

November 4, 2009

The Board of Finance held a regular meeting on this date at the Police Department meeting room. Members present were Glenn Frishman, Chairman; Andrew Rines, Secretary; Dudley Wheeler; John O'Brien; Bryan Bentz and Sandy Grimes. Also present Maryanna Stevens, Director of Finance; Leslie Packer, Clerk and Town of Stonington staff and residents.

Mr. Frishman called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

### **Election of Officers**

Mr. Rines nominated Glenn Frishman to continue as Chairman of the Board. Mr. O'Brien seconded. No other nominations were received. Mr. Grimes requested a discussion. He stated that he was uncomfortable making a decision so soon after joining the Board. He would prefer to get to know the members. He suggested waiting a month with Mr. Frishman acting as Chairman until that time. Mr. Rines stated that the election has always taken place just after the election. Mrs. Stevens contacted the Town Clerk who verified that an election of officers must take place within 5 days after the Town election. Mr. Rines, Mr. O'Brien and Mr. Wheeler accepted the original nomination of Glenn Frishman as Chairman and Mr. Grimes voted no. Mr. O'Brien nominated Andrew Rines as Secretary. Mr. Frishman seconded. No other nominations were received. The Board unanimously elected Mr. Rines as Secretary of the Board of Finance.

### **Previous minutes**

Mr. Wheeler made a motion to accept the minutes of the October meeting.

Mr. Rines seconded the motion and voting was unanimous.

### **Bid Waiver**

Public Works Dept. – Treated Salt – Joe Bragaw, Dir. Of Public Works and Lou DiCesare, Hwy. Supervisor were present to discuss their request to use Ice-be-Gone treated salt product by International Salt as it is less expensive. Treated salt is bid by Capital Region Council of Government's Purchasing Council. Mr. Wheeler made a motion to approve the bid waiver to use CRCOG pricing for the purchase of treated salt. Mr. O'Brien seconded the motion and voting was unanimous.

Public Works Dept. – Extruded Curb – Mr. Bragaw would like to complete the work at the Rock Ridge Subdivision as the developer would not be completing the work as approved in the subdivision plans. He would like to complete this before the winter. Mr. Wheeler added that he visited the area and agreed it should be done. Mr. Wheeler made a motion to approve the bid waiver to use Cherenzia Excavation to complete the extruded curb work. Mr. O'Brien seconded and voting was unanimous.

### **Old Business**

Mr. O'Brien suggested sending a letter to the Board of Education and Bill King, Business Office Manager requesting a completion date of January 15, 2010. Mrs. Packer, clerk stated that she had received an email from Mr. King in response to the Board's previous requests for an update. He stated that he had been working with the K-12 Building committee to wrap up final loose ends with the hope of finishing them during the holiday break at school.

### **New Business**

Stonington Ambulance Corps. – Mr. Frishman read a letter from the SAC to First Selectman Haberek dated October 3, 2009. The letter stated the SAC intent to pull out of their current dispatch center, Stonington Police Dept. (Station T) and go to Groton Fire Alarm. They feel this will better serve the residents and visitors of the Town of Stonington as well as the responders. Director of Administrative Services George Sylvestre responded in a letter addressed to the Board of Selectmen, Board of Finance and Board of Police Commissioners with a cc to Victor Lima, President of Stonington Ambulance Corps and Chief Darren Stewart. This letter was also read by Mr. Frishman. Mr. Sylvestre mentioned his letter dated **January 7, 1988** adding that he has been involved with Emergency Medical Service issues over a number of years. He stated *"for more than twenty years this community has made significant investments in both its human and capital infrastructure to support dispatching services. Whatever "problems" may currently exist I believe it does a disservice to the residents and taxpayers of this community to not thoroughly review and analyze the specific circumstances involved and evaluate all possible solutions."* Victor Lima stated that he never received this letter. Chief Stewart, Captain Desmond, Ret. Chief Erskine and several officers and dispatchers were present. Chief Stewart stated that he would like to fully staff the dispatch center. Ret. Chief Erskine had requested the same back in 1999. Members requested an analysis detailing records of specific instances where problems occurred because of staffing. Mr. Wheeler made a motion to table this item to the December meeting at which time they could review the records or receive a recommendation from the First Selectman. Mr. Rines seconded the motion and voting was unanimous. The Board encouraged the Police Department and the SAC to work together.

Regular Meeting Schedule - Members agreed to continue the same regular meeting schedule of the first Wednesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at the Police Department meeting room.

### **Correspondence**

Copy of Memo from Karen Weiss, Sanitarian detailing the September 2009 activities.

### **Subcommittee reports**

Mr. O'Brien reported that the Pension issues would be challenging. Mrs. Stevens stated that the meeting with the actuary is scheduled for November 17, 2009.

The Capital Improvement Program review board will be meeting November 17, 2009 as well. Mr. Rines asked the Town staff present if there were any specific items that are in dire need this year, the following were mentioned: restore Revaluation funding, drainage funding and lease purchase for equipment.

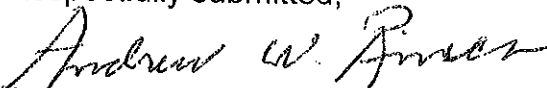
Mr. Frishman asked if there were any Public Comments. Mr. Ed Hart stated that he thought an independent study might be best way for SAC and Town to move forward.

Mr. Grimes stated that he would like to see Public Comment added as an item on the agenda.

Marsha Standish, Assessor introduced the new Assistant Assessor Greg Hayes. She added that he been most productive for the office.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Wheeler made a motion to adjourn. Mr. O'Brien seconded the motion and the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Andrew W. Rines  
Secretary

lp