

June 19, 2013

The Board of Finance held a special meeting on this date at the Police Department meeting room. Members present were Glenn Frishman, Chairman; Dudley Wheeler; John O'Brien; Sandy Grimes and June Strunk. Also present Maryanna Stevens, Director of Finance.

Mr. Frishman called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m.

Previous minutes—May 1, 2013

Mr. O'Brien referenced a grammatical error. Mr. Grimes made a motion to accept the minutes of the May 1 meeting with the adjustment. Mr. Wheeler seconded the motion and voting was unanimous.

Bid Waiver – Computers-Police Department

Chief Stewart and Captain Desmond were present as the Dispatch console computers that have been running 24/7 for the past thirteen years are in dire need of replacement as discussed at the last Board of Finance meeting. Mr. Frishman commented on the greatly reduced price. Chief Stewart deferred to Lt. Olson to explain as he and Captain Desmond negotiated the lower price. Lt. Olson stated that the console computers control the automatic doors, the radio system and essentially everything the dispatchers need. The engineers have stated that the two servers that run this system are the weak link and this should prolong the usage life considerably. Mr. Grimes made a motion to approve the bid waiver for CyberComm, Inc. for the replacement of two Dispatch console computers. Mrs. Strunk seconded the motion and voting was unanimous.

As First Selectman Haberek was not yet present, the Board agreed to move to item 5-Director of Finance.

Director of Finance

Mrs. Stevens stated that we would meet the revenue projections. She addressed several lines in revenues with shortages and expenditure overages. Mr. Frishman asked about the status of the tax-exempt issue. Mrs. Stevens stated they are still waiting for outcome of Groton. Members discussed the high cost of legal ads in the Day newspaper. Mrs. Stevens added that she would like to present any transfers to the Board in September, this was satisfactory with all present. The books are typically closed at the end of August. She also provided for the members a handout detailing the updated ratings methodology of Moody's bond rating.

Additional Appropriation – Director of Planning


First Selectman Haberek was not present but P&Z Commission Chairman Rob Marsiglia spoke to the dire need of a Director of Planning. He stated that over the course of the past year there has been a significant decrease in the quality of applications presented to the Commission both technically and professionally. The applicants are not being prepared to come before the Commission that is causing a myriad of issues at the meetings. He added that as a result they are not serving the public as well as they could. The quality of the Commission meetings have degraded considerably.

Wendy Barry, Vice Chair of POCD committee also spoke. She stated that they are all volunteers and there is low morale as there is no one to support and guide them.

Mr. O'Brien, in anticipation of this discussion referenced a CT. Conference of Municipalities salary range comparison for similar geographical populations. He stated that few have both a Planner and an Assistant Planner. This should be addressed. Mr. Wheeler stated that maybe the Town should look into an outside consultant to look at the structure of the department. Mr. Marsiglia agreed that was a reasonable approach. After discussion, all members also agreed. Mr. Grimes made a motion to table the Additional Appropriation request for a Director of Planning and to discuss retaining a consultant to perform a study of the Planning Department at the July meeting. Mr. O'Brien seconded the motion and voting was unanimous.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Grimes made a motion to adjourn. Mr. O'Brien seconded the motion and the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


John O'Brien
Secretary

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