

MINUTES
BOARD OF FINANCE REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY JULY 14, 2010
7:00 PM
TOWN ANNEX CONFERENCE ROOM

Present: Deb Tietz, Chairman
Richard W. Anderson
Richard Famiglietti
Deb Fuller, Vice Chairman
William Drakeley

Absent: Andrew Sherman

Also Present: Richard Snider

1. Call to Order

Chairman Deb Tietz called the regular meeting of the Board of Finance to order at 7:00 PM in the Town Annex Conference Room.

2. Privilege of the Floor

Richard Snider wished to refer the Board of Finance's long term financial planning discussion that occurred on June 2, 2010, especially the transfer of \$120,000 from the pay plan to Contingency. Mr. Snider asked if his interpretation, that the money was put there to cover unemployment contingencies, for reduction in employment, was correct. D. Tietz told him that his summation was correct. The transfer of the \$120,000 back into the pay plan now sets the Town back a year. She then clarified, to him, how the mill rate was impacted by the Town Meeting changes. Mr. Snider also asked that residency at a Town Meeting was verified.

3. Treasurer's Report

D. Tietz informed Board members that M. Gomes asked that a special meeting be scheduled at the end of July to cover budget transfer requests, to get ready for the auditor.

The financial statement that members received was then reviewed, especially the Police Department budget. It may be necessary to schedule a special Town Meeting to discuss overages in this department. D. Tietz noted that the BANS were budgeted to be sold earlier than they were. It was anticipated they would be sold in June but were actually sold in July/August so the first payment is due at a later date. The discussion then turned to the Police Department. Why is the Police Department so much higher in June compared to May? Can the Board speak to this sergeant? He has never come before the Board. He will not take ownership of this budget. W. Drakeley noted that this Sgt does not treat overtime like his predecessor; there's a disregard for the use of the police cars, they are allowed to be parked out of town. There is a blatant misuse of overtime. D. Fuller agreed that the Sgt. needs to come to a Board of Finance meeting. We've never gotten memos; he never came to a meeting even though one was scheduled specifically so he could come. R. Famiglietti commented that a coalition or an agreement with the administration to work together on this. The Board of Finance did due diligence with the budget, we

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reduced it when it failed. He did not feel that the present administration is trying to work with the Board of Finance. We should both have the same goal, meet somewhere in the middle. Being at odds is being counterproductive. We're not trying to take power away. D. Fuller was also concerned that the Board of Finance has not been given updates from the First Selectman, especially regarding legal issues. W. Drakeley thought the role of the Board of Finance may be diminished with the current Charter revision. The Police should not be ignoring the budget, creating a deficit is breaking the rules. It appears there is total disregard for following collective bargaining. D. Tietz suggested not approving their budget transfer requests until they come before us. They are even over in Office Supplies, noted D. Fuller. Their budget is over \$61,000, so a Town Meeting will have to be held unless some encumbrances are fixed first. D. Fuller wanted to review the overages with the First Selectman and the Sgt.

D. Tietz noted that Account #320, Contracted Services, is over, \$15,600.

- **Special Revenue Funds Update**

D. Tietz reported that notice has gone out to department heads to get special revenue funds information to M. Gomes.

D. Fuller asked about the CIRMA benefit and also noted that the procedural manual has not been developed yet!

4. New Business

- **Approval of Minutes**

- **June 9, 2010 Regular Meeting**

MOTION: R. W. Anderson moved to accept the minutes of the regular meeting of June 9, 2010 with the following corrections:

Page 1, under Treasurer's Report, 4th sentence, change "update" to "**updated.**"

Page 3, under Charter Revision, 9th sentence, change "accosted" to "**costed.**"

Page 4, under 2010-2011 Budget Matter, 5th sentence, change "council" to "**counsel.**"

D. Fuller seconded. W. Drakeley and R. Famiglietti abstained, due to absence.

VOTE: 3-0 FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

- **June 21, 2010 Special Meeting**

MOTION: R. W. Anderson moved to accept the minutes of the special meeting of June 21 2010 as presented. R. Famiglietti seconded. **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

- **June 29, 2010 Special Meeting**

MOTION: R. W. Anderson moved to accept the minutes of the special meeting of June 29, 2010 as presented. D. Fuller seconded. R. Famiglietti abstained due to absence.

VOTE: 4-0 FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

- **Budget Transfer Requests**

There were none.

▪ **Bills**

MOTION: D. Fuller moved to accept the clerk's bill in the amount of \$162.00 and approve for payment. R. W. Anderson seconded. **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

▪ **Correspondence**

D. Tietz responded to the letter received from Ellen Saracino, discussed at the June 21, 2010 meeting.

The Board of Finance received a response from Jay Hubelbank.

UCONN Handbooks are available on the internet for Board of Finance members.

A bill was received from Northwest Regional Mental Health for \$1,000, dues.

Each member of the Board received a letter from the Registrar of Voters, they were not happy with the scheduling of a special meeting directly following the referendum. D. Tietz will apologize on behalf of the Board.

5. Unfinished Business

• **Budget Matters**

D. Tietz reported that First Selectman Stomski has asked employees for furlough days. R. W. Anderson noted that furlough days have no affect on the pension.

• **First Selectman's Update**

There was none.

D. Fuller reported on the Pension Board. Should the Pension Board make policies? Pension Board Chairman, Gene Shugrue, did some research and found that the Board of Finance got involved instead of the Pension Board. Board of Finance members on the Pension Board is a good idea, Mr. Shugrue concluded, according to D. Fuller. Possibly, the Board of Finance should have a bigger role with union negotiations, because of the financial impact. D. Fuller felt, Board members could constructively cost out implications. D. Tietz made a presentation before the Charter Revision Commission and she suggested to them that the Board of Finance should be part of the contract negotiations team. W. Drakeley asked if it was possible to get a commitment from Chairman DeLuca that the Board of Finance changes would be pointed out. D. Tietz requested that but believes that it would be necessary to go to the public hearing. Charter Revision is amenable to moving the May meeting up earlier in the month. Budget preparation, if not working in tandem with the Board of Selectmen, needs an earlier deadline as to when the budgets need to be submitted. What role does the Board of Finance have with the pay plan is not spelled out, currently. Board members should be kept abreast of what is going on.

6. Adjournment

MOTION: R. W. Anderson moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:08 PM. R. Famiglietti seconded. **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

FILED SUBJECT TO BOARD APPROVAL

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Leigh, Clerk