

Town of North Stonington

Board of Selectmen

March 25, 2014

New Town Hall Conference Room

        Regular Meeting-7:00 PM

**MINUTES**

Call to Order -7:00 PM with Selectmen Mullane, Testa and Donahue present

Public Comments and Questions

Building and Renovation School Project-To review and act upon the request of the Board of Education for a $46,990,000 building and renovation school project for the North Stonington School Facilities (Elementary, Middle and High School). Presentation by Superintendent Nero and Quisenberry Arcari Representative Rusty Malik-

Mr. Nero and Malik presented project of revision, additions, cod updates, safety issues, costs, reimbursements, phasing, and scheduling. Then there was a general discussion.

Minutes-A motion to approve the minutes of March 18, 2014 by Selectman Donahue and seconded by Selectmen Testa, carrying. 3-0

Correspondence

Boards/Commissions/Officials Comments-None presented

Budget Review FY 2014-15

PTO School Playground-Next week

A motion was made by Selectman Mullane and seconded by Selectman Donahue to add discussion of EDC Alternates to the agenda, carrying. 3-0

The Board interviewed George Tattersall and Barbara Campagna recommended by EDC Commission for the positions. After a general discussion Selectman Mullane made a motion to appoint Mr. Tattersall and Ms. Campagna as alternates to the EDC Commission, carrying. 3-0

Old Business-

1. Tribal Issues-Acknowledgement/Annexation Issues-No report

2. Permanent School Building Project Committee

A. Permanent School Planning and Building Committee Projects-No new information

3. Hewitt property

A. Committee Report-Proposed 10’ x 12’ storage unit-Mary Ann Ricker and Nita Kincaid came in to discuss the application for a grant through the Chelsea Groton Bank for $5,000 to erect a work shed and install a composting toilet for the Hewitt Farm Community Garden use. A motion was made by Selectman Mullane and seconded by Selectman Donahue to support the application for a $5,000 community grant, carrying. 3-0

B. Dam Repairs-Re-Engineering-No report

4. Grant applications/administration

Water Study Ex. 92 X I95-Consultants are working on the project

2014 STEAP Grant-Selectman Mullane provided a new map of the Village Water System extended up to the new EMS Building will follow up with cost estimate.

Housing Grant

5. Budget 2013-2014

Animal Control Officer Expenses-Will need approximately $4,500 to cover the rest of the year.

Tribal Acknowledgment-Additional Appropriation-$19,100 estimate of funds needed for the rest of FY 13/14

Zoning Enforcement Action (Ames property, Pendleton Hill Road) –Additional Appropriation-Will create an RFP for quotes and then ask the BOF for an additional appropriation

Additional Appropriation for Bonding/Borrowing Fees-No funds were allocated in the FY 13/14 budget will require an added appropriation, we have a $13,250 invoice pending

6. Special Town Meeting-

Items for Future Town Meetings

Lake of Isles subdivision granting of easements to the Town-Town Attorney action

Borrowing Short Term Notes Authorization and Additional Bonding Fees

DUI Grant Additional Appropriation-$49,975

Exempt Tax Payments of Outstanding Taxes on Open Space received by a Non-Profit Organization  
 Tax Collector Appointment Ordinance

Tax Assessor Appointment Ordinance

12. Tax Collector Appointment/Tax Policy-New policy was provided by Selectmen Donahue for review.

New Business

1. Tax Refund(s)-None presented
2. Selectmen’s Public Communications-No action
3. Proposed School Building Project Elementary / Middle / High School-A motion was made by Selectman Mullane and seconded by Selectman Donahue to approve the full resolution attached, carrying. 2-1 Selectman Testa voicing concern of unanswered questions on the proposal.
4. RESOLUTION OF BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Item :

RESOLVED, that the Board of Selectmen recommends that the Town of North Stonington appropriate $46,990,000 for costs with respect to the design, construction, equipping, and furnishing of additions and renovations to Wheeler Middle and High School and North Stonington Elementary School; and that the Town issue bonds or notes and temporary notes in an amount not to exceed $46,990,000 to finance the appropriation, and that the project be submitted to the Board of Finance.

Improvements to the Wheeler Middle and High School are contemplated to include: (1) an approximately 30,050 square feet addition to accommodate the music program including: a band room and a chorus/orchestra room, storage; a gymnasium including storage, concession, locker rooms, public toilets, and a lobby/circulation space; a science addition with science laboratory classrooms, lab preparatory and storage rooms, a graphics, CADD and computer lab; and an addition for the kitchen and cafeteria; (2) improvements within the existing building including: fully renovated classrooms and science laboratories; updating of language laboratory and classrooms; integration of the art and technology program in a fully renovated space; renovation of all classrooms; renovations, and improvements at the media center and special education programs; renovations associated with the nurse/hea1th clinic, administrative and guidance offices; and expansion and renovation of the cafeteria and kitchen; (3) various building systems improvements including: replacement of all mechanical, electrical, plumbing, and fire protections systems and infrastructure; security and communication systems upgrades; energy conservation improvements including exterior wall, door, window, and roof replacement or updates; central air conditioning system installation throughout the building; and installation of an emergency generator and alternative energy systems; (4) various code and ADA compliance improvements and renovations; (5) various site improvements including: separation of the bus/parent/student/parking and circulation; and (6) related improvements and work.

Improvements to the North Stonington Elementary School are contemplated to include: (1) an approximately 11,700 square feet addition to accommodate the music program including a band room that will be located on the stage, a gymnasium including storage, offices, public toilets, and a lobby/circulation space; (2) improvements within the existing building including: fully renovated classrooms and handicapped accessible toilets in the Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten classrooms; relocation of the art, music and technology program in a fully renovated space; relocation renovations and improvements of the media center and special education programs; renovations associated with the nurse/hea1th clinic, administrative and guidance offices; and expansion and renovation of the cafeteria and kitchen; (3) various building systems improvements including: replacement of all mechanical, electrical, plumbing, and fire protections systems and infrastructure; security and communication systems upgrades; energy conservation improvements including exterior wall, door, window, and roof replacement or updates; central air conditioning system installation throughout the building; and installation of an emergency generator and alternative energy systems; (4) various code and ADA compliance improvements and renovations; (5) various site improvements including separation of the bus/parent/student/parking and circulation; accessibility to all site facilities; pavement resurfacing; physical education and athletic fields; and building access improvements; updating the site utility and drainage infrastructure; and (6) related improvements and work.

The appropriation may be spent for design, construction, acquisition and installation costs, site improvements, infrastructure improvements, equipment, furnishings, materials, architectural, engineering, consultant, and other professional fees including legal fees, administrative costs, including costs related to the application for and acceptance of grants, the payment of net temporary interest and other financing costs and other expenses related to the project or its financing. The Building Committee, for the School Project -- Wheeler Middle and High School and North Stonington Elementary School established by the Ordinance for the project shall determine the final scope and particulars of the project. Said Building Committee may reduce or modify the scope of the project if funds are not sufficient to complete the entire project, and the appropriation may be spent on the project as so reduced or modified. The Town anticipates applying for and receiving a grant from the State Department of Education to defray in part eligible costs of the project.

Questions on whether to keep High School or not.

Discussion on Governor’s comments on small school districts and reduced State Funding

Discussion on the need for more time to discuss building costs and interest rates

What is the added educational value by spending $46,990,000?

Building costs vs. Added Learning Value

1. Small cities housing rehabilitation grant & citizen participation plan documents and vote on following:
2. Certified resolution of North Stonington Small Cities Program-A motion was made by Selectman Donahue, seconded by Selectman Testa, carrying. 3-0
3. Small Cities Fair Housing Resolution- A motion was made by Selectman Testa, seconded by Selectman Donahue, carrying. 3-0
4. Small Cities Citizen Participation Plan- HOLD
5. Affirmative Action Policy Statement- A motion was made by Selectman Donahue, seconded by Selectman Testa, carrying. 3-0

Public Comments and Questions-None presented

Adjournment-11:00 PM