



Town of *North Stonington*  
Connecticut



North Stonington Board of Finance

Meeting Minutes of

Wednesday March 22nd, 2017

New Town Hall @ 7:30pm

North Stonington, CT

1. **Call to Order;** Call to order @ 7:31pm
2. **Roll Call:**
  - a) **Members Present;**  
Chairman Tim Main, Vice-Chairman Charlie Steinhart, Secretary Tim Pelland, Carolyn Howell.
  - b) **Absent;** Mustapha Ratib, Emile Pavlovics and Alt. Bob Testa. and Alt. Chris Hundt.
3. **Pledge to the Flag;** Completed
4. **Public Comment and /or Questions;** None
5. **Communications;**  
Tim Main submitted a letter for the North Stonington Quarterly on behalf of the BOF.
6. **Hewitt Farm, Information Technology Services, P&Z, EDC & Rec. Commission Budget Review;**
  - A. **Hewitt Farm;**  
Nita Kincaid from the Hewitt Farm Committee handed out a breakdown of cost and income from the Hewitt Farm property for BOF members to review. The Hewitt Farm rental income budgeted as \$42,972 from four sources. The Committee requests the expense line item Public Works/ Highway/Hewitt Farm be kept at \$5,000. Resident Joe Gross suggested separating the rental property portion as a separate line item.

B. Information Technology Services;

Jim Russell, the new I.T person, presented his part of the budget line by line of \$90,398 for the year. This includes a new website design that should be up running soon. He works 30 hours for North Stonington and 10 hours for Preston paying their portion of his salary for them.

C. Planning and Zoning;

Juliet Leeming Hodge is the new Planning and Zoning official. She explained line items as listed in the budget. Charlie as if Zoning Enforcement is part of her job. She replied, yes. Juliet also went over the EDC for Brett Mastrione who was not present. She explained the different line items in the budget for EDC examples of different organizations they are a part of. Shawn said that he would get together with Brett and Juliet and have a revised Budget for the next meeting, as some numbers on the revised copy did not make it to the hard copy version.

Joe Gross what is the Long Range forecast of Revenue and Planning? Julie commented that the EDC is a slower process. Joe also mentioned the Development Plan adopted over 4 years ago has not been used.

D. Rec. Commission;

Tom Fabian presented his portion of Rec. Commission Budget, line by line. He noted that he attendance levels have been good for Rec. Programs with help from high school kids at no cost to the taxpayer. He also noted that the Rec. Website was up and running. Registration and information can be found with people paying and signing up that way. He said up to 500 people are using the website. Shawn mentioned that there are some cases where people do not have to pay the fee. Joe gross asked about Lake Association members have mentioned different activities they would like to add to the programs the Rec has to offer.

7. **BOS FY 2017 -2018 Selectman Budget Presentation;**

Shawn presented the BOS Budget to the BOF with a sheet highlighting some of more notable line items;

- A. General Government operating increased 3%
- B. Capital decreased 45.3%
- C. Debt reduction decreased 70%
- D. Overall General Government Budget decreased 7.8%

Notable Increases;

- 1. Trooper Budget is up \$53,851
- 2. Lakes weed control added at \$15,000
- 3. LOCIP expenses and Revenue increased \$39,113
- 4. 2% Wage and Salary increase.

Shawn also mentioned in the budget under line item # B 1.13, Administration and Finance officer is a position that an Appointed Committee came up with to lessen the burden on the town and the Selectman agreed to put it in a line item to pay for it. Other positions were eliminated or reduced to accommodate for it. Nita said that if the BOF would like, they would do a presentation of their findings to the BOF if requested. Shawn also suggested a Tri-Board Meeting to discuss possible State cuts with possible scenarios of what we would be looking at if the cuts do happen. He said he will follow through with that to keep everyone informed on a meeting date.

**8. Center for Emergency Services Project; (Question from Auditor about CNR)**

Shawn also handed a 20-year Plan for Capital Projects for the board to review and talk about different projects for the coming year. Shawn also referred to the EMS Project as not being an oversight by the auditor, saying the money can be spent or put into the Emergency Fund account as now it is in a CNR Account.

**9. 2017 / 2018 Auditor Services;**

Shawn also mentioned that we have to have an Auditor in place before June 1st as we have to report who our Auditor is to the State. The BOF discussed this matter and decided to put an RFP to find a new Auditor. Tim Main will inform Shawn of the decision to get things moving forward on this.

**10. BOF Review of Monthly Reports (BOS,BOE ,Tax Collector);**

No reports at this time.

**11. BOF Future Strategies for Upcoming Meetings ;**

Tim Main mentioned that Bob Carlson called him about the renewal of the Janitors Contract and suggested a member of the BOF be present for some of the meetings. Charlie said he would try to make a meeting.

**12. Review of Previous Minutes;**

Charlie made a motion to accept 3/8/17 minutes.

Carolyn seconded. Vote 4-0-0 Minutes from 1/11/17 still need completion.

13. Public Comments and Questions; None

14. Adjournment;

Tim Pelland motioned to adjourn.

Charlie seconded.

Approved 4-0-0.

Adjourned 10:48 pm.

**Submitted By: Tim Pelland**

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