DRAFT

October 14, 2015

The Board of Finance held a Special meeting on this date in the conference room of the Stonington Police Station. Members present were Glenn Frishman, Chairman; June Strunk, Secretary; Dudley Wheeler, Sandy Grimes, Bryan Bentz and Tim O'Brien. Director of Finance James Sullivan was also present.

Mr. Frishman called the meeting to order at 7:16 p.m.

Previous Minutes
Mr. Grimes would like the wording on page 3 of the September minutes to read "all purpose fields" rather than "practice fields". Mrs. Strunk made a motion to approve the minutes as amended, Mr. Grimes seconded and voting was unanimous.

Bid Waivers
Police Department-outfitting cars-Mr. Grimes had a question regarding why one of the new cars is for administration, he thought they were all for the patrolmen. Mr. Sullivan, speaking on behalf of the Police Department, said he could not answer that question. Mr. Frishman stated that the use would be under the discretion of the Police Commission. Mr. Sullivan also explained that the supplier of the cars, MHQ, installed equipment that did not work, so they are going to use a different company in Westerly for outfitting the cars. Mrs. Strunk noted that this was a line item already in their budget. Mr. Frishman made a motion to approve, while Mr. Bentz seconded. Voting was unanimous.
Police Department-phone system-Mr. Bentz spoke regarding the phone system. He stated that he had a discussion with the both the Chief and the Captain of Police. He stated that the phone system is very outdated and cannot be repaired. They having been fixing it with parts from another system from out of the area. He stated that this is also in their budget. He said that there have been upgrades in facilities in the area such as the Town Hall and School System but the Police Department has not been part of that. He said they would like to shift communications seamlessly in the event of an emergency but they can't as it is now. Mr. Grimes made a motion to approve the waiver, Mrs. Strunk seconded, and voting was unanimous.

Correspondence
Education requirements-Mr. Wheeler made a motion to approve paying the tuition for certification classes for the Registrars of Voters, which is mandated by the state. Mr. Grimes seconded, and voting was unanimous.
2016 Schedule of Meetings-Mr. Frishman discussed the meeting schedule for 2016, and the Board agreed to keep the meetings on the first Wednesday of the month, at 7:15 p.m.,

at the meeting room at the Stonington police station.

Discussion of Budget Target

Mr. Frishman stated that last year the Board arrived at a budget target and furnished the information to all boards, commissions and departments at the Town Hall. He asked the members if any of them had any ideas as to what would be a reasonable target. Mrs. Strunk said that last year they looked at the rate of inflation, economic development, new tax revenue in the Town of Stonington, and they came up with a guideline of 2%. That was the target, the actual budget increase was 4.4%. Mrs. Strunk suggested shooting for somewhere between 2-3%. Mr. Frishman suggested composing a letter again notifying Boards and Commissions in advance what their thought process is, while they are early in their budgeting process. Mr. Bentz said he would like to know when the BOE did its budget last year, what the target was and what was the actual increase? Discussion ensued.

Board of Education-Consolidation of Services

Mr. Frishman spoke with the Chairman of the BOE, Frank Todisco, and the consensus of the BOE is that long term this is the right thing to do. Mr. Frishman asked the BOF to authorize him to sign the Memorandum of Understanding to study this and update the study to see if this is feasible. Mr. Grimes made a motion to approve, Mr. Bentz seconded, and voting was unanimous.

K-12 Liaison Reports

Mrs. Strunk attended a meeting last night and asked Mr. Sullivan to give an update on the meeting. Mr. Sullivan said that a couple of weeks ago they sent out an RFQ (Request for Qualifications) for a construction manager. They received five back last week, the board reviewed them last night, and are reviewing qualifications to see who they should ask for a proposal. They selected three out of the five and sent them notifications. They will be walking the sites of Deans Mill and West Vine this week. By early November they are hoping to get the RFPs (Request for Proposal) back and will look at the proposals and fees and make a decision at that point. Mr. Wheeler asked if it would be more cost effective to tear down the schools and rebuild. Mrs. Strunk said it was considered but it was more costly, and the State of Connecticut reimburses more for a renovation than a rebuild.

Liaison Reports

Mr. Grimes stated that the all purpose fields are being repaired. Mr. Sullivan said that the surety company is taking over the contract and hired their own contractor to come in and repair it. Mr. Grimes noted that after four years there is still no fee schedule for the fields.

Mr. Frishman handed out a chart for review that he had Mr. Sullivan put together to dimensionalize the bonded debt that the town has currently and what we can expect to

be coming on as we renovate the schools. Discussion ensued.

With no further business to discuss, Mr. Grimes made a motion to adjourn, and Mr. Wheeler seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

June D. Strunk,
Secretary

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STONINGTON, CT.
15 OCT 16 AM 9:04
CYNTHIA LADWIG
TOWN CLERK