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TOWN OF STONINGTON
BOARD OF FINANCE – DELIBERATIONS
Stonington Police Department Meeting Room
Thursday, March 10th, 2022
6:15 PM

A meeting of the Board of Finance was held on this date at the Stonington Police Department Meeting Room. Members present were Chairman Tim O'Brien, Michael Fauerbach, Deborah Norman, Lynn Young, David Motherway, Bob Statchen, and Chris Johnson.

Chairman O'Brien called the meeting to order at 6:16 pm.

Budget Deliberations: First Selectman Danielle Chesebrough started off deliberations acknowledging the Board of Finance has a difficult job, but everyone in the room wants the same outcome. The Chairman explained deliberations are unique this year in that "we're doing everything in front of you as it happens," going down budget items line by line. Mr. O'Brien commended each department's budget efforts but commented that a 6.1% increase over last year isn't sustainable. He continued, noting the Board of Finance (BOF) is a volunteer board, that no one is paid, that they volunteer simply to be good stewards of the Town's finances and make the best use of taxpayer dollars. The Chairman concluded his opening remarks, noting that the Board is doing its best, struggling with tough decisions without trying to single any one department out. Mr. O'Brien asked for a degree of compassion for the Board Members as they are trying to act in the best interest of the Town.

Mr. O'Brien suggested the best place to start is with this year's CIP requests, where the most action and movement tends to take place.

Capital Improvement Requests

General Operations

Line #2 – Townwide Computer Technology Upgrade \$65,000 no change

Ms. Young voiced this is a necessary item, with the Board in agreement.

Line 3 – Orthophotography/Planimetric Upgrades \$1 no change

Mr. O'Brien asked if anyone wished to change this, and the Board agreed not to.

Line 4 – Video Security System – Phase I Town Hall Cameras \$15,000

Mr. O'Brien asked Director of Administrative Services Ms. Burmahl if this request could be taken down to \$1, with Ms. Burmahl in agreement. Mr. O'Brien noted the \$1 adjustment was based on IT Manager Roger Kizer's recommendation.

Line 7 – ADA Accessibility – Town Facilities \$20,000

Mr. Motherway asked if there's already a project for this item, and Ms. Burmahl explained an ADA assessment of facilities is planned for later this fiscal year – but currently she doesn't have a detailed project list yet. Lynn recalled last year \$20,000 was appointed for this request, and asked Ms. Burmahl how much she expected to spend. Ms. Burmahl estimated \$6,000 (out of last year's \$20,000). The Board set this to \$1, with Mr. Fauerbach stating this is an important item, but sacrifices must be made somewhere – a precedent he'll be pushing throughout deliberations. Ms. Young noted a large ADA-appropriate grant is expected soon, and Mr. Fauerbach said requests requiring grant-matched funding should be brought to the Board's attention.

Office of First Selectman

Line #10 – Stonington Veteran's Monument Project \$120,000

Mr. O'Brien spoke with Ms. Chesebrough earlier and concluded if the base of the memorial is porcelain, it could be done by local artists, thus qualifying for ARPA funds. Danielle noted the Veteran Community approved of this "local artist" idea and agreed it should be fine to exclude this from the current budget in lieu of ARPA funds. Danielle explained after further research she found instances of towns using the General Operating budget to fund similar monuments, but typically State funds are used. Mr. Statchen spoke with the former Commissioner of VA (as well as other people), and noted these monuments often rely on fundraising, but found the ARPA suggestion appropriate. Danielle requested feedback, showing she'd be comfortable with a \$1 designation if the ARPA option was reviewed in the future. Mr. O'Brien deferred to Bob's sentiment, with the Board in agreement, setting the item to \$0.

Police Services

Line #13 – Fleet Upgrade - Purchase of 4 New Vehicles (\$185,000)

The Board left this item as is, without any discussion.

Line 14 – Technology Upgrade/Communication Upgrade (\$20,000)

Michael voiced some concern, noting with \$12,000 remaining in the account, until there's a project funds would be best used elsewhere. Mr. O'Brien asked if the \$12,000 was committed; Police Department Captain Todd Olson, reported it was not. Michael proposed a few thousand dollars in funding, with \$20,000 making him uncomfortable, with Mr. Motherway suggesting \$8,000. Ms. Young explained a few thousand dollars isn't too helpful and proposed \$1, with the Board in agreement.

Line 17 – Townwide Surveillance Cameras Program (\$15,000)

Ms. Norman considered this an important item, with Michael recalling Cpt. Olson articulating the camera program's value. The Board agreed to keep the program fully funded.

Line 20 – Body/Cruiser Cameras (\$82,241)

A previously committed item, with no adjustment to be made.

Line 21 – Radio Microwave Link (\$150,000)

Mr. Motherway proposed this should be \$1, and explained there's still ongoing negotiations with the State, and the new Police Chief can assess this in greater detail. Mr. Fauerbach recalled Cpt. Olson needed police cruisers more than this, with the Board setting it to \$1.

Line 22 – Police Portable Radios - Batteries (\$11,760)

The Board approved this item at its current funding.

Assessor

Line 26 – Revaluation \$70,000 no change

Mr. O'Brien stressed this is a necessary item, and it remained fully funded.

Public Works – Highway:

Line 29 – Drainage Improvements Townwide \$100,000

Lynn suggested this is important with the number of large puddles around town, and Bob seemed to recall this could be cut down to \$25,000. Mr. Fauerbach suggested marking certain "on the fence" requests as orange, to show further consideration later. For now, the Board left this item as is at \$100,000.

Line 30 – Highway Equipment - Purchase \$700,000

Mr. Motherway recalled one large truck (out of two proposed) was already approved and suggested deducting the large truck expense of \$205,000 from the request. David also suggested swapping the proposed Ford F-150 Lightning electric truck (\$48,000) for a Ford Transit van (\$28,000) freeing up \$20,000. Lynn noticed the equipment request totaled \$687,000, and not \$700,000 reflected in the CIP spreadsheet. Michael asked for Department of Public Works Director Barbara McKrell's take on the proposal.

Barbara conveyed the DPW has no use for two transit vans, with the van being primarily used for pick-up and delivery of large off-site supplies. Ms. McKrell continued, suggesting if the F-150 EV truck was too costly, the department could instead request a standard (non-EV) pickup. Mr. O'Brien asked about the specific need for a F-150 EV truck, and Barbara explained it would be used to pick up supplies, off-site transportation, etc., potentially freeing up her larger utility truck for other crew members. There was other discussion with Ms. McKrell and the Board about the F-150 EV and Ford Transit uses.

Michael asked if there's a cheaper option, such as DPW self-funding the Transit with older vehicle trade-ins. Highway Supervisor Tom Curioso cited a preliminary trade-in estimate of \$20,000-24,000. There was further discussion among the Board and Barbara suggesting potential budget revisions. Ms. McKrell maintained a need for a large truck, noting there's 12 large trucks in the fleet, each with a 9-to-12-year lifespan, and DPW hasn't had any replaced since 2017/2018 – but contended she can hold off on a new large truck purchase for the time being.

Mr. Statchen requested an updated count for this item, and factoring in the large truck, F-150 EV and trade-in deductions of \$230,000, the line item had \$470,000 remaining. Bob suggested using this number as an estimate the Board is comfortable with and giving the DPW discretionary flexibility on spending (to a degree). Lynn expressed certain items like the Small Flail that would be crucial for Town upkeep – without forging everything else for the sake of the large truck.

Line 31 – DPW Office Trailer Installation \$10,000

Lynn recalled this being \$10,000 to be designated as a CIP request and proposed \$5,000 instead. Barbara showed the estimate was closer to \$6,000, which the Board agreed to.

Line 34 Road Pavement – Major Maintenance \$430,000

Line 35 Road Pavement –Capital \$470,000

Mr. O'Brien suggested line 34/line 35 should be treated as a single consideration. Lynn recalled the most road work the DPW could manage was \$1.2M worth – enough to support roads without staff being overburdened, which Barbara confirmed. Lynn also recalled the State supplying \$300,000 of special revenue, in addition to \$700,000 the Board provided from ARPA – \$1.9M total including the CIP request. In short, Ms. Young proposed if there were any ways to cut or move funds from elsewhere to make up the \$1.2M, and Barbara emphasized she gets so much public correspondence complaining about road conditions, she can't agree to cut the paving budget. Ms. McKrell detailed this year's plan, expecting DPW to easily spend it before July 1st, including ARPA funds. There was additional discussion between Barbara and the Board regarding upcoming projects.

Lynn asked if by the fiscal year's end, would all the \$1.9M be spent, and Barbara confirmed it would. Danielle interjected this level of Highway work and funding isn't sustainable – that much of this is related to a Covid-19 backlog DPW is catching up with. Michael stated he's comfortable leaving the funding as is, with Ms. Young agreeing that as long as the money is expended, the Board is satisfied. The Board agreed to leave these items funded at \$900,000 total.

Line 36 – DPW Radio Replacement – \$98,999

The Board agreed this item was brought to \$0 (without further discussion).

Line 37 – Right of Way ADA Compliance Improvement Fund – (\$100,000)

Another \$0 item, with Mr. Fauerbach clarifying a state grant is funding this.

Line 38 – Stillman Avenue Retaining Wall Replacement – \$15,000

Ms. Young commented it would be terrible if the road fell in, and it's unfortunate the easement wasn't granted – but something must be done. The Board agreed to keep this item fully funded.

Line 39 – Bridge Replacement & Structural Improvement Fund \$100,000

Mr. Motherway recalled this item funds future projects on the horizon. Town Engineer Chris Greenlaw spoke to this, explaining he's preparing four applications for bridges that will hopefully be funded by upcoming federal grants. This is a dual-purpose line item: it will serve as a place holder for future monies to be spent in conjunction with Engineering's bridge plan, and would also be a revolving fund, that would increase bridge replacement and repair funds to be

used with State/Federal grant opportunities. In summary, Chris noted this is an important year, because if there's opportunities for grant money requiring a match, this item will be in place.

Michael questioned how this all relates in terms of importance to other bridge maintenance requests. Mr. Greenlaw highlighted Line 50 – Bridge Engineering and Design Fund, as seed money for investigative analysis, allowing for non-destructive testing using a consultancy. Chris reminded the Board that while costs are much higher at this time, with the project is also just starting. There was discussion about the relationship between line items 39 and 50, and how grant money is considered based on the funding of these accounts.

Chris continued, noting the more statistical info outlined on grant applications (e.g., regarding bridge sufficiency ratings), the more helpful it could be for securing grants. However, Mr. O'Brien reminded the Board nobody knows how the Infrastructure Bill will pan out yet. Ms. Chesebrough took a moment to stress how vital these two-line items could be though, considering the \$40M projected risk assessment costs. Mr. Statchen asked if last year's \$29,000 in the account had been spent, and Mr. Sullivan showed it wasn't, but was earmarked. There was discussion among the Board if it needed to be a \$100,000 item. Michael asked what the "working number" should be to keep it funded, with Mr. O'Brien advocating \$50,000, knowing there's Infrastructure Funding coming in. The Board agreed to take this item down to \$50,000.

Public Works – Engineering:

Line 43 – Pawcatuck Pumphouse: Roof Replacement & Masonry Repair \$70,000

Lynn suggested as an infrastructure item, this should be taken to \$1. The Board requested feedback from the DPW, and Mr. Greenlaw said this can be sustained at \$1, with money currently in its account and some of its repairs already done. The Board set the request to \$1.

Line 44 – South Anguilla Road Bridge \$185,000

Mr. O'Brien explained this should be \$170,000 based on a recent estimate. Ms. Young said it had to be done; the Board agreed to fund it at \$170,000.

Line 46 – Washington Street Drainage Improvements \$51,000

The Board agreed to fund this improvement at its current cost, with Michael noting it's already a work in progress.

Line 50 – Bridge Engineering and Design Fund \$50,000

Danielle expressed this was the most important line item – without design or engineering plans, the Town can't even apply for grants. The Board left this as is, fully funded.

Line 51 – Holmes Ave – Wall Replacement \$25,000

Mr. O'Brien explained a \$50,000 grant was just approved for this project, after some discussion with Mr. Sullivan and the Board, this item was budgeted at \$92,000 with a commensurate offset of \$50,000.

Line 52 – Noyes Ave – Wall & Road Placement (\$425,000)

Mr. O'Brien referred to his notes, referring to a \$50,000-75,000 engineering study planned for

this item – and thus, budget was set to \$75,000.

Line 53 – Boat Pump out Facility at Town Down \$21,853

A member of the public addressed the Chairman, who owns a marine and sewage disposal facility, was requesting monies that would be available July 1st. The prime season for Westerly Boat (when they start pumping sewage), begins May 25th when boating season begins. However, a grant has been provided covering 75% of costs, and this gentleman recommended adjusting this item to \$1 or \$0 when he will revisit the BOF at the Town Hall meeting to suggest a line-item transfer. This Westerly Boat project should cost less than the granted funds, thus satisfying the cost of this pump. The Board commended this offer, and Mr. O'Brien advised adjusting the item to \$1, so if something should happen, work can be done at once. Mr. Sullivan also adjusted line 128 – Other State and Federal Grants to account for this proposal.

Public Works - Facilities Management

Line 58 – Town Hall - HVAC Improvements (\$300,000)

Line 59 – Human Services HVAC Replacement – Phase II (\$100,000)

Mr. O'Brien suggested treating line 58/line 59 as a single consideration. Mr. Greenlaw advised keeping the ask where it is, referencing a schematic design they're expecting in April that will likely meet this request. The ask supplements what has already been granted through ARPA funds.

Ms. McKrell explained the Town Hall estimate is \$1.89M, and the Human Services estimate is \$720,000. Michael calculated the Town Hall HVAC estimate, minus the ARPA grant, plus what was added from the contingency fund to be \$576,000 needed. Lynn asked since the Board of Selectman had cut some of these requests, how \$300,000 meet this goal. Danielle said they had hoped to use ARPA contingency funds for the requests, while leaving some funds remaining. Mr. Fauerbach calculated how the \$720,000 Human Services HVAC factored in ARPA and contingency funds, resulting in the \$100,000 request. In summary – the Board of Selectman adjustments for both HVAC repairs are ARPA contingency use estimates. Going forward with the request, roughly \$600,000 will spent from the ARPA contingency fund, leaving \$400,000 remaining.

Mr. Statchen “agrees to disagree” with funding the Town Hall/Human Services HVAC request, prioritizing the middle school HVAC project instead – citing children's health and ADA liability concerns. Danielle interjected, stating Town Hall has no HVAC or fresh air whatsoever – while the school still has heating and air filtration, with potential matched state funding coming in. Mr. O'Brien had previously spoken with the BOE Chairman, explaining BOE will apply for an upcoming \$90M state grant, while simultaneously asking for funding from the BOF. Bob noted that if the BOE can adjust their CIP request, that would be preferable, and Mr. O'Brien reiterated the grant would be in tandem with the current BOF CIP items. Mr. O'Brien called for further discussion among the board, and Lynn considered future ARPA funded projects, such as the salt dome.

Barbara reported the salt dome is approximately \$100,000 over budget. Lynn asked for the actual Town Hall/Voting Hall drainage and parking project costs, and Mr. Greenlaw explained an

engineer's probable cost was done, but it's a few months old. Ms. Young advised contingency may be needed for these, and potential projects were discussed that could be cut to fund the Town Hall/Human Services HVAC projects. Michael recommended leaving lines 58/59 as is, with Lynn agreed, with the caveat line 59 may need to be cut later. Ms. Chesebrough and Mr. Statchen continued to deliberate their views on the HVAC requests, with the Board leaving both lines funded as is.

Line 60 – Pawcatuck Pump House: Fire Suppression Line Abandonment (\$25,000)

The Board adjusted this to \$1.

Line 61 – Levee Gate Repair (\$25,000)

The majority of Board Members elected to set this to \$1. Mr. Fauerbach asked if there are any risk profile changes to consider, with Chris reporting at this point, the cost would fund an ARMY Corp of Engineers inspection. Mr. Greenlaw stressed this is an intricate and unique levee, requiring a specialized engineer for the study. Mr. O'Brien asked how many times it was used in the last year, with Chris saying once for testing, and once during a storm. Ms. McKrell stepped in, proposing the levee isn't at immediate risk of failure – but requires investigation soon. Michael stressed the importance of a proper analysis proposal, and Ms. McKrell assured the Board they'd have one next year. Hearing this, the Board affirmed the \$1 adjustment.

Line 62 – West Broad St. School Repairs (\$50,000)

The Board left this item as is, citing a contractual obligation.

Line 63 – MS4 – D.C.I.A. Projects (\$150,000)

Mr. Greenlaw reported on the DPW priorities, mentioning this is last item on the list – so if it was \$1, that's acceptable. Mr. O'Brien asked if this was infrastructure – a potential Infrastructure Bill item – and Chris confirmed it was. Ms. Chesebrough noted it may also qualify for resiliency/stormwater grants. Mr. O'Brien suggested with all the paving and other projects going on this year, the Board should adjust this to \$1.

Solid Waste:

Line 74 – Front Wheel Loader (\$29,000)

The Board left this item as is.

Under Human Services:

Line 83 – George Crouse Tennis Court Rebuild

Mr. Fauerbach considered the “Plan A, B, C” funding brackets for this request, with Lynn proposing plan C – a \$735,516 cost (needing \$96,252 in funding), covering the court renovation while excluding court lighting upgrades. Michael addressed the “wants vs. needs” aspect of the proposal, showing while the lights are nice, they wouldn't impact court functionality. The Board weighed the three renovation proposals, with most Members favoring plan C.

The Director of Administrative Services Ms. Burmahl expended on the upgrades, detailing a

fiscal year increase of \$9,000 to \$21,000 from a sudden, large community interest in tennis. Ms. Burmahl continued, noting the project has been put off for many years, with the last 10-15 years of maintenance costs funded by program revenue, without ever needing to request funding.

Mr. Statchen suggested plan B (\$207,178 in improvements with half new lights) could be an orange highlighted item, to reassess later. David asked if plan B could use ARPA contingency funds. While possible, Lynn stated it's unlikely contingency funds will remain following other CIP requests. Mr. Fauerbach suggested a fundraiser for the extra expenses, and the Board discussed with Ms. Burmahl considerations and challenges of each plan in detail. After much deliberation, plan C was recommended, funded at \$96,252.

Planning Department:

Line 86 – Engineering and Construction of New Services (\$207,094)

Director of Economic and Community Development Dr. Susan Cullen presented, unfurling a large 13 foot long, panoramic blueprint illustrating the sidewalk project's current state. Dr. Cullen described the project design and each property involved – who has or has not granted the Town permission for sidewalk construction. Dr. Cullen reported an issue that's "holding five properties hostage," where the department is unable to build ADA compliant ramps, thus requiring an exception. Dr. Cullen continued, detailing planning challenges of getting permissions from so many property owners, while emphasizing the importance of this being a "friendly negotiation" with all property owners, despite the several holdouts. Mr. Motherway considered the resolution timing, and Susan showed they are on the 4th State rendition, and will hopefully be granted permit approval, potentially beginning construction in summer. There was also a \$600,000 OPM grant supplied; David asked for the total project cost, which was \$1.4M, including \$822,000 from last year (offset by the \$600,000 grant).

Michael suggested leaving the item as is, having "already gone down this path this far," with the Board in agreement.

Line 87 – Bicycling and Walking Greenway (\$1)

The Board elected to keep this item open at \$1.

Line 88 – Plan of Conservation and Development (\$50,000)

The Board discussed this item, with Ms. Young outlining historical challenges associated with it. Keith Brynes from Planning and Zoning detailed departments goals over the next year, with Mr. O'Brien asking how much is really needed for this fund over the next year. Mr. Brynes replied no work will be done on this over the next fiscal year, with the Board voting to adjust this to \$1.

Line 90 – Comprehensive Plan Update – Zoning Regulations (\$75,000)

The Board agreed to keep this project funded, explaining it needs to be done.

Line 92 – Online Permitting and Tracking (\$25,000)

Another ongoing project the Board agreed to keep funded.

Line 93 – Pawcatuck River Greenway – Phase I (\$1)

The Board left this item as is.

Line 99 – File Retention (\$53,500)

Ms. Young recalled this project was still in a beta phase and asked for progress pertaining to it. Town IT Manager Roger Kizer outlined a walk-through of this scanning/archival demo, concluding the program has gone well thus far. Ms. Burmahl noted the biggest cost involves a large format scanner, and to scan all Planning Department documents will cost \$175,000. Lynn considered the \$75,000 funded last year and asked for confirmation that \$125,000 worth of work will be undertaken this year. Mr. Brynes assured the Board this was possible. Danielle touched on the efficiencies this would provide, ridding the office of stacks of paper documents. The Board elected to keep this project funded as is.

Line 100 – Circus Lot Acquisition (\$15,000)

The BOF unanimously agreed to set this to \$1.

Line 101 – South Pier Renovation (\$1)

This item was left as is.

Line 103 – Stonington Harbor Breakwater Repair (\$1)

Another \$1 item left as is.

Line 104 – Contribution to Open Space Acquisition Fund (\$50,000)

Mr. O'Brien wanted to mark this a \$1 with Lynn and David in agreement. Danielle paused to stress the importance of this fund, with Bob considering the project's current progress a success, providing something to encourage its movement. Mr. O'Brien recalled there's still funding left in the account, and Danielle suggested revisiting the item later for consideration.

Mr. O'Brien was sympathetic and explained there's an undesignated fund balance that could be used here if a property came up. Michael outlined an exception to this – they wouldn't want to lose potential grant money with this item being underfunded. There was further discussion about the project and potential grant opportunities. Chris Johnson proposed keeping it funded at \$10,000. Bob said it was funded differently in the past, and asked if this could be funded differently in the future. Danielle clarified that the previous funding methods are no longer available. Michael proposed \$10,000 isn't enough to do anything for this item, thus he doesn't support it. The Board majority to fund it at \$1, with Chris and Bob proposing \$10,000 – leaving the item at \$1.

Climate Change Taskforce:

Line 108 – Climate Change Adaptation & Mitigation Program (\$250,000)

Ms. Chesebrough reminded the Board the original ask was \$500,000, with Lynn suggesting "when you have a project come back to us," commenting on the item's large expense. Danielle explained with things in the pipeline, it makes sense to build up a reserve. Bob asked what's currently in the account – \$10,000 is in it. Mr. O'Brien proposed \$10,000 for the program, and Mr. Fauerbach suggested we show some level of progress here, short of \$250,000. Danielle noted the topic came up during Bond Rating calls, and Chris Johnson asked how much of the

critical infrastructure is in the flood plain. Lynn noted that in a catastrophic flood scenario, the Town will be abandoned; there's not enough money to sustain living here. Mr. O'Brien reiterated his \$10,000, with Michael, Bob and Lynn supporting \$20,000, with the final item granted \$20,000.

Line 109 – Electric Vehicle Charging Station (\$30,000)

David asked if these are potential Infrastructure Bill items, and Mr. O'Brien confirmed they could be. Lynn expressed no interest in funding chargers to provide free energy to EVs with taxpayer dollars, and Mr. Motherway clarified this sentiment, voicing he's for it if the chargers take credit cards. There was further discussion on potential grant funding for them, and payment methods for users. Bob voicing that it's a good image for the Town to offer EV charging, and Mr. O'Brien noted there's already a few in the area. It was also suggested that with the 4th District Voting Hall getting repaved, this may be a good opportunity to incorporate a station. Mr. O'Brien outlined past examples where these types of project expenses spiral out of control very quickly. There was feedback provided to the Board, and Mr. O'Brien explained he recommends leaving it at \$1, so long as energy isn't given away to EV owners and construction costs can be managed. The Board adjusted this item to \$1 but noted future consideration for it.

Outside Agencies:

Line 117 PNC – New Pantry and Pantry Foyer Floor (\$19,850)

Mr. Sullivan added this as a last-minute CIP request. Ms. Young asked why this wasn't a Town CIP item, when the Facilities Manager should be handling this. Dennison Pequotsepos Nature Center Executive Director Davnet Conway explained that as a non-profit, this was filed differently. The Board agreed to keep this item funded as is.

Line 118 – Stonington Borough – Wadawanuck Square Comfort Station (\$50,000)

This item was previously set to \$0.

Line 119 – New England Science & Sailing – Wheelchair Lift (\$30,151)

David and Lynn pushed to make this \$1, recommending funds for it should be privately raised. Michael shared this sentiment, and Ms. Chesebrough reminded the Board that there's a second elevator NESS has done fundraising for. The Board discussed the benefits NESS provides, and if the project is worth funding, with Michael proposing \$10,000 with Ms. Norman, Mr. Statchen and Mr. Johnson in agreement. Item funded at \$10,000.

Line 120 – Mystic & Noank Library – Air Purification System (\$10,534)

Ms. Young proposed \$1 for this, saying she loves the libraries, but have provided them a lot of funding over the last few years. Ms. Young asked the Executive Director of the Mystic Noank Library Christine Bradley how much Groton has supported the fund, to which Ms. Bradley stated nothing – but Groton is being asked to fund an unrelated project. Christine explained this will fund a dehumidifier for the basement, and an air purifier as well. Lynn asked if they have an endowment, and Ms. Bradley explains they do, but will spend the funds soon. The Board voted to fund this item at \$5,000 (covering the dehumidifier expense).

Other Anticipated Revenue Sources:

Line 120 – Mystic & Noank Library – Air Purification System (\$10,534)

Mr. O'Brien requested an updated tally of where expenses lie. The CIP Town-side projects came to \$3,238,521.

The Chairman called for a 5-minute intermission at 8:33 pm, and the meeting was called to order at 8:38 pm.

For Stonington Public Schools, Line 133 – District Computers and Peripherals (\$400,000)

Mr. Motherway requested a summary of what's included from Chris Williston, the Director of Technology. It included three fiber optic runs, Wireless Access Points and for SHS, network switches for SHS and the District Office, tape backups, and six new servers, and System Events and Information Monitoring package – totaling \$392,029. David asked about the ROI on the fiber runs; Mr. Williston reported the ROI for WVS and the District Office was six years, and for the DMS nine years at a cost of \$7,600 per site. Mr. Motherway suggested we back out the fiber options, offsetting \$168,000 according to Chris. David asked if this was an acceptable compromise, with Chris noting these upgrades don't help them immediately, and may be funded later on. Therefore, David proposed funding the \$400,000 request by backing it down \$168,000. Chris provided some additional considerations regarding the fiber leasing options, outlining a timetable going forward, to which Mr. Fauerbach suggested revisiting the \$400,000 request next year, plus this \$168,000; or, Mr. Williston explained, we can lease the fiber indefinitely without paying to own it. Mr. O'Brien paraphrased, noting that with recovered Chromebook costs from this year, we have an opportunity to own the fiber access. The Board voted to fund this line item at \$232,000.

Line 134 – District Staff Laptop Computers – Purchases (\$50,000)

This item was to fund staff Apple laptop purchases, Chris clarified – unrelated to any Chromebook purchases. Mr. O'Brien noted that since this is for a two-year purchase totaling \$97,000, this will be \$47,000 next year. The Board agreed to leave this as is.

Line 135 – District Computers One-to-One – Purchase (\$150,000)

Mr. Motherway asked for this line to be revised to \$141,000, since the quote shows \$9,000, to be exact. This is also to build the fund towards next year's purchase. Item funded to \$141,000.

Line 136 – District Phone System (\$13,000)

The Board agreed to leave this as is.

Line 137 – Install Security System & Cameras – District Wide \$75,000

David specified this was another item quoted at \$71,000. The Board approved this item, at \$71,000.

Line 139 – Middle School AC Upgrade – SMS (\$1,400,000)

Mr. O'Brien addressed the potential \$90M State grant, and turned it over to BOE Chairman Farouk Rajab. Mr. Rajab said every state in CT will be applying for this grant, and underlined this has been an item he's approached the Board about for several years now. Therefore, Farouk strongly recommended fully funding this item, rather than prolong it another year. Farouk personally considers this the most important CIP item being contested this year – an extremely important project, for the health and safety of all students and staff. Michael requested clarification about the grant approval timeline, and Faruq noted you can't hinge this request based on not knowing if they'll be approved, when it will happen, and Stonington historically is the "bottom of the list" for grants. Director of Operations Peter Anderson summarized previous actions, noting two different AC types: a chilled beam process, or a VRF systems, and they really can only do the VRF process due to the school layout and time constraints, costing \$2.9M total. There was further discussion from the BOE outlining the proposal, and Mr. O'Brien asked what percentage of this is materials, and what percentage is for labor. Peter estimated 60% material, and 40% labor, with Mr. O'Brien noticing they were "almost there" with 60% of funding. Farouk highlighted that the project required all materials to be funded in advance, along with 50% of bid fees.

Bob again voiced his support of the SMS AC Upgrade, explaining this was his reasoning against using ARPA funds for other projects. There was further discussion outlining ARPA funds being spent on SHS HVAC repairs, vs the SMS repairs, with Lynn asking what the school received for ARPA/ESSER funds. Stonington Public Schools Director of Finance Gary Shettle the total funding was \$3.9M, with Lynn asking were 80% of ARPA/ESSER funds were spent (with 20% of the funds needing to be spent on education), and Gary said this funding was spent on teachers. Faruq noted these funds will need to be spent in July, with no other funds available to be put towards this project.

Michael followed up with the financial forecast he requested, with the BOE expecting \$100,000 due back, which should be closer to \$750,000 on paper. In other words, David said, there's over \$600,000 in projects that are encumbered, and the Board was asking what these were. Gary indicated there are unencumbered expenses such as the boiler repair expenses, fuel considerations, tutors, overtime, and many other items. Michael reiterating it's unclear – there should be some large-ticket items accounted for here. Mr. Motherway explained he echoes Michaels concerns, so he's voting to make this a \$1 item, which Lynn agreed with. Bob proposed keeping funding as is, while considering the Town Hall HVAC funding as well.

Faruq apologized before continuing – the BOF holds a crucial project in their hands, and it isn't fair the project could be considered a \$1 item, while using the BOE's operating expenses as a justification. Mr. O'Brien emphasized this single project is one third of the total CIP cost. Bob explained on behalf of the taxpayers, there's a due diligence requirement, and he is an ally – but he needs more information.

Stonington Public Schools Superintendent Dr. Van Riley stepped in, saying yes, they'll absolutely provide additional information about this, but faced with other children considerations, reducing it to \$1.4M (half of the money for the project), made it a fairly generous

ask on the BOE's behalf. Michael stressed his confusion regarding the requested forecast, thus suggests \$900,000 for the request. Mr. Motherway supported \$1, and Ms. Norman stated that without seeing the detailed figures, and being half of the CIP budget, she sides with Michael at \$900,000. Lynn continued she wants to see the project come to fruition – but must act on the taxpayer's behalf – with Mr. Motherway echoing this is a major impact for all taxpayers. Deliberations between the BOE and BOF continued, with each side presenting their cases extensively.

Ms. Young also suggested that this is the worst possible time to do a major HVAC project, with all the government money and contractor inflation. There was discussion over the usefulness of a \$900,000 request with Lynn suggested this may be an “all or nothing” situation. Michael again stressed there's \$500,000 unaccounted for that could be put towards this project. Bob asked again if \$900,000 is possible, and Gary explained they'll have to look over the numbers and follow up with the Board, with Farouk considering it a binary issue – it's all or nothing. In conclusion, Michael, Bob, Deborah, and Chris approved \$900,000 for the line item.

Line 140 – Interior Painting and Repairs – SMS & SHS (\$20,000)

The Board suggested this should be an operational budget item, adjusted to \$1.

Line 141 – Flooring Repair – Library (\$25,000)

Another consideration that should be operating, brought to \$1.

Line 142 – Upgraded Building Management System – SMS & DO (\$92,700)

Mr. Anderson presented the challenges of using outdated gear – having to acquire old, outdated circuit boards on eBay to keep the current system functional. Michael asked why this was an A item, and Mr. Anderson explained this has already been half-funded, with the District Office already done. Mr. Fauerbach asked if this could be put off a year, and Peter explained a number of systematic issues that could lead to much higher expenses. Item left funded as is.

Line 145 – Locks & Keys – District (\$20,000)

Another item that should have been an operating expense, adjusted to \$1.

Line 147 – Replacement Maintenance Truck – District (\$45,000)

Line 148 – Special Ed Mini Van Replacement (\$45,000)

Michael suggested grouping line 148/149 together, asking which of these vehicles take precedence to the BOE. Peter prefaced by saying there's a new truck from last year that has yet to come in. However, their worst truck is headed for the scrapyard. However, since the Special Ed minivan will be carrying kids, this is a more important item, and left fully funded (with the Maintenance truck brought to \$1).

Line 149 – Classroom Furniture (\$20,000)

Another operating expense in the Board opinion, brought to \$1.

Line 150 – Kitchen Equipment Upgrade (\$70,000)

The Board agreed this equipment is crucial for several reasons, but Mr. O'Brien stressed there should be no substitutions for these items. Left funded as is.

Line 151 – High School Generator Upgrade to Electrical Panels (\$15,000)

Lynn recommended finishing this project, with Michael asking to confirm this is the final step. Funded as is.

Line 152 – HS Gym Upgrade (\$35,000)

Ms. Young noted she thinks the gym is important, this was left funded as is.

Line 153 – High School Roof Top Unit Rebuild & Gym AC (\$266,000)

Ms. Young asked if this could be covered by a grant, and everyone was unsure. Michael asked why this was left behind, and Peter explained this is the last building without the AC, including all the ductwork as a cost-saving measure. Peter explained the students open gym doors, throwing everything out of balance. Mr. Motherway proposed \$1, and Mr. O'Brien proposed delaying this for a year, in hope grant money helps with it. The Board voted it to \$1.

Line 155 – Middle School Science Rooms Upgrade (\$10,000)

Lynn stressed the importance of this item, being educational, seconded by Bob. Michael asked why this was a "C" consideration. Peter explained that he thought the truck was more important, but honestly would delegate these all as "A" items. The Board left this item funded as is.

Line 156 – Track/Turf Replacement/Repair

Mr. O'Brien noted this was taken down to \$0, before deliberations.

Line 157 – High School Roof Repair (\$250,000)

Lynn expressed the roof caving in is not an option, the Board left this item as is.

Line 158 – Audio/Video Systems – District (\$120,000)

Ms. Young was partial to this call to action, but also noted not enough is being cut so far. Mr. Williston explained an option is to fund one of the two laser projectors at \$49,000. Mr. O'Brien suggested taking it down to \$1, but Chris reminded the Board any day the projector is about to die. Ultimately the Board elected to take this down to \$1.

Line 159 – Floor Burnishers (\$24,000)

Lynn suggested \$1, with the Board in consensus.

The Chairman requested the current Education CIP budget as it stands. \$3,155,750 of requests was reduced to \$1,924,708. Ms. Young asked for the total budget – \$5,163,229.

At 9:45 pm the Chairman suggested the Board reviews the operating budget, department by department.

For Miscellaneous Revenue, Line 49 – Miscellaneous (\$15,000)

Addressing the entire Miscellaneous category, Michael explained that historically this has been a

much higher expense. Mr. Sullivan explained the bulk of this is from portfolio and claims history influences this annual dividend – but he doesn't personally count on it. Mr. Sullivan explained he can bump this item up to \$40,000 this year.

Line 51 – Data Processing Revenue (\$25,000)

Mr. Sullivan outlined an admin service charge the tax collector charges to Fire Districts, noting a 10% increase on revenue charges. Thus, this can be upped by \$8,000, to a total of \$33,000.

Line 55 – Transfer in From Benefit Assessment Fund

James explained this stems from sewer funds; when towns pay to have sewers installed, this assesses the users of said sewers. As money was collected in the fund, it's paid back to the Town. As of now, it's dry, and can't be tapped this year.

For First Selectman's operating budget, Line 54 – Beautification Committee (\$5,000)

Mr. Fauerbach suggested that he finds the plants, flowers, etc. so essential, upping it to \$7,500. The Board approved this increase.

Under Administrative Services, Human Resources, Line 45 – Labor Negotiations (\$149,641)

Ms. Burmahl explained this line should be \$90,000

Line 47 – Pension Plan, Defined Benefit (\$524,327)

Ms. Burmahl continued, noting this should be increased to \$583,968, a \$59,641 COLA adjustment.

Line 57 – Health Insurance (\$2,150,000)

Ms. Burmahl advocated for reducing this to \$2,120,000.

Line 26 – Technology Support Specialist (\$137,036)

Jim noted that this was increased by \$9,273, a new hire rate previously unaccounted for.

Line 72 – Project Assistant (\$15,000)

Michael addressed this item, and Ms. Burmahl explained if the new Sustainability Manager is approved, this \$15,000 will come out of this line item.

For the Planning Department, Line 6 – Sustainability Manager (\$64,000)

Mr. O'Brien reminded the Board we could do away with this position or the Technology Support Specialist, but not both. Danielle noted a \$35,000 Flood Plain Manager stipend is part of this role, but it could take up to six months to get someone certified and on board with the role. This role would supply grant funding and should pay for itself easily. Bob expressed appreciation for Danielle looking into this, and thought it was a smart move forward. The Board was in approval of this role.

Therefore, the Administrated Services \$15,000 role was reduced to \$0.

For Planning, Line 21– Community Rating System/Flood Plain Management Services (\$35,000)

Danielle advised cutting this item by half, and Mr. O'Brien suggested \$15,000 instead. The Board agreed to \$15,000.

Under Planning, Climate Change Task Force, Line 43 – Clerical Meetings (\$1)

Line 44 – Seminars & Programs (Training & Education) (\$999)

Line 45 – Professional Services (\$1,000)

Lines 43, 44 and 45 were all reduced to \$1.

Moving on Finance, Line 53 – Contingency (\$430,000)

James noted a \$5,000 increase was needed here, totaling \$435,000.

Line 28 – Postage (\$16,500)

James noted an increase of \$1,500 here, totaling \$18,000.

Going back to Planning, Line 18 – Training and Education (\$2,500)

Michael asked for some clarification about the price jumping from \$600 last year. This was used for ongoing education, and it was suspected that perhaps due to Covid-19 costs, it may have affected the line item.

For the Highway Department, Line 35 – General Repairs and Maintenance (\$225,000)

Lynn asked why there was a \$78,000 to this item, with Ms. McKrell explaining this had to do with replacing equipment and the aging fleet.

Line 50 – Snow Removal Labor (\$140,000)

Michael asked about the \$10,000 increase for this, and Barbara explained she hadn't asked for an increase for this in years, and probably should have over the last eight years. This also accounts for COLA increases.

Solid waste was discussed, but without Director of Solid Waste John Phetteplace available, some of these charges were difficult to sort out. Board Members had a general note about a storm contingency cost that could be adjusted, which the Board chose to ignore for now.

Moving on to Engineering Services Line 3 – Assistant Engineer (\$72,836)

The Board agreed this was a necessary role, reducing Line 8 – Phase II Storm Water Requirements by \$45,000 (already reflected in the budget).

For Facilities Maintenance, Mr. O'Brien wouldn't change anything, but considered heating fuel estimates are most likely low.

For Building Expenses, Mr. Sullivan reviewed several lines and found a net increase of \$1,500.

For WPCA, there were no adjustments made.

For Police, Line 3 – Salary of the Captain (\$237,930)

Mr. Fauerbach noted the salary for the Captain could perhaps be adjusted, despite the cascading effect it would have. Lynn noted mathematically this number must remain as it is due to the new position being proposed. There was extensive discussion about the structure of police budget, which the Board discussed with Cpt. Olson. Mr. Statchen commended the department's notable

achievements but questioned what taxpayers would think about hiring costs with crime down thirty five percent. Cpt. Olson replied you'd have to ask the legislatures that passed the accountability bill. Bob noted that that supposedly this was going to be expensive, due to insurance hikes, and litigation, etc. and asked if insurance has increased; Cpt. Olson affirmed it has not, but there's also an issue of officers being hesitant to make as many stops as they used to due to this. Danielle explained at this point, this cost is simply about accreditation. Cpt. Olson suggested, how about holding off hiring the new Captain until Jan 1st, and cut the Captain salary in half? Michael noted to review the salary next year, and the Board was grateful for Cpt. Olson's sacrifice. Line 3 was reduced by \$59,482.

Line 7 – Janitorial/Maintenance Salary (\$88,222)

Mr. Sullivan noted there's another line item to address, an increase of this line item by \$7,342, with Cpt. Olson praising the janitor/maintenance man's dedicated work and wanting to increase his pay from \$31.25 to \$35 per hour. The Board approved this expense, bringing it to \$95,564.

Line 50 – Retirement Fund (\$1,020,000)

This line had a \$50,000 increase planned, but was reduced by \$25,000, by pushing back the new Captain position until January 2023.

Moving on to Human Services, Libraries Line 48 – Stonington Historical Society (\$7,500)

Chris suggested dropping this by \$2,500, and Ms. Norman noted that this last payment extended over many years, which should end this fiscal year.

For Human Services, Outside Agencies Line 51 – Westerly Pops Concert (\$9,000)

Michael addressed the Westerly Pops, noting he hates to discuss this item – but it is a notable increase. Mr. O'Brien reminded the Board this year is unique, with \$5,000 paying for the Pops Concert and \$3,000 covering the chorus education at WVS in town. Director of Human Services Leanne Theodore stressed the importance of the program and communal impact, and this doesn't duplicate anything they current offer. Mr. O'Brien noted the accounting of this is unusual, and perhaps it should be a HS program or BOE program – but probably not under Outside Agencies.

Line 74 – Westerly Ambulance (\$75,000)

Michael noted quite a large jump in this, questioning why this was, with Chris noting there was a lack of volunteers for it. Assistant Chief and Treasurer of Westerly Ambulance Mike Mercado addressed a number of setbacks: they just had two volunteers resign after non getting raises in three years, they haven't had a new ambulance since 2016, reimbursements went way down, and the lost hospital business when Yale/New Haven took over and has since gone with private services. Mike continued, noting he's made every cut possible and they're still bleeding money – the fully funded ambulance service is \$2.7M dollars, so a \$32,500 increase over last year is low in consideration. Mr. Fauerbach noted only twenty two percent of calls are for Stonington, however. Mr. Motherway asked what the collection rate is for bills, and the rate is 31% of \$900,000 billed. Michael referenced line 72, Stonington Ambulance is getting \$70,000, and he would rather not fund Westerly more. Lynn asked where most of the budget comes from, and 81% comes from billing – without RI state funding, Covid-19 funding, etc. Michael proposed \$70,000 but the rest of the Board agreed to leave this at \$75,000.

Moving on to the BOE budget, Decision pkg night custodian (\$79,899)

Lynn asked what the night custodian role was about, and Mr. Anderson explained with custodians out at a rate of 1.5 per day, they are constantly short staffed due to vacation/OT. Ms. Young also noticed that there's a good deal of new hires, asking if they are all necessary, especially with 168 fewer kids. Dr. Van Riley noted that it's closer to 60 less kids, which is why they reduced three teachers.

Human Resources Director (\$152,731)

Mr. Statchen asked Farouk for more assessment data validating a need for new positions (especially the proposed \$152,731 Human Resource Director). Mr. Rajab compared salaries, locations and certification types from New London, Groton and LEARN showed these figures, with Bob explaining these are all much larger districts. Bob asked if there was relevant metrics from East Lyme or Old Lyme, for example, and Farouk noted they didn't list those metrics. Bob explained to support these positions without comparative analysis, this difficult to support as a fan of best practices. There was further discussion about the comparisons between the BOE and Board.

Decision pkg athletic trainer (\$51,350)

Moving on to other proposed positions, Michael didn't recall hearing about an Athletic Trainer during the BOE presentation. Dr. Riley explained this was a previously contracted out position, that they are wanting to hire as an employee next year. Michael asked why the Pupil Services/Athletic Trainer line wouldn't reflect a decrease by \$50,000. Gary explained this is the difference between the proposed \$51,000 full-time position, and the current \$35,000 spent on part-time contract work. Mr. O'Brien asked effectively the full-time cost is the same as hiring two contracted trainers, and Gary explained that after benefits, it's closer to \$82,000-85,000. Michael admitted this BOE spreadsheet was terribly confusing, essentially double-counting costs and listing benefits in separate line items from the newly proposed positions. There was a good deal of confusion and detailing proposed costs between the BOE and Board at this stage.

David asked Director of Special Services Allison Ven Etten if the Less Revenue Estimate lines reflect smaller reimbursable costs due to students graduating or aging out, to which Allison explained this is reimbursement they get back for what was once paid for that student.

Mr. O'Brien noticed over the last 10 years, BOE has lost enrollment by three percent consistently since 2012, and it's still projected to drop. The Board discussed enrollment concerns with the BOE for a bit.

Michael addressed the custodian's salary, and if there was any consideration for this being a contracted position, assuming it would come in over \$79,899 with close to \$30,000 in benefits. Peter clarified the Night Custodian includes the full benefits, and Dr. Riley expressed a contracted custodian isn't possible, since it's a Union job. Michael asked if the Athletic Trainer is currently contracted out, then why hire them on with full benefits, and Dr. Riley claimed this was a student safety concern. There was discussion about new positions and other discrepancies, with Mr. Motherway concluding there's a 1.69% increase to the BOE budget overall. Bob said the biggest concern was the HR director, and he wished for more statistics, but he's onboard with the 1.69% increase. Michael explained he's still unsure of these numbers, but he approves, as well as Mr. Johnson, with the final Education budget proposed at \$38,984,553.

Mr. O'Brien asked Mr. Sullivan what the overall budget is \$77,339,387, a year-over-year increase of \$4,202,856, a 5.75% increase overall. Michael asked if this was the expense increase or the Mill Rate, and Mr. Sullivan reported a Mill Rate increase of 0.53, or 2.22% and revenue to be raised by taxes would increase by 5.89%.

Mr. Sullivan continued that looking at year-to-date, for some of the revenue accounts (building permits, conveyance tax, Town Clerk fees) – the Town had a good year last year and another bumper crop this year, likely coming in a bit over budget estimates. Mr. Sullivan advised that this won't necessarily follow next year, with James asking if we want to keep the budget revenues relatively flat. Lynn advised being careful with the transfer tax aspect because it doesn't have inventory, with Mr. O'Brien suggesting to leave things as they are for now.

Mr. O'Brien called for the Member's advice on these issues. Michael explained this is for the taxpayers, and they care about a Mill Rate increase, and while the Town can afford a percentage in expenditures, there's been an increase in the Grand List and collection rate, but a 2.2% increase is within reason. David noted that with the reevaluation next year, if the Board doesn't take an opportunity to decrease the Mill Rate, there could be major impacts in the Town – and it could be a big deal. There was discussion about how the real estate market also affects these figures. Ms. Young noted the Mill Rate is one thing, the cost of government is something else – when expenditures go up 5.75% after cuts that's the cost of government, which compounds, and so on. This also figures in almost \$9M in ARPA funds, and forgetting who was taxed, how they were taxed, what the tax is, is obscene. Michael expressed there have also been a number of lean years, and the ARPA funds were used to catch up. Ms. Young said if you look at the last 10-years, the increases have been pretty significant, and it doesn't correlate with population – it just gets more and more expensive, and at some point, there needs to be a break.

Mr. O'Brien asked if \$1.5M was taken out of Fund Balance, what does that do to the numbers? Mr. Sullivan explained it would be a .02 increase in the Mill Rate, with a 3.66% tax increase. Michael explained you're raising more taxes but have a higher Grand List, with the average taxpayer caring about their tax bill and Mill Rate increase. The Board deliberated about this further, and why this year is so unusual, referring to large CIP expenses and the ARPA funds.

Bob asked about the process using the \$1.5M reserve funds, with Mr. O'Brien explaining it's currently at \$3.9M over the access – fund balance as of 6-30-21, less two months operating (for this year's budget) and \$1M less from the BOF operating cushion, leaving the \$3.9M.

Bob asked about the \$1.5M has being used for this, and Mr. O'Brien suggested \$1.5M to leave access for large fuel/oil bills he's predicting this year. Mr. O'Brien elaborated, the \$1M buffer covers two months of operating as a buffer, to cover incidents such as a \$300,000 storm – which maintains the Town's AAA Bond rating. The Board discussed the pros and cons of using different reserve amounts, and the cascading effects of lowering or increasing this figure.

Mr. O'Brien asked Mr. Sullivan what if \$1M was taken from the fund balance, and James noted this would be a Mill Rate increase of 0.19, with a 0.8% rate increase.

Bob approved of the original suggestion of using \$1.5M, using the reserve fund since it's there, noting the \$3.9M is conservative with the 2-months operating cost. Ms. Young and Mr. Motherway were against the \$1.5M reserve idea, and Ms. Norman seemed to approve. Michael

explained it's not as dire as it's often expected, and the residents of the Town are expecting a 0% tax increase when factoring everything else going up. Mr. Motherway noted he strongly disapproves of a 6% budget increase, and thinks it's a bad precedent to set, however, especially factoring in the ARPA funds. Mr. O'Brien recommended using \$1M from the reserves once again, to account for certain uncertainties, and not to just make things artificially low. Bob explained there may also be grant monies on the horizon, to help with other expenses. Mr. Statchen and Mr. Johnson voted to use \$1M from the reserve funds after Chairman asked them a second time.

Mr. O'Brien request a final tally from Mr. Sullivan.

Total Proposed Budget – \$77,339,387

General Government – \$25,462,299

Education – \$38,984,553

Debt Service – \$7,729,306

Capital Improvements (CIP) – \$5,163,229

Mill Rate - 24.04, a nominal increase of 0.19 and a percentage increase of 0.8%

The Chairman called for a motion to send to the voters the total proposed budget. Mr. Statchen motioned; Mr. Fauerbach seconded the motion. Chairman O'Brien called for further discussion; there was none.

Mr. Fauerbach, Ms. Norman, Mr. Statchen and Mr. Johnson voted in favor of the motion, Ms. Young, and Mr. Motherway were opposed to the motion. The Chairman announced the motion will carry, noting a 5-2 vote.

Chairman O'Brien called for a motion to adjourn. Mr. Johnson motioned, Ms. Norman seconded, motion passed unanimously at 11:43 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Justin Eckert

Board of Finance Recording Secretary