



Town of *North Stonington*
Connecticut



North Stonington Board of Finance

Meeting Minutes of

Wednesday November 30th, 2016

Special Meeting

New Town Hall @ 7:30pm

North Stonington, CT

1. **Call to Order;** @ 7:30pm

2. **Roll Call ;**

(a) In attendance; Chairman Tim Main, Vice Chairman Charlie Steinhart, Secretary Tim Pelland, Carolyn Howell and Mustapha Ratib. Absent - Emile Pavlovics.

(b) Alternates seated; Alternate Bob Testa seated for Emile Pavlovics. Absent; Chris Hundt

3. **Pledge to the Flag;** Completed

4. **Public Comment and/or Questions;**

Members of the Recreation Dept. asked and where looking for guidance on money owed to the Summer Camp Director in the amount of \$300.00. Charlie asked if the amount was more than budgeted. First Selectman Shawn Murphy said that he was aware of the situation and has spoken to the Recreation Dept. Director and asked him to do a comparison with other towns for the same position and noted that the person was paid what was budgeted.

Charlie suggested to the Recreation members that they should go to the Board of Selectman for an adjustment. Bob suggested that the line item is over by \$300.00, the adjustment should be made by the Commission with the Selectman approval. Shawn also mentioned that Recreation Dept. was over budget and revenue from the department was less. Shawn said that he will work with the Recreation Dept. Director on this matter.

5. **Communications;** No communications.

6. **2015 / 2016 End Year Budget Transfers;**

Shawn said the 2015 / 2016 books are closed.

7. **Town Auditor Presentation of 2015 / 2016 Budget Year;** Sandra E. Welwood LLC.

is the Auditor. She handed out a Summary of Audit breaking down points of interests. Some things pointed out in the presentation were Property Taxes that were increased. Expenses were less than last year, virtually no debt. She also stated that debt levels were very good. She talked about the different levels of Risk Factors. Example of (2) months' worth of expense is a very high risk. Six months to a year is suggested in the Undesignated Fund. Bob questioned the actual amount of the Reserved Fund as some of it is committed and would it be beneficial to show the true amount, so the public would see the true amount. Sandra said that when you set a percentage on the Undesignated Funds. Try to stay with the same amount every year. Sandra said that she would show the true amount in a graph-style chart. Bob questioned page # 43 of the Draft Audit on some negative line items totaling \$13,000 that was never authorized by the BOF. Sandra said that she did not see this as a problem because those line items are not material based, but labor based. Therefore she did not feel the need to act. Shawn pointed out that the BOF has also gone over their budget on an approval that was made by the BOF. Shawn also noted that he books are closed. Charlie said that this will fall back on the State Statute that applies to issues like this. Sandra also advised the BOF about things to consider for the future. Tim Main made a motion to accept Audit as presented. Shawn said that he had already signed the Acceptance Letter for approval before the BOF could vote on it. Also Shawn agreed to supply the BOF with reasoning for overages on line items in question.

Mustapha seconded - Vote - 4-2-0

Yes - Tim Main, Tim Pelland, Carolyn Howell and Mustapha

No - Bob Testa, Charlie Steinhart

8. **BOF 2017 Meeting Schedule ;**

Charlie motioned to approve.

Tim Pelland seconded- Vote 6-0-0

9. **BOF Future Strategies / Future Grants ;**

Charlie said that we need to set a schedule for different Boards and Commissions to come before the BOF. He said he would submit a Draft Copy to review for next meeting and also copy the Selectman. Tim Main said we need to find the policy on the Undesignated Fund or set one. Charlie mentioned about Grant for EMS. Mustapha asked why the Town lost the Grant. Charlie said it was due to lack of budget.

10. Annual Report Update;

Charlie will send emails on the groups that have responded and the ones that have not to the BOF and the BOS as a Draft to review.

11. Previous Minutes;

Tim Pelland motioned to approve. Charlie seconded. Vote 5-0-1. Tim Main abstained.

12. Public Comments and Questions;

BOF said OPM agreed with the BOF about the over expenditures and will continue to discuss this matter with OPM from the State.

13. Adjournment;

Tim Pelland motioned to adjourn.

Bob seconded.

Vote 6-0-0.

Adjourned 10:11pm

Submitted By: Tim Pelland
