

**TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON
EAST HAMPTON CT 06424
BOARD OF FINANCE**

Regular Meeting, Town Hall Meeting Room
Monday, March 15, 2010, 7:00 PM

Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Patience R. Anderson, Timothy S. Csere, Matthew D. Walton, George Pfaffenbach, Henry Thorpe and Judy Isele. Not present was Thomas J. O'Brien.

Other attendee(s): Jeffery M. Jylkka, Director of Finance, Fred Hansen, Barbara Moore and other citizens.

1.-2. Chairman Walton called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. followed by the pledge of allegiance.

3. Approval of Minutes of Meeting(s):

- February 16, 2010 – regular meeting

Motion made by Timothy Csere, seconded by George Pfaffenbach to approve the minutes for the February 16, 2010 meeting as stated. Motion approved 6-0.

4. Public Remarks:

Karen Lee, 52 Pinebrook Road, commented that she is not supportive of the 4% increase to the Board of Education. Ms. Lee feels that the Board of Education budget did not do what it did last year and will not see any improvement until late 2011. Ms. Lee also feels the Board of Education used scare tactics in regards to layoffs of teachers and other personnel. Union employees should contact their union representatives in an effort to get concessions.

Barbara Moore, 704 Lewis Road, commented that she hopes the board considers a healthy budget. Ms. Moore seems to think the taxpayers would be happy with only a 2-3% increase in any given year. Ms. Moore feels the town would get in deeper if things aren't fixed.

Alaina Coshow, Middle Haddam, commented that she feels the tax effort of the Board of Education is consistently high and supports the reduction of \$200,000.

5. Correspondence: Chairman Walton received a petition regarding the reinstatement of a full-time position of Senior Center Assistant. The Board of Finance is being asked to reconsider the position. Jeffery Jylkka confirmed that the position was a new request this year, but was not funded. The board discussed the issue and decided to table it to the regular meeting scheduled for April 19, 2010.

6. Special presentations: None

7. Status Reports (Financial): Jeffery Jylkka reported that the Revenue and Expenditure report shows that everything is on track and will have an updated forecast available at the regular meeting scheduled for April 19, 2010. Taxes are approximately .5% less than last year.

8. Financial Transactions: None

9. New Business:

a) 2009 Auditor recommendations – After the presentation of the recommendations at the regular meeting of February 16, 2010, Chairman Walton suggested tracking the status of the recommendations and adding this to future agendas. Motion made by Henry Thorpe,

seconded by Judy Isele to add the status of auditor recommendations to future agendas. Motion approved 6-0.

Chairman Walton approved Jeffery Jylkka and Patience Anderson to work together in an effort to create investment policies.

b) Fire Department and Public Works equipment leasing options – Chairman Walton suggested that the Fire Department is looking to replace a ladder truck. The approximate cost for a new truck is \$800,000 to \$1,100,000. Chairman Walton also commented that the town should consider leasing certain vehicles. He further commented that he would like to take a closer look at Public Works/Maintenance trucks (i.e. new Backhoe with an anticipated cost of \$180,000). Jeffery Jylkka indicated that the town has done tax exempt leases, but that the process required approvals and authorizations on the town's end. Discussions included the cost of repair and maintenance that would fall on the town and also that leasing options may lower interest costs. Judy Isele suggested getting quotes for both purchasing and leasing. Motion was made by Patience Anderson, seconded by Judy Isele to allow Jeffery Jylkka to contact Keith Hayden and Dave Simko regarding the acquisition of a tanker and backhoe and report back to the board with leasing options. Motion approved 6-0.

10. Old/Continued Business:

a) 2010-2011 Budget – Timothy Csere commented regarding the Town Engineer position. He would like to know why the town cannot split this with another town. It was stated that Public Works thinks an in-house engineer would be best so that the information is more readily available. George Pfaffenbach suggested hiring an Engineer and then regionalizing that individual out to other towns. Jeffery Jylkka indicated that regionalizing may be better, but that considerations for housing/maintaining would require research. He also suggested having Keith Hayden attend a future meeting to discuss these needs. Henry Thorpe commented that it is critical on how the board presents the budget to the taxpayers.

11. Liason's Reports: Timothy Csere attended the Board of Education meeting and found that due to the high number of students honored is why so much money goes to the Board of Education. Discussions also consisted of the bus issues. Judy Isele indicated that at the January meeting of the Water Task Force, they are applying for a \$5M grant. There was no meeting in the month of March. George Pfaffenbach reported that there was no WPCA meeting. Matthew Walton attended Town Council meetings, the sidewalk issue has been tabled, the current sidewalks will be grandfathered in and all new construction will clear their own sidewalks.

12. Public Remarks: Fred Hansen commented that if the town considers leasing options, there should be a town meeting to approve the lease. He also commented that OSHA requirements should be considered when replacing firetrucks to conform to new regulations.

13. Town Manager's Report: None

14. Adjournment

A motion was made by Patience Anderson, seconded by Timothy Csere to adjourn the meeting at 8:46 p.m. Motion approved 6-0.

Submitted,
Jennifer Magro
Recording Secretary