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January 6, 2016

The Board of Finance held a regular meeting on this date in the meeting room of the Stonington Police Station. Members present were Bryan Bentz, Chairman; June D. Strunk, Secretary; Glenn Frishman, Dudley Wheeler, Tim O'Brien and Michael Fauerbach. Also present were First Selectman Rob Simmons, Selectman Michael Spellman, Director of Finance James Sullivan, Tax Assessor Marsha Standish, Tax Collector Linda Camelio and Barbara McKrell, Director of Public Works.

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CYNTHIA LADWIG
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Mr. Bentz called the meeting to order at 7:16 p.m.

Comments from the Public
There were none

Previous Minutes
Mr. Wheeler motioned to accept the previous minutes, Mrs. Strunk seconded, and voting was unanimous.

Bid Waivers
Dir. McKrell said that both the street sweeper and leaf vac requested were approved and funded in the current budget. She said the town has two leaf vacs and would like to utilize a third. She is requesting a demo model street sweeper as well that is offered at a 19% savings and has the same warranty as a new sweeper as well as new brooms. The cost of the vac is $28,880 and the cost of the sweeper is $197,600. Mr. Bentz asked if the leaf vac is something that can be deferred. Dir. McKrell said we could hold off on the leaf vac. Mr. Frishman suggested that we should get the sweeper now to take advantage of the discount. Dir. McKrell also noted that the current sweeper is slow, inefficient and breaks down often. Mr. Frishman motioned to approve the waivers as presented, Mr. O'Brien seconded, and voting was unanimous.

Additional Appropriations
Mr. Sullivan stated that this issue came up when Chief Stewart and Captain Olson walked into the town hall and remarked that there were no cameras there. Ms. Camelio stated that at times there is a lot of cash in her office. The cost of the cameras is $4,275. Mr. Wheeler asked where the cameras would be placed. Ms. Camelio explained that one would be on the back wall across from the tax collector's window, and the other two will be placed in the hall facing the tax office. Mr. O'Brien made a motion to approve, Mr. Fauerbach seconded, and voting was unanimous.

Line Item Transfers

- **Line item transfer from tax collector expense account "DMV-Delinquent Reporting" of $4,947 to account "miscellaneous" for purchase of new furniture for tax collector's office.** Ms. Camelio said that her office looks unprofessional, and has leftovers from other offices over the years. Mr. Sullivan explained that the cost of the furniture is $7,065. In the miscellaneous account there is $2,100 that was appropriated to purchase a second register and scanner in the tax collector's window. With the new credit card and online processing that was installed, window traffic has dropped dramatically and there is no need for a second register so it freed up the money. He said that all that needs to be done is to transfer the $4,947 into that account to purchase the furniture. Mr. Fauerbach motioned to approve the transfer, and Mrs. Strunk seconded. Voting was unanimous.
- **Line item transfer of $27,000 from "Director of Planning" salary account to "Risk management-Safety program" account to fund Wequetequock and Stonington Fire departments switch from Town 911 dispatch to Westerly Fire dispatch, and necessary radio modifications.** Mr. Wheeler excused himself from the discussion because of possible conflict. Mr. Bentz invited First Selectman Simmons to speak. Mr. Simmons spoke in favor of realignment of Wequetequock and Stonington Fire Departments with Westerly Dispatch. It will have no no impact on the other departments. He feels that it is a serious enough matter that he is willing to allocate funds from his office that he could use for some other purpose for this purpose. He said chiefs have told them that this is an issue that needs to be resolved and should be acted upon otherwise the town could be responsible if something goes wrong. He said he was here to support this bridge for six months and if there is a larger issue to work on it can be done during the regular budget process. Several fire chiefs present spoke in favor of this and discussion ensued. Chief Jeff Hoadley from the Stonington Borough Fire Department summarized it by saying that the reason they are behind this switch is because Westerly's main focus is fire and EMS. He stated that the two towns work together constantly and this is their biggest upgrade and main goal. Mr. Frishman made a motion to approve, and Mrs. Strunk seconded. All voted in favor with the exception of Mr. Wheeler, who was completely recused from the discussion and abstained from voting.

Discussion of Budget Hearing Dates

Board members set a schedule for budget hearing dates.

February 10	Police Department, WPCA, Solid Waste Department
February 24	General Government
March 2	Schedule C, Public Works

The Board of Ed will be scheduled sometime after March 15.

Correspondence
There was no correspondence discussed.

Liaison Reports
There were no liaison reports discussed.

K-12 Liaison Reports
There were no liaison reports discussed.

New Business
Line Item Transfers

- Line item transfer of $10,000 from "First Selectman" salary account to be split evenly ($5,000 each) between "Second and Third Selectmen" salary accounts per request made by First Selectman. Mr. Fauerbach asked if this would be a one year request or if they could expect to see it again in the future. Selectman Simmons stated that the change would be for the remainder of this fiscal year and he would request for it to remain the same into the budget cycle. Mr. Fauerbach made a motion to approve, Mr. Frishman seconded, and voting was unanimous.
- Line item transfer of $4,000 from "Director of Planning" salary account and line item transfer of $10,000 from "Director of Economic Development-consultant" account to fund purchase of furniture for reception area of First Selectman's office. Total cost of furniture $14,000. Mr. Sullivan stated that since the Director of Planning started halfway through the year the $4,000 won't be used. He also stated that the Director of Economic Development line item won't be needed going forward. First Selectman Simmons stated that the former First Selectman put in the request and included the inner office as well as the outer office. Mr. Simmons said that he deleted the inner office items from the request as he likes to spend at least 50% of his time out of the office. He feels that the front office is troublesome the way it is currently. He said that there is a steady stream of people that come in his office and they can be intimidating at times. Mr. O'Brien motioned to approve the transfer, Mr. Frishman seconded, and voting was unanimous.

Bid Waiver
Mr Sullivan stated that there is a bid waiver attached to the purchase of the furniture for the First Selectman's office. The selected vendor on the state vendor list is RIS Systems and Mr. Frishman motioned to approve, Mrs. Strunk seconded, and voting was

unanimous.

With no further business to discuss, Mr. O'Brien made a motion to adjourn and Mr. Wheeler seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

June D. Strunk,
Secretary

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