

February 7, 2011

The Board of Finance held a special meeting on this date at the Police Department meeting room. Members present were Glenn Frishman, Chairman; Andrew Rines, Secretary; Bryan Bentz and Sandy Grimes. Also present Maryanna Stevens, Director of Finance and Town of Stonington Staff and residents.

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

Previous minutes

Mr. Wheeler made a motion to accept the minutes of the January meeting with a wording change and spelling correction to Paragraph 2, Page 2 under correspondence. Mr. Grimes seconded the motion and voting was unanimous.

Bid Waiver/Additional Appropriation

IT – Data Backup Operations – IT Manager Roger Kizer stated that the Town is without a viable data backup solution. The Town is currently backing all data to large disk array, which does not prevent a disastrous loss of data. The total cost is \$33,110.00. Mr. Bentz made a motion to approve a transfer of \$18,000 to protect data and restore offsite backup capability and the ability to recover from any disaster that may affect the daily operations of the Town. The transfer is from the IT Manager salary line (#10113-80010 to #10113-80154) to the Equipment and Licensing line. Mr. Rines made a motion to approve the additional appropriation of the remaining \$15,110. Mr. Wheeler made a motion to approve the bid waiver for Custom Computer Specialists, Inc for repurposing existing hardware, a new tape drive backup device, new enterprise backup and web filtering software and renewed maintenance on current hardware. Mr. Grimes seconded the motion and voting was unanimous.

Police – Animal Control vehicle – Chief Stewart told the members that the Board of Police Commissioners at is Jan. 15, 2011 meeting voted to request an additional appropriation to fund replacement of the Animal Control vehicle. The current vehicle is a 2001 Ford pickup with over 117,000 miles. Chief Stewart stated that revenues generated by the use of police vehicles at road construction jobs would adequately cover the costs to purchase a used pickup. Mr. Rines suggested a new vehicle. Mr. Wheeler added that this would eliminate potential problems that may occur with a used vehicle. The Board unanimously asked the Chief to look into the cost of a new vehicle and report.

Budget Hearings FY 2011-2012

Police - Members welcomed Chief Stewart and Captain Desmond. Chief Stewart introduced the Police union president Mike Peckham and Police Commission Chair Susette Tibus introduced the Commission members present to show their support of the Police budget. The Chief covered some highlights of the present year operations and objectives for the coming year. MERF and gasoline expenses have risen dramatically and a new line has been added for the Animal Control vet bills. The Chief and the Captain discussed DARE program upgrades as well as plans for informative safety programs for new drivers. As this time Commission Chair Susette Tibus stated that the commission has unanimously approved a 2.8 percent pay increase for the Chief and Captain to match the Police contract.

Highway - Public Works Director Joe Bragaw was present with Highway Supervisor Lou Dicesare. Mr. Bragaw covered the highlights of the present year and directed the Boards attention to the Major Budget changes commentary, which include increases in diesel and unleaded fuel costs, aging trucks, a new line item for the Leaf program and increased funding for the drainage and sand/gravel/loam lines. Mr. Bragaw distributed to the members a Pavement Inventory summary sheet and discussed briefly with the Board his plans for addressing this in the future. Mr. Bragaw also provided for the members a Breakdown of Snow removal for the current year.

Town Engineer Larry Sullivan spoke to the progress of the Animal Control facility. He stated that with current costs at \$53,000 he believes the project will come well under the estimated \$200,000.

Solid Waste - Recycling and Solid Waste Manager John Phetteplace stated that there is a slight decrease in his budget for FY 2011-2012. He reported that they have fully implemented to single stream recycling town wide. He added that residential and commercial collection costs have been slightly reduced and exemplary service was provided to the residents; they are currently negotiating with the contractors. In response to Mr. Wheelers question, Mr. Phetteplace stated that the contracts are through Professional Services therefore are renewable.

Director of Finance

CT. Sales Tax audit - Mrs. Stevens updated the members on the status of the audit. She stated that the Town was appealing the decision. She added that she had a meeting scheduled for Tuesday, Feb. 8, 2011 and would update the members further on Wednesday the 9.

Correspondence

Nothing to report.

Subcommittee reports

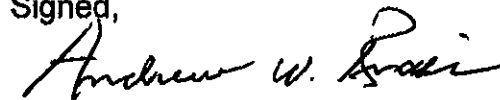
Mr. Wheeler reported that the Animal Control facility project is progressing well and appears it will come under budget.

Mr. Grimes reported that he met with the Stonington Community Center and the Pawcatuck Neighborhood Center regarding the Meals on Wheels program change. He stated that the PNC misinterpreted the funding to the Como and the matter is now resolved.

He stated that he also met with the Mystic & Noank Library and provided for the members a 5 yr average of contributions from Groton and Stonington. This is to be discussed further at The 2/9/11 budget hearings.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Rines made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Wheeler seconded the motion and the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Signed,



Andrew W. Rines
Secretary

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