

June 4, 2014

The Board of Finance held a regular meeting on this date at the Police Department meeting room. Members present were John O'Brien, Chairman; Glenn Frishman, Secretary; Dudley Wheeler; Sandy Grimes and Bryan Bentz. Also present Maryanna Stevens, Director of Finance; Bill King, SPS Business Manager and Jason Jones, SPS IT Manager. Mrs. Strunk was absent.

Mr. O'Brien called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Previous Minutes-

Mr. Wheeler made a motion to approve the May minutes as submitted. Mr. Grimes seconded the motion and voting was unanimous.

Comments from the Public -

Grace Murray, a DMS parent stated that she came to the May meeting and left the meeting upset because the Public Comments section is listed at the start of the meeting. She would like to go on record stating that the public is still waiting on the responses to the Questions posed at the Public Hearing. Mrs. Stevens stated that she has been waiting for a final discussion among the Board members prior to posting on the website. She feels that the way that the Board of Finance addresses the public is wrong and she envisions this being a continuing problem. Communication among the Boards and the public needs to improve.

Stonington Public Schools

Bid Waiver- Deans Mill School roof

Mr. King was present to request a bid waiver for architectural services for the Deans Mill School roof. He sent out an RFQ and has interviewed a couple of firms; Jacunski Humes has been chosen with a submitted quote of \$32,000. Mr. O'Brien made a motion to approve the bid waiver for architectural services to Jacunski Humes. Mr. Grimes seconded the motion and voting was unanimous. Superintendent Riley had also provided an estimated timetable for the process.

Bid Waiver –Apple products/CIP purchases

Mr. Jones was present for authorization from the Board to purchase Chromebook computers from the MHEC Contract. He added that they would utilize CIP BOE and Title I funds for the purchase.

He also requested a bid waiver for the purchase of Apple products for the 2014-2015 fiscal year.

Mr. Frishman made a motion approving the purchase of Chromebooks from the MHEC Contract. Mr. Grimes seconded the motion. Mr. Grimes made a motion

to approve the bid waiver for the purchase of Apple products. Mr. Grimes seconded the motion and voting was unanimous.

Director of Finance

Mrs. Stevens informed the Board that the yearend purchase orders were due from the departments June 6, 2014. She added that there are a few accounts over budget at this time. Snow removal labor and materials-\$111,000, Debt Service-\$68,000, Telecommunications-\$7200. in addition, the Engineer salary line-\$4400. She added that these will all be listed in the Budget Transfers and explained why the overages.

She asked the members if they would like to move up the agenda item Discussion-Questions from Public and address at this time. Members agreed. The only item in question was #4 Why are comments from Citizens not included in the agenda. Mrs. Strunk had asked that the reply be that it will be on all agendas from now on, Mr. Bentz stated that the Board had done this before and there were times when comments were repeatedly addressed and meetings can be doubled and tripled in length. Mr. Grimes stated that it was approved five years ago that Public Comments would be added to the agenda. After discussion, all members agreed that Public Comments would be added at the start of the agenda and addressed if it became a problem.

Correspondence

WBSS building assessment- Fourth floor was closed by the Superintendent on the recommendation of the Fire Marshall. The Superintendent stated that there are no safety issues at this time.

Local Option Property Tax relief for Older Adults and Totally Disabled- Members agreed to discuss at the next meeting with the Town Assessor.

2014 Plan of Conservation and Development Draft

Thank you from Mystic & Noank Library and Westerly Library

Magnet School transportation funding clarification

Discussion- Questions from the Public

This item was intended for the Board to discuss and finalize the draft of the Answers to the Questions posed at the Public Hearing. As this was addressed under Director of Finance, the Board took additional questions and comments.

Resident of 53 Palmer Street stated that she hoped an email blast could be sent to the parents letting them know the questions have been answered. Her ultimate hope is that the Board of Education and Board of Finance could work together. She added that submitting questions in writing prior to the meetings is not a good idea as she would rather address at the end of the meetings after listening to the issues addressed.

Henry Gourd, Grand St. stated that he appreciated the opportunity to speak and asked if the account overages were anticipated to be made up. Mrs. Stevens replied that yes these year to date figures will be addressed through budget transfers. The Debt Service was due to a bond prepayment.

Subcommittee Reports

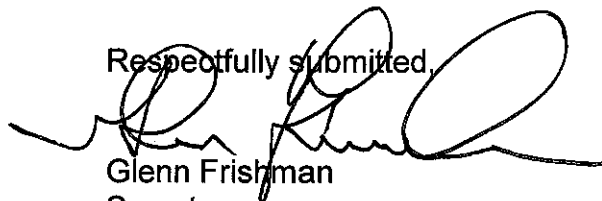
Mr. Grimes reported on the Athletic Fields. The committee is trying to wrap up but funding is gone. No word yet on a fee schedule but the Task force plans to have something ready for the fall season.

Mr. O'Brien asked that a memo be sent to the Selectmen asking about the plan for implementation of the fees for the fields.

The regular meeting scheduled for Wednesday July 2, 2014 was cancelled and a Special meeting was scheduled for July 16, 2014.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Frishman made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Grimes seconded the motion and the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 7:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Glenn Frishman
Secretary

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