

THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY THE BOARD OF FINANCE

The Board of Finance held a special meeting on Tuesday, March 1, 2016 in the Council Chambers at the Municipal Center, 3 Primrose Street, Newtown, CT. Chairman James Gaston called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

**Present:** James Gaston, John Godin, Kelley Johnson, Sandy Roussas, Mark Boland

**Absent:** Aaron Carlson

**Also Present:** First Selectman Pat Llodra, Community Center Commission members – Brian Hartgraves, Andy Clure, John Boccuzzi, Sheila Torres and 5 members of the public

**VOTER COMMENT:** Ken Lerman, 55 Main Street – He explained that he was here because members of the Community Center commission have hijacked the center and made it an aquatic center. He also questioned the argument for building an aquatic center it to make it self-sustaining. The cost of bonding was not accounted for in their budgeting therefor making it a substantial loss.

**NEW BUSINESS**

*Resolution – Ms. Johnson moved a resolution; RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$14,550,000 FOR THE PLANNING, DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF A NEWTOWN COMMUNITY CENTER AS AUTHORIZED IN THE (2015-16 to 2019-2020) and (2016-17 to 2020-2021) CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLANS AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$5,000,000 BONDS (CALCULATED AS \$14,550,000 MINUS THE \$9,550,000 GRANT FROM GENERAL ELECTRIC AWARDED TO THE TOWN) OF THE TOWN TO MEET SAID SPECIAL APPROPRIATION AND PENDING THE ISSUANCE THEREOF THE MAKING OF TEMPORARY BORROWINGS FOR SUCH PURPOSE and also moved to wave the reading of the entire resolution. Mr. Boland Seconded. Motion to wave the full reading was unanimously approved.*

Mr. Boland asked if the members of the commission would like to address the items from voter comments. Brian Hartgraves and Andy Clure, co-chairs of the community center articulated that looking at a self-sustaining concept was not part of their charge but there were people on the board that really felt this was important. Mr. Boland questioned the cost difference between putting in a pool or not. Mr. Hartgraves answered that a standalone community center would be about \$10 million and adding an aquatic component would be about \$15 million. Mr. Clure added that in their revenue forecasting they did not include the operational funds from GE which is a million dollars each year for 5 years so it would be self-sustained.

Ms. Roussas thanked the commission for all the work they did putting the information into a manageable way for them to digest it. She also articulated that the pool is part of the community center, they are not competing interests, they are complementary.

Motion for the resolution unanimously passes by roll call vote.

**VOTER COMMENT** – None

**ANNOUNCEMENTS** – None

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:49pm

Respectfully Submitted,  
Arlene Miles, Clerk