selectman Stan Soby, CFO Maggie Cosgrove, Director of Public Works Jim Paggioli, Fire Chief Walter Cox, Board of Education member Brad Bernier, Dot Mrowka

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Tarlov called the meeting to order at 7:00p.m.
2. **ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA:** None
3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES – November 19, 2014 REGULAR MEETING:** T. Kane motioned to approve the minutes of the November 19, 2014 regular meeting, seconded by A. Shilosky. Members voted in favor with J. Ringo abstaining. **MOTION CARRIED.**
4. **CITIZEN'S COMMENTS:** None
5. **REVIEW AMBULANE INENTIVE PROGRAM –update-Chief Cox:** Chief Cox reported that for the past three quarters they have been averaging 150 calls per month. The incentive program is paying \$50/ 6hr shift or \$15/call. If the average remains consistent he anticipates being able to operate within the \$72,000 budgeted for the incentive program.
6. **DEPARTMENT REPORTS**
 - a) **Finance Department:** None
 - b) **Tax Collector – Reports and Discussion:** None
7. **FIRST SELECTMAN'S REPORT**
 - a) **Transfer Requests:**

R. Esteve motioned to approve an appropriation in the amount of \$177,981, including \$90,503 from unassigned funds, for snow removal (see attached) subject to Board of Selectman approval and approval at town meeting, seconded by J. Ringo. Vote was unanimous. **MOTION CARRIED.**

J. Ringo motioned to approve the remaining 2013/2014 year transfers as a block (see attached), seconded by A. Shilosky. Vote was unanimous. **MOTION CARRIED.**
 - b) **First Selectman's Update:** Meeting was held with Anthem and Lockton. There are things that can be done on the wellness side through the town's Health & Safety committee that might help to keep costs down. Urgent Care is opening in Keystone Shops next week and will be open until 8:00p.m. allowing additional hours for medical treatment to be available before having to seek higher cost emergency. Anthem has online doctors that can be consulted with free of charge. The town will work to educate employees on these alternatives. The Colchester Sports Arena is progressing. They have met with a developer and have identified two possible locations. The town has been approached by two different developers interested in

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helping out with a Senior Center project. A project that will involve reclamation of open space will be announced soon. Money raised through the Senior Center golf tournament was used to purchase computers. An anonymous donor has made a donation to buy equipment for the Senior Center. Holiday Home Coming is this Saturday.

8. **LIAISON REPORTS:** None

9. **NEW BUSINESS:** None

10. **OLD BUSSINESS**

a) **Budget Review and 2014-2015 Planning Objectives**

I. **Updates:**

II. **Health Insurance Funding Policy:** M. Cosgrove will provide necessary information prior to the tri-board meeting next week.

III. **Survey Status:** Board of Education met and will be making some changes to the survey as will the Board of Selectman. Board of Finance members agreed to the changes in question 7 and elimination of question 8.

IV. **Subcommittees Reports:** Chairman Tarlov reported the committee would like to see an abbreviated and less overwhelming version of the budget for people to look at. The full version is close to 300 pages. The survey is scheduled to go live January 12th with results being released February 2nd. Various sources will be used to promote the survey. There should be a meeting with reporters that would be used as a time to let them know what will be different this year in the budget process and what challenges will be faced. Presentations of the town and school budgets should be videotaped. Budget recaps will be given weekly as previously done last year.

V. **IGA budget treatment:** Honeywell was conservative in their savings guarantee. Chairman Tarlov would like a way to better way to quantify the amount saved from the energy plan recognizing there is a difference between cost savings and cost avoidance. He said taxpayers were told the lease would not cost them anything and we need to be able to show that. J. Paggioli said it should be easier to get some idea on the savings after a full year in the program. R. Esteve would like any savings accrued is to be placed in a separate account and not placed in general fund.

b) **Status of Review of Capital Improvement Plan – Equipment:** M. Cosgrove and J. Paggioli continue to work on this.

11. **CITIZENS COMMENTS:** None

12. **EXECUTIVE SESSION – Employment Matter:** J. Ringo motioned to enter into executive session inviting First Selectman Soby and CFO M. Cosgrove, seconded by R. Esteve. Vote was unanimous. **MOTION CARRIED.** Executive session was entered into at 8:47p.m. and exited from at 9:05p.m.

13. **ADJOURNMENT:** R. Esteve motioned to adjourn, seconded by J. Ringo. Vote was unanimous. **MOTION CARRIED.** Chairman Tarlov adjourned the meeting at 9:06p.m.

Submitted by,

Dawn LePage, Clerk