



Town of **North Stonington**
Connecticut



North Stonington Board of Finance

Draft Meeting Minutes of

Wednesday May 24th, 2017

New Town Hall @ 7:30pm

North Stonington, CT

1. **Call to Order;** Call to order @ 7:84pm

2. **Roll Call:**

a) Members Present;

Chairman Tim Main ,Vice-Chairman Charlie Steinhart, Secretary Tim Pelland,
Mustapha Ratib, Carolyn Howell, and Alt. Bob Testa

b) Absent: Alt. Chris Hundt and Emile Pavlovics

c) Alternate(s) seated if any;

Alt. Bob Testa seated for Emile Pavlovics.

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

4. **Public Comment and /or Questions;** None

5. **Communications;**

First Selectman Shawn Murphy handed out a breakdown of how much has been spent on the School Project to date. Shawn said he wanted to make sure we didn't go over the allowed cost and included a Profit and Loss to go with it. Shawn mentioned that the Governor is proposing to reduce the Reimbursement Rate for School Projects, but towns already pre-approved would be grandfathered-in at the original rate. Shawn also discussed different budgets from both parties in Hartford.

6. **BOF 2016 -2017 Budget Loss of Income Potential;**

Tim Main asked Shawn about a potential loss of revenue from this year's budget from the possible reduction in revenue from the Mashantucket /Pequot grants. Shawn said

the Governor is proposing to not fund the last installment of payment, which would mean a reduction to this year's 2016/2017 budget.

Bob suggested sending a letter to the BOS and the BOE to ask them to refrain from end of the year spending in order to put these funds toward next year's budget. Bob asked that both boards use discretion on the amount of spending they do as we don't know what kind of cuts will be made yet. Carolyn said the letter should say; please take this advice into consideration. Charlie asked if the BOS had any idea when the cut would be in effect. Nick Mullane mentioned we had never gotten cut in the past.

7. BOF 2017 / 2018 Budget Deliberations;

Discussion on Budget Labor Lines for cuts or possible cuts to Highway Labor.

Nick suggested we need to do a redemption of Debt Schedule so the Budget could authorize now the approval of new equipment.

Shawn handed out a detailed job description for possible new Town Administrator position. He explained how this position would make an easier transition for new Selectman coming into office. Bob asked if the full-time position for the First Selectman would still be necessary. Shawn said, yes for a period of time. Shawn also said this would have a 3-year contract, non-union position. Charlie asked if there was exclusion to inside people applying for this position.

Shawn also mentioned the Town bill for the Auditor went up to \$7,000.

BOF needs a breakdown from the BOE on their portion of the Auditor's bill.

**8. March 2017 Monthly Reports
(BOS,BOE ,Tax Collector, Suspense List- Review Action);**

No reports available. We do have a Suspense List to review at next meeting

9. Review of Previous Minutes;

Motion made by Carolyn to approve minutes as amended.

Mustapha seconded. Vote 5-0-1. Tim Main abstained.

10. Public Comments and Questions;

Bob made a motion to send a letter to the BOE and the BOS to ask about year-end spending with not knowing all of the financial impact from State cuts.

Charlie seconded. Vote - 4-2-0

Charlie Steinhart, Bob Testa, Carolyn Howell, Tim Pelland = Yes

Tim Main and Mustapha Ratib = No

Shawn asked about the BOF review of the BOE Budget and did we look at it closely as there are increases that are not part of a contract. Charlie said a letter was sent to both boards about reducing costs. The BOE has not responded and have until June 1st , 2017 as requested by the BOF.

11. Adjournment:

Charlie motioned to adjourn.

Mustapha seconded

Vote 6-0-0.

Adjourned 9:12pm.

Submitted By: Tim Pelland
