

Litchfield Board of Finance
Regular Meeting Minutes
June 11, 2012

Call to Order: Chairman David Geiger called the meeting to order in the LIS Art Room at 7:05pm with David W. Wilson, Ed Gadowski, Mitchell Fishman, Ed Weik, and Brenda Barnes present. Anne Dranginis (Alt.) was absent. David Pettinicchi (Alt.) arrived at 7:10pm.

Also present were Karl Fisher, Nancy Southard and Michelle Merlin from the media.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion: Ed Weik moved to accept the 5-14-12 meeting minutes. Brenda Barnes seconded the motion. Mitchell Fishman proposed the following change: Under New Business, in reply to Mr. Fishman's request for more details on the BOE surplus, Mr. Geiger said he would seek a BOE response (but NOT from Pat Bucatelli directly.) With this change, all voted aye and the motion carried.

Public Comment: There was no public comment.

Board of Selectmen Update:

Leo Paul was unable to attend tonight's meeting due to a prior commitment. Mr. Geiger said Mr. Paul told him the town has rejected the state's offer of the old jail property due to excessive expense to remodel it, and Selectman Christopher Blake has resigned as he is moving out of Connecticut.

Tax Collector's Suspense List:

Nancy Southard distributed a report of outstanding town taxes, including real estate properties, personal properties, businesses and motor vehicles going back three years and totaling \$26,671.67. She is turning these over to the Marshall and collection agencies. The town receives 100% of collected amounts since the collection agency receives an additional 15% on top of the outstanding amount, as per law.

Motion: Ed Weik moved to accept the 6-11-12 Suspense List for \$26,671.67. Brenda Barnes seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Year-to-Date Financial Review:

Karl Fisher, Director of Finance, said he is just finalizing the May 2012 financial overview and will Email a full report to BOF members in the next few days.

Mr. Fisher said the Town will have received approximately \$72,000 from the Hurricane Irene claims if the final payment comes in. This is 75% of the town's total claim amount. He received a call from FEMA advising that they have begun processing Storm Alfred claims; he expects payments will be forthcoming in the next few months, mostly to compensate for generator use by the fire companies and sewer commission during the power outages. These claims could total

approximately \$80,000. He will work with the auditors on how to credit this payment to Accounts Receivable.

Mr. Fisher said last month, he presented incorrect pension numbers and calculations will be changed in the future. In response to a question from Mr. Wilson, he said GASB (Governmental Accounting Standards Board), is the quasi-public organization that mandates accounting procedures for governmental agencies. There will be an increase in actuarial cost due to the new recording mandate GASB 25 & 27. The accrued pension liability will now be shown on the financial statement rather than just a footnote.

BOE YTD Budget Spending:

Mr. Geiger said the BOE could have as much as \$200,000 unspent in their budget by June 30, end of budget year. He said the BOF is requesting these unspent funds be returned to the town and if so, the BOF would direct more monies towards education-related items. He has asked the BOE to provide their YTD budget spending and Frank Simone had responded that he would ask a BOE representative to attend this meeting to address the issue, but no one has come.

Mr. Fishman asked if the BOE could only spend money on items that were included in their budget. Mr. Wilson replied with an example: The BOE had promised, and budgeted for, new sports uniforms for middle school children this year and so far, approaching school year end, those new uniforms were not received.

New Business:

- a. **Financial Transfers:** There were no financial transfers.
- b. **Payment of Bills:** There were no bills for payment.
- c. **Correspondence:** There was no correspondence.

Committee Reports: Brenda Barnes said she has not attended a Pension Commission meeting yet and the group is not meeting until August.

Future Agenda Items: Mr. Fishman inquired when Mr. Geiger will prepare the calendar for next year's meeting and budgeting schedule. Mr. Geiger said this is done in November and must be completed by December for the calendar year. Mr. Wilson offered to help with this.

There will be a July regular meeting, but no regular meeting in August.

Adjournment:

Motion: Ed Weik moved to adjourn at 7:55pm and Brenda Barnes seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Jo Ann Jaacks
Recording Secretary