

May 9, 2012

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; Dudley Wheeler; John O'Brien; Bryan Bentz and Sandy Grimes. Also present Maryanna Stevens, Director of Finance; First Selectmen Ed Haberek; Board of Education members, staff and residents.

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

Comments from the Public – None

Previous minutes

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

Mr. Rines seconded the motion and voting was unanimous.

Budget Deliberations

Mr. Frishman asked the members in light of the budget with a .42-mil increase not passing what target would they like to reach: Mr. Wheeler, Mr. Bentz and Mr. Grimes stated they would like a total mil increase of .25; Mr. O'Brien and Mr. Rines stated they would like a range between .25 and .30. This would require between \$374,916 and \$531,130 in additional cuts. Mr. Frishman stated that he would like to be very cautious with the reserve. The remaining Board members suggested the following:

Mr. Wheeler - \$300,000 from the Board of Education; \$200,000 from the reserve

Mr. Grimes - \$300,000 from the BOE, \$200,000 from the reserve and the remaining \$31,130 from the Town budget

Mr. O'Brien - \$200,000 from the BOE, and defer hiring the Planning Director at \$89,576 with the balance from the reserve

Mr. Bentz - \$300,000 from the BOE, \$100,000 from the Reserve

Mr. Rines - \$200,000 from the BOE, \$100,000 from the Reserve

At this time Mr. Frishman read an email from the Superintendent of Schools Leanne Masterjoseph explaining her absence. He then asked Gail MacDonald, BOE Chairwoman for the status of accounts through the end of the year. She replied that all account balances would be expended.

After a brief discussion, First Selectmen Haberek stated that he would prefer not to wait on hiring a new Planning Director but would reduce the line and look at hiring in January. He added that he would really prefer to keep Hewitt Road; the residents have been very patient with regard to the repairs.

Members agreed to the following budget reductions totaling \$500,000

Board of Education	\$300,000
Public Works - Loader	\$ 25,000
Director of Planning	\$ 50,000
Reclaim and Pave Hewitt Road -	\$ 25,000
Fund Balance -	\$100,000

This leaves a .26 mil increase with a mil rate of 15.89.

Motion made by Mr. Grimes to set the mil rate at 15.89 with expenditures totaling \$56,733,696 and to forward to the Board of Selectmen to set the call for the Annual Town meeting for the 2012-2013 budget. Seconded by Mr. Wheeler. The motion passed unanimously.

Bid Waiver

- Request for a bid waiver from John Phetteplace, Director of Solid Waste to purchase a CAT924K Wheel Loader from an approved vendor on the CT State bid list. Mr. Bentz made a motion to approve the bid waiver. Mr. Grimes seconded and voting was unanimous.
- Request for a bid waiver from Joseph Bragaw, Director of Public Works for Highway work. Mr. Bragaw explained that they would like to take advantage of State Department of Administrative Services and Capital Region Council of Governments contracts where applicable. He provided for the members a detailed account of work where he would like to piggyback contracts. Mr. Wheeler was in support of these requests. A motion was made by Mr. Wheeler to accept the State Bid list. Mr. Rines seconded and voting was unanimous.

Budget Transfers

Chief Darren Stewart requested a line item transfer of funds. The request was approved by the Board of Police Commissioners. Mr. Rines made a motion to approve the transfer of \$8500 from the Officer Salary Account to the Community Service Officer account (\$6000) and the Special Officer account (\$2500). This would allow an earlier CSO presence. Mr. O'Brien seconded the motion and voting was unanimous.

Correspondence

Memo from Joe Bragaw, DPW informing the members of the accounts he projects will exceed the budgeted amount. He added however that due to the mild winter the Public Works budget would be considerably under budget. He requested permission of the Board to use the balance in the Highway Accounts for paving work, sidewalk work and to purchase a Skidsteer to help facilitate operations.

Memo from Chief Darren Stewart informing the members that the Physical line item will be over by \$1000. This is due to the hiring process to fill vacancies in Patrol and dispatch. The Chief added that there should be monies available to cover the overage.

Memo from Judy Samokar, SPS Finance Director informing the members of transfers greater than \$1000 approved by the Board of Education.

Director of Finance

Mrs. Stevens informed the members that she would be attending a pretrial Friday regarding the sales tax audit. The Town has been working with Groton. She stated that even a partial recovery of the costs to the Town would be welcome.

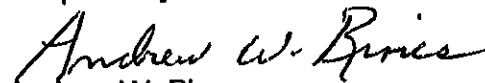
At this time, First Selectman Haberek introduced the new WPCA Director Thomas Gilligan.

Subcommittee reports

Nothing to report.

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 7:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Andrew W. Rines
Secretary

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