

The Board of Finance held a Regular Meeting on Thursday, September 27, 2007 in the meeting room at Town Hall South, Main Street, Newtown, CT. Chairman John Kortze called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.

PRESENT: John Kortze, James Gaston, Michael Portnoy, Harrison Waterbury

ABSENT: John Torok, James Kearney

ALSO PRESENT: Finance Director Ben Spragg, First Selectman Herbert Rosenthal, one member of press

VOTER PARTICIPATION: None present

COMMUNICATIONS: Chairman John Kortze received a telephone call from the town attorney who would like to come to a meeting to explain his perspective on the Charter Revision Commission recommendation for changing the Board of Finance. The Town Attorney is not in favor of the recommended change.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES: Mr. Gaston moved to approve the minutes of the 9/10/07 meeting. Mr. Portnoy pointed out that on page 2, the population at the high school being used for maximum reimbursement is 2,137, not 2,173. Minutes were unanimously accepted as amended.

FIRST SELECTMAN REPORT: First Selectman Rosenthal reported that the Governor and the Legislature are having disagreements over the state bond package. There are a few grants we are awaiting, i.e. LoCIP. Hopefully, this will be resolved by then and we will get our expected March LoCIP Grant. This will not impact the high school project since it is not in for bonding until the following year. Towns with on-going school projects could be impacted.

FINANCE DIRECTOR REPORT: No report other than CIP.

NEW BUSINESS

Capital Improvement Plan – Municipal

Mr. Spragg distributed copies of the Five Year CIP with both schools and municipal projects merged. He advised that the total CIP is up \$44 million from the last CIP, with an increase of \$5 million in requests from the town and an increase in \$49 million from the schools. Borrowing would be up to \$103 million, or a \$35 million increase from the current. Mr. Spragg feels that fiscal year 2012/2013 looks like it could be a major problem. That is the year where the middle schools projects actually total more than the high school addition.

Mr. Gaston asked why the artificial turf at Tilson field has been pushed out a year to 2009/2010. First Selectman Rosenthal explained that the Board of Selectmen moved it out because of the conflicting reports on whether these fields were a hazard to athletes and since there were already a lot of projects in 2008/2009, the Board felt moving it out one year would give more time for clarification of any potential hazards and spread costs to a year with fewer projects. Mr. Gaston feels there is a great need for fields and any relief should not be put off.

First Selectman Rosenthal went over changes made by the Board of Selectmen to requests for capital projects. These changes include putting the Police building back in for design and study for \$200,000 in 2008/2009. The Police Department is still looking into a lot of alternatives. In addition, Hook & Ladder Fire Co. will be having an architectural study done to look at the property that was offered by the Scudder Smith family for a firehouse. A wetlands study has already been done. They will probably be coming back for architectural fees and some costs for construction of a building. The Parks & Recreation maintenance building facility which has been requested for a number of years was in 2008/2009 for \$4 million. That has been separated into two separate projects - \$700,000 in 2008/2009 and the roof in 2009/2010. FY 2008/2009 includes a request for \$260,000 for renovation of the kitchen in the Alexandria Room at Edmond Town Hall so they can use the room to raise money by having receptions and banquets. They will be doing fund-raising for this project as well. In 2008/2009, the request for the new animal shelter was increased from \$500,000 to \$750,000. The architect who is working with Canine Advocates, pro bono, has come up with plans and it is obvious that they will need more funds. They are doing their own fund-raising and have raised approximately \$200,000 to date.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Portnoy stated that at the last meeting, he had asked the Interim Schools Superintendent for enrollment figures. As of September 4, the total students was 5,664 vs the projected 5,708 students. The state projections for the high school this year were 1,781 and the actual is 1,723.

Regarding the Build Out Study, Mr. Kortze advised that the committee will be setting up a meeting with Liz Stocker and then will interview the two respondents to the RFQ.

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Jan Andras, Clerk

Attachment: C.I.P. 2008/09 to 2012/13 – WORKING COPY

Year	Description	Priority	Proposed CIP Amount	General Fund	Bonding	Grants	Total
2008-2009	Capital Road Project	1	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00			2,000,000.00
	Newtown Technology Park	2	125,000.00			125,000.00	125,000.00
	Engine 441 (Sandy Hook)	3	530,000.00		530,000.00		530,000.00
	Edmond Town Hall Kitchen Renovation	4	260,000.00		260,000.00		260,000.00
	Park & Recreation Recreation/Community Center/Senior Center/Pool	5	3,100,000.00		3,100,000.00		3,100,000.00
	Animal Shelter	6	750,000.00		750,000.00		750,000.00
	Replacement Grader - Public Works	7	255,000.00	255,000.00			255,000.00
	Park & Recreation Baseball Field Lights (FFH)	8	300,000.00		300,000.00		300,000.00
	Park & Recreation Recreation/Interior Renovations - Maintenance Facility	9	700,000.00		700,000.00		700,000.00
	Police Building Improvement and Renovations (Study and Design)	10	200,000.00		200,000.00		200,000.00
High School and Blue and Gold Turf (\$40,826,000+\$750,000=\$41,576,000)	1	24,606,000.00		16,525,000.00	8,081,000.00 *(n)	24,606,000.00	
			32,826,000.00		22,365,000.00		32,826,000.00
2009-2010	Capital Road Project	1	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00			2,000,000.00
	Newtown Technology Park	2	500,000.00		500,000.00 (n)		500,000.00
	Park & Recreation Recreation/Community Center/Senior Center/Pool	3	3,100,000.00		3,100,000.00		3,100,000.00
	Park & Recreation Remove and Replace Roof - Maintenance Facility	4	825,000.00		825,000.00		825,000.00
	Park & Recreation Replace Funspace Playground	5	500,000.00		500,000.00		500,000.00
	Artificial Turf Tilson Soccer Field (Treadwell Park)	6	725,000.00		725,000.00		725,000.00
	* Hook & Ladder Fire House	7					
	High School and Blue and Gold Turf (\$40,826,000+\$750,000=\$41,576,000)	1	14,220,000.00		10,019,000.00	4,201,000.00 *	14,220,000.00
		21,870,000.00		15,669,000.00		21,870,000.00	
2010-2011	Capital Road Project	1	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00			2,000,000.00
	Newtown Technology Park	2	1,000,000.00		1,000,000.00 (n)		1,000,000.00
	Open Space	3	2,000,000.00		2,000,000.00		2,000,000.00
	Police Radio Communications Enhancements	4	300,000.00		300,000.00		300,000.00
	Park & Recreation Infrastructure Renovations at Dickinson Park	5	620,000.00		620,000.00		620,000.00
	Hawley School HVAC	1	8,215,000.00		8,215,000.00		8,215,000.00
	Sandy Hook Heat and Ventilating	2	628,000.00		628,000.00		628,000.00
	Middle School Roof	3	795,000.00		545,000.00	250,000.00	795,000.00
		15,558,000.00		13,308,000.00		15,558,000.00	
2011-2012	Capital Road Project	1	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00			2,000,000.00
	Sandy Hook Center Streetscape Project	2	750,000.00			750,000.00	750,000.00
	Newtown Technology Park	3	1,000,000.00		1,000,000.00 (n)		1,000,000.00
	Open Space	4	2,000,000.00		2,000,000.00		2,000,000.00
	Park & Recreation Infrastructure Renovations at Treadwell	5	425,000.00		425,000.00		425,000.00
	Assessor Revaluation 2012	6	315,000.00	315,000.00			315,000.00
	Sandy Hook Heat and Ventilating	1	3,389,000.00		3,389,000.00		3,389,000.00
	Middle Gate Heat and Ventilating	2	280,000.00		280,000.00		280,000.00
	Middle School Roof (Flat)	3	1,463,000.00		1,003,000.00	460,000.00	1,463,000.00
	Middle School Heat and Ventilating	4	1,270,000.00		1,270,000.00		1,270,000.00
Middle School Auditorium Cafeteria (Design)	5	2,863,000.00		1,963,000.00	900,000.00	2,863,000.00	
		15,755,000.00		11,330,000.00		15,755,000.00	
2012-2013	Capital Road Project	1	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00			2,000,000.00
	Newtown Technology Park	2	325,000.00		325,000.00 (n)		325,000.00
	Open Space	3	2,000,000.00		2,000,000.00		2,000,000.00
	Park & Recreation Renovate Treadwell Pool Building	4	430,000.00		430,000.00		430,000.00
	Middle Gate Heat and Ventilating	1	1,341,000.00		1,341,000.00		1,341,000.00
	Middle School Heat and Ventilating	2	6,871,000.00		6,871,000.00		6,871,000.00
	Middle School Auditorium Cafeteria	3	31,473,000.00		21,573,000.00	9,900,000.00	31,473,000.00

	44,440,000.00		32,540,000.00		44,440,000.00
	<u>130,449,000.00</u>	<u>10,570,000.00</u>	<u>95,212,000.00</u>	<u>16,586,000.00</u>	<u>130,449,000.00</u>
				<u>8,081,000.00</u> *(n)	
				24,667,000.00	
		Notes	2,325,000.00		
		Town	19,265,000.00		
		School	<u>73,622,000.00</u>		
	97,414,000.00		95,212,000.00	<u>103,293,000.00</u>	
	97,412,557.00				
	(1,443.00)				

* Hook & Ladder Fire House Study 2007-2008 (\$25,000)

Reimbursement rate 31.43% @ 94% Eligible = 29.54%

2009-2010 State progress payments commence for the high school*