

February 9, 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; John O'Brien; Bryan Bentz; Dudley Wheeler and Sandy Grimes. Also present Maryanna Stevens, Director of Finance; First Selectman Ed Haberek, Selectwoman Glee McAnanly, Town staff and residents.

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

FY 11-12 Budget Hearings

WPCA - Chairman Jim Sisk and Director Hal Storrs were present. Mr. Sisk stated that the 11-12 budget is 9% lower than the previous year. He stated that the cost of operations has stabilized. The Town Share has also been reduced. Members discussed the BioMag process and were told the design phase of the wastewater treatment plant improvements are underway.

Human Services - Director Beth-Ann Stewart introduced her staff present. She provided for the members departmental highlights and reports showing the growing needs of the community. With rising unemployment in the Town the requests for assistance have risen, which as a result has increased the programs made available to the community. Also discussed were Food Stamps, Energy Assistance, Outside Agency participants and the Recreation Director Salary step increase. Mrs. Stewart stated that the entire Human Services department has an excellent relationship with the outside agencies and they all work together closely to provide what is needed in the community.

At this time, Mr. Grimes asked the library and outside agency directors and members present to explain how they have been affected by funding cuts, donations and fundraising. The following addressed the Board:

Lois Hiller – Mystic & Noank Library
June Strunk – Pawcatuck Neighborhood Center
Margaret Victoria – Stonington Free Library
Kathryn Taylor – Westerly Library
Jim Truscio – Stonington Community Center
Joe Petroff – Big Brothers & Big Sisters

Director of Finance

Mrs. Stevens updated the members on the CT. Sales Tax audit. She stated that the second step of the appeal has been denied as she expected. The next step is to wait for the invoice to be issued which is accruing 1% a month, then the Town would have 60 days to appeal. She has been told that paying the invoice will not jeopardize the appeal process. The next step would be litigation. Mrs.

Stevens stated that her recommendation is to pay the invoice to stop the 1% interest. First Selectman Haberek agreed and added that the Town of Groton is addressing the same issue and plans to appeal. She plans to have the additional appropriation for the members at the next meeting and then it could go onto a Town meeting through the Board of Selectmen.

Mrs. Stevens reported on the Fund balance summary, which is \$11,297,000.

Correspondence

Letters in support of the Mystic & Noank library.

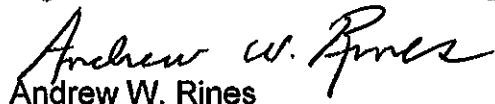
Subcommittee reports

Mr. O'Brien reported that the Audit RFP is being sent.

Mr. Wheeler asked First Selectman Haberek about the Town vehicle committee. Mr. Haberek stated that they held a preliminary meeting but will meet again before the end of budget deliberations.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Wheeler made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Grimes seconded the motion and the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Signed,



Andrew W. Rines
Secretary

lp