

September 4, 2013

The Board of Finance held a regular meeting on this date at the Police Department meeting room. Members present were Glenn Frishman, Chairman; Dudley Wheeler; Bryan Bentz; John O'Brien and June Strunk via telephone. Also present Maryanna Stevens, Director of Finance; First Selectman Haberek and residents of the Town.

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

**Previous Minutes –**

Mr. Wheeler made a motion to accept the minutes of the July & August meetings. Mr. Bentz seconded the motion and voting was unanimous.

**Director of Planning & Zoning discussion –** No one was present to discuss - item tabled to the October meeting

**K-12 Building Committee-Request for Additional Appropriation –** Rob Marseglia, Chairman addressed the Board; he stated that the Committee has been meeting since January focusing on the elementary schools. They would like a Town meeting to allow the residents to vote on the allocation of \$50,000 to hire an architect to determine the best method for updating and upgrading the elementary school buildings. Mr. O'Brien asked if the conceptual plans obtained by the High School Building Committee for the grammar schools were being used. Mr. Marseglia said yes however safety and security issues have changed. Mrs. Strunk added that those plans were from 2007- there is now all day kindergarten as well as new maintenance and safety issues. She feels \$50,000 is a reasonable request. A discussion ensued addressing space and needs at each school. Mr. Bentz feels that He believes hiring an architect at this stage is premature. Mr. Marseglia believes that an architect's plan based on the current education specs would then determine a preliminary budget. Mrs. Gail MacDonald spoke as a former member of the H.S. Bldg. Comm., they were provided with seed money to formulate a plan, which included funds for an architect. The K-12 Bldg. Comm. has nothing; they need the support of the Town. Paul Sartor added that he has spoken with Fletcher Thompson regarding the existing plans from seven years ago; \$50,000 has been determined as sufficient funding to determine a budget plan. He stated that the committee does have enough information that includes square footage, space issues, new construction cost estimates, etc. to present to the Board at the October meeting.

**Economic Impact of Non-Profits –** As Mrs. Strunk was not attending the meeting, this item was tabled to the October meeting.

**Budget Transfers** – Mrs. Stevens provided for the members a list of the 2012-2013 budget transfers. Mr. Wheeler made a motion to approve the transfers as submitted. Mr. O'Brien seconded and voting was unanimous.

**Director of Finance** – Mrs. Stevens reported that the Bond and notes have been issued. The Town received a positive rating with Moody's and have maintained their AA1 rating. She added that an upgrade would be great however there are many factors needed. For its size, the Town has an exceptional rating.

Mr. Bentz asked about the pending Sales Tax issue. Mrs. Stevens replied that the Town of Groton is appealing.

**Correspondence** – None

**Subcommittee reports** – Mr. Haberek reported that there is a ribbon cutting for the Fields September 11, 2013 and a rededication planned for October 11, 2013.

**New Business** – Members agreed to keep the same meeting schedule for 2014. *First Wednesday of the month 7:00 p.m. at the Police Department meeting room.*

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. O'Brien made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Bentz seconded the motion and the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
John O'Brien  
Secretary

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