

**DRAFT**

September 2, 2015

The Board of Finance held a regular meeting on this date in the conference room of the Stonington Police Station. Members present were Glenn Frishman, Chairman; June D. Strunk, Secretary; Dudley Wheeler, and Sandy Grimes. Also present were First Selectman George Crouse, Selectman Rob Simmons and Selectman Michael Spellman, as well as Director of Finance James Sullivan and Public Works Director Barbara McKrell.

Mr. Frishman called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m.

**Comments from the Public**-there were none

**Previous Minutes**-Mrs. Strunk would like it to be noted on the July 16 meeting minutes that the position of Flood Plain Manager was retired under the direction of the First Selectman at the time. Mr Grimes made a motion to approve all minutes as amended, Mr. Wheeler seconded.

**Bid Waivers-**

**Police Department**-A representative from the police department spoke regarding purchasing cars from MHQ which is off the State bid list. They are asking for \$112,000 for four cars. We will be borrowing that amount. Mr. Sullivan explained that we are not purchasing the cars, the finance company is and we will be paying \$50,000 a year for the next three years towards them, which is in the budget. The finance company will purchase the cars, and we will lease them. Mr Grimes wanted to be sure that these will be for the patrolmen, and asked if the Chief of Police would be getting one. He was told the Chief is not getting a new car. Mrs. Strunk motioned to approve, Mr. Wheeler seconded.

**Highway Department**-Director McKrell spoke regarding four bid waivers.

1. Guide Rail Installation-She stated that Atlas Services is the lowest bidder. (DAS) We have used them in the past. We have Capital Improvement Program that has been funded \$30,000 last year and this year for a total of \$60,000 to install guard rails where required in certain parts of town.
2. The second is Costello Contractors which is also the low bidder on the DAS contract. They are doing work on Liberty Street now. The town is working with them to

complete milling at the same time.

3. Shaw Vac Services is the second low bidder on catch basin cleaning services. We have used them in the past and have been very good to work with. The low bidder has no availability to provide services to us. The cost is the same as last year, which is \$18.39 per catch basin

4. Morton Salt is the second low bidder for Ice-B-Gone road salt. We have used it for the past 7 years. The low bidder, Drvn, provides a different product called Cargills Clear Lane that Stonington and other towns have not found favorable. Morton's product costs \$90.56 per ton and Drvn's is \$85 per ton but Director McKrell worked with Morton Salt to get their price down to \$84.75 per ton, this beats Drvn's price by 25 cents. In the past we have contracted 1,400 tons. Mr. Frishman asked if there was a rider in place in case we need more. Director McKrell stated that last year they honored their price all year. Mrs. Strunk asked if there were any supply issues. Director McKrell said no. Mr. Wheeler motioned to approve the bid waivers, Mr. Grimes seconded.

Director McKrell then introduced Tom Curioso, the new highway supervisor.

### **Additional Appropriations-**

**Westerly Adult day Care Center-**Kelly Lee spoke regarding the Westerly Adult Day Care Center. Many Stonington residents use the facility. The Town of Westerly makes an in-kind donation of \$40,000 in rent of the building. Ms. Lee said 14 residents of Stonington use it, which is 22% of the total of participants. Ms. Lee stated that the facility keeps members of the community out of nursing homes. Mr. Grimes asked if people have to pay to use the facility, and Ms. Lee said they do, but cost is on a sliding scale depending on income. Mr. Frishman motioned to reinstate the \$8,000, Mr. Grimes seconded.

(Selectmen called meeting to order)

**Lantern hill Bridge-**Scott Deledda, Town Engineer spoke regarding this project. The projected cost is \$689,550 in total. It is eligible for the Local Bridge Program, which the state will reimburse up to 48.3%. (\$333,000) The two towns will split the reimbursement. At this time we have to come up with the total cost. After reimbursement the expected cost to the Town of Stonington is \$178,000. The Town of Ledyard is the lead in this project because they were eligible for a larger reimbursement. Mr. Deledda is requesting \$350,000. The Town of Ledyard is ready to move forward, and is hoping the Town of Stonington will do the same. Mr. Frishman explained that this will have to go to the Board of Selectmen, who will have to put it forward to voters.

Mr. Frishman stated that the reimbursement will go back to the general fund. Mr. Frishman recommended a motion to appropriate the amount requested, Mr. Grimes motioned, Mr. Wheeler seconded. Mrs. Strunk asked how much money there was in the two months operating budget. Mr. Sullivan didn't have the exact amount on hand but said approximately 3 million, give or take.

**Stonington Ambulance Corps**-Brian Molkenthin spoke representing the Stonington Ambulance Corp as the General Contractor. He explained that the building that houses the Corp is sitting on poor soil, which has caused the building to drastically settle. They plan to remove interior slabs and footings and exterior aprons. They plan to bring in new pilings to support the interior slab, repave the front apron and lift the middle of the building with a new I-beam. This will cost \$185,000 for the repairs. Mr. Grimes asked if this was to improve the ground. Mr. Molkenthin said yes, it will bring the building above standards, and the foundation will be very strong. Mr. Simmons stated that he noticed that the interior slab was collapsing because of the instability. He acknowledged that it would be replaced with reinforced concrete and bars to stabilize it completely, but asked about the apron. He said that it is collapsing as well, but they are not using reinforced concrete for that. Mr. Molkenthin said no, they will use Geogrid, which will hold everything together. Mr. Simmons wanted it noted that they will not use reinforced concrete for the apron, and may need replacement in the future. Mr. Simmons also asked Ms. Theresa Hersh, president of the Stonington Ambulance Corps, if she has a group of citizens that will help her plan for the long range future of the Corps. Ms. Hersh stated that they do not, however they do now have a Social Membership status, so residents don't have to be medically qualified to join. Selectman Spellman asked how many calls they make per year, she stated 400-500 and the number keeps growing with more people moving to town. Part of that is mutual aid to surrounding towns. Mr. Frishman made the motion to approve, Mr. Wheeler seconded.

(Board of Selectmen motioned to approve last two items at this time)

### **Correspondence-**

Discussed a communication for baseball field funding and proposal, just an FYI.

### **Subcommittee Reports-**

- Mr. Grimes discussed the work being done by Mr. Deledda to make they playing fields at the high school handicap accessible
- The bonding company is working on how to repair the practice fields.

- Mr. Grimes spoke about the presentation on pesticides on the playing field, regarding the complaints. Stated that Director McKrell did an excellent presentation at the Board of Selectmen's meeting and it clarified any issues with the public.

Mr. Wheeler made a motion to adjourn at 8:01, Mr. Frishman seconded.

Respectfully submitted,

June D. Strunk  
Secretary

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