

February 24, 2010

The Board of Finance held a special meeting on this date at the Wequetequock Fire 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; First Selectman Ed Haberek; Leslie Packer, Clerk and Town of Stonington staff and residents.

Mr. Frishman called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Comments from Public

None

Previous minutes

Mr. Wheeler made a motion to accept the minutes of the February 17 meeting. Mr. Rines seconded the motion and voting was unanimous.

Budget Hearings FY 10-11

Solid Waste – Solid Waste Manager John Phetteplace was present to discuss his budget. He provided for the members a tonnage report showing both residential and commercial numbers going back 10 years plus. He stated that there have been definite savings. Single stream (comingled recyclables) could have a potential savings of 10% or more. Also discussed new employees at landfill, closed lease, new drawstring bag and recycling revenues.

WPCA – Director Harold Storrs and Chairman James Sisk were present. They mentioned that revenues and water use continues to decline yet expenses have increased due to the age of the infrastructure. Mr. Rines asked about the timeline for the conceptual design. Mr. Sisk replied that they would like to begin ASAP after the budget processes are complete they are ready to go. The results of the BIOMAG process are much better than expected. Technology has made it possible to do so much more, which in turn creates excellent achievements. Increased residential growth has been factored into the 20-year plan. There is almost no chance for Federal funds.

Schedule C-Capital Improvements – Mr. Frishman asked Public Works Director Joe Bragaw about his memo regarding the Truck upgrade. Mr. Bragaw stated that with the 40k GVW truck cut from the past two budgets and this current budget year being the last of a seven-year lease purchasing program the Department is looking for a plan as to how to upgrade the Highway fleet. Mr. Bragaw had provided several options for the members review. Mr. Bragaw does

not feel that the State bid list is the best option, he feels it best to compare to various towns. Highway Supervisor Lou DiCesare stated that in the future they hope to trade in trucks at 65% after 6 to 8 years. Mr. Wheeler questioned whether this was guaranteed.

Mr. Bentz questioned the Fiber installation for Town hall/PD and Human Services. He asked IT Manager Jason Jones if it was necessary to include the Human Services building and what the savings would be. Mr. Jones replied that the cost is a few thousand and this includes the entire HS data network. Mr. O'Brien stated that performance is better with Fiber but there are still maintenance costs.

At this time, Director of Administrative Services George Sylvestre stated that the GIS development line for \$15000 is withdrawn.

Mr. Rines questioned Chief Stewart if the community has been asked to contribute to the Animal Control facility upgrade. Chief Stewart replied that the community has made repeated donations to assist the department. The funding for the upgrade will be LOCIP.

Budget Transfer

Police Department – Request from Chief Darren Stewart for a new and improved Record Management system to move forward with the plan to address personnel and technology issues with the Dispatch Center. He added that he is currently negotiating the price. Mr. Bentz and Mr. Rines as sub-committee members approve this plan. **Mr. Grimes made a motion to approve the budget transfer of \$50,694 to line #4022010-88090 – Technology Upgrade-Police from line#10161-80050 – communication Specialist Regular Salaries. Mr. Wheeler seconded the motion and voting was unanimous.**

Director of Finance – Revenues – Mrs. Stevens reported that she has been notified that the MERS will be going up 42%. Other changes to revenue include the Motor vehicle supplement, Boat tax Pawcatuck Middle School renovation and Fund balance.

Mr. Haberek at this time mentioned that he had a third meeting with seven other towns regarding organizing a combined Health district. North Stonington would be the base. He feels that there would be more income because of standardized fees. Mr. Rines mentioned that the Health Officer Dr. Blefeld was strongly against a separate Health District. Mr. Haberek feels that currently the Sanitarian will need to do more with less. He will keep the Board members informed of the status of his meetings.

Mr. Haberek also provided information for the members information regarding the Ambulances and the Groton pump out boat.

Subcommittee reports

Nothing to report.

Correspondence

None

Motion for Executive Session

Mr. Rines made a motion to adjourn the Public Session and move that all Board members go into Executive Session with First Selectman Ed Haberek and Director George Sylvestre. Mr. Wheeler seconded the motion and the Public session was unanimously adjourned at 8:35 p.m.


Executive Session

Mr. Frishman convened the Executive session with a unanimous vote at 8:40 p.m. Glenn Frishman, Andrew Rines, Bryan Bentz, John O'Brien, Dudley Wheeler and Sandy Grimes, Ed Haberek and George Sylvestre were present for discussion relating to salary negotiations.

Members unanimously agreed to come out of Executive Session at 9:15 p.m.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. O'Brien made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Wheeler seconded the motion and the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 9:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Andrew W. Rines
Secretary

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