



Town of **North Stonington**
Connecticut



North Stonington Board of Finance

Meeting Minutes of

Wednesday December 21st 2016

New Town Hall @ 7:30pm

North Stonington, CT

1. **Call to Order;** Call to order @ 7:33pm
2. **Roll Call:**
 - a) Vice Chairman Charlie Steinhart, Secretary Tim Pelland, Carolyn Howell and Alt. Bob Testa.
 - b) Absent; Chairman Tim Main, Alt. Chris Hundt, Mustapha Ratib and Emile Pavlovics.
 - c) Alternate seated; Alt. Bob Testa seated for Emile Pavlovics.
3. **Pledge to the Flag;** Completed
4. **Public Comment and/or Questions;** None
5. **Communications;** No Communications
6. **Transfers (BOS);**

The First Selectman Shawn Murphy presented the BOF with (4) Transfer Requests.

 - a) From B15.02 ED Coordinator to B1.04 Bookkeeper - \$ 2075.00
 - b) From B15.02 ED Coordinator to B6.00 Tax Collector- \$4161.00
 - c) From B15.02 ED Coordinator to B25.03 Town Website Upgrade - \$6000.00
 - d) From B15.02 ED Coordinator to B25.03 Prof. Services / SW Maint. Email Expansion Project - \$5590.00

All Transfers are from the Vacant Economic Develop Coordinator position Line Item # B15.02. Bob asked if adjusted numbers are above the 2% wage increase. Shawn said as they had done Wage Comparison with similar sized towns to come up with an adjustment. Shawn also stated that the Tax Collector is also a certified Tax Collector. Bob said that the taxpayers should have known about these wage increases before the Budget Referendum. Charlie said under the BOF policy 2016-1 Transfers are reviewed and voted on in the following BOF meeting. Shawn asked if it could be done at current meeting to speed up the process.

Motion made by Tim Pelland to accept Transfer Request made by the BOS.

Carolyn seconded. Vote - 3-1-0

Yes-Vote Tim, Charlie, Carolyn

No Vote- Bob

7. Monthly Reports (BOE, BOS, Tax Collector) ;

No Report from BOE. BOS received late, not enough time for review.

8. Follow-Up on Auditors Presentation;

First Selectman Shawn Murphy presented a breakdown of line items that were over budget to the BOF as requested. He also explained that the overages are immaterial as the Auditor had suggested. He also said that he has asked on separate occasions to be put on the BOF's Agenda in the past and the request was not honored. The practice of overrun line items within a certain amount is common practice and has been done this way for many budgets. Charlie said he has a fundamental problem with that. Shawn also wanted to know why the BOF contacted OPM from the State about overages and going after him personally. Bob said he had not heard back from the OPM and was inquiring for the BOF about the State statue regarding these things. Shawn also asked if the BOF would review policy about Transfers for administrative items.

9. Annual Report Update;

Charlie had put together an Annual Report of (132) pages that was sent to the First Selectman. Charlie also mentioned that he sent (2) emails requesting information from Boards and Commissions to submit information for the Annual Report. It has been (3) months with some Boards and Commissions not responding, including the BOS. Shawn said that he did not have time to put a report together. But said that he would email Boards that have not responded if there was still time. Charlie suggested the BOF accept the Annual Report as presented as Boards were given enough time to respond and did not.

Motion made by Carolyn to accept the report as complete. Bob seconded.

Vote - 4-0-0

Motion made by Bob to move the Annual Report as provided.

Seconded by Tim. Vote 4-0-0

The BOF talked about the upcoming Tri-Board Meeting for a possible date of January 11th, 2017. Charlie also mentioned the BOF would like an update from the School Modernization Project and the EMS Committee on building projects.

10. BOF Future Strategies / Policies;

Charlie sent out (2) separate policies for the board to review and act on with State statues attached to them.

- a) End of Fiscal Year Budget Reconciliation - Policy # 2016-2
- b) Town Auditor Interface - Policy # 2016-3

Bob motioned to approve BOF Policy # 2016-2 , End of Fiscal Year Budget Reconciliation. Carolyn seconded. Vote 4-0-0

Bob motioned to approve BOF Policy # 2016-3 , Town Auditor Interface. Carolyn seconded. Vote 4-0-0

10.1 Short and Long Term Budget Planning Concepts and Goals;

Charlie mentioned that a Board or Commission or Group that loses funding need to make up for that by making an accommodation themselves.

11. Review of Previous Minutes;

Bob motioned to accept minutes of 11/30/16.
Charlie seconded. Vote 4-0-0

12. Public Comments and Questions; None

13. Adjournment;

Tim Pelland motioned to adjourn.
Bob seconded.
Approved 4-0-0.
Adjourned 10:13 pm.

Submitted By: Tim Pelland
