

TOWN OF STONINGTON
BOARD OF FINANCE MEETING
Stonington Police Department Meeting Room
Wednesday, August 3rd, 2022
7:15 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, Deborah Norman, Lynn Young, Bob Statchen and Chris Johnson. Members Michael Fauerbach and David Motherway were not in attendance.

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:15 pm.

Public Comments: None.

Previous Minutes: The Chairman called for a motion to approve the April 6th, May 4th, May 25th and June 1st, 2022, regular meeting minutes in bulk; Lynn Young motioned, with Deb Norman seconding the motion. The Chairman asked for any corrections or addenda to the minutes from the Board Members and there was none. The Chairman called for a vote on the motion to approve the minutes, and the motion was unanimously carried.

The Chairman requested a motion from the members to move the ARPA Grant Funding Requests to the first item under new business, before the Solid Waste Residential contract discussion reflected in the meeting agenda. Ms. Young motioned, with Ms. Norman seconding the motion. The Chairman clarified he'd like to address the ARPA Grant Funding Request items first, while the First Selectman is able to join the meeting remotely. The motion was unanimously passed.

ARPA Grant Funding Requests: The Chairman called for a motion to approve an ARPA Grant Funding Request of \$86,420.00 to fund an art installation project for the Veteran's Monument; Ms. Young motioned, and Chris Johnson seconded the motion. Stonington First Selectman Danielle Chesebrough outlined the request, by proposing Stonington artists could pay tribute to local veterans by incorporating an art installation with the monument.

Ms. Chesebrough explained a criteria for the art installation would be created with a committee reviewing and scoring artist submissions. The chosen artist or artists will receive a \$10,000.00 stipend and be recognized as part of the project. Danielle noted that if the ARPA request is granted, an additional \$20,000.00 in fundraising would still be needed for the monument, but she thinks the task is feasible.

There were questions from Board Members about the logistics of using local artists for the monument, followed by a discussion over the use of ARPA funds. Mr. O'Brien explained due to recently canceled or re-appropriated projects, \$403,272.00 is currently in contingency. Director

of Finance, James Sullivan, noted \$25,749.00 can also go to contingency due to a SECOG program cancellation. Chris Johnson asked how much ARPA funding had already been dispersed, and Mr. Sullivan clarified \$833,000.00 was spent before detailing the status of other projects. Ms. Young specified she was originally opposed to funding the memorial with local tax dollars, but since estimates for planned ARPA projects came in so high, she's supportive of using ARPA funds towards the memorial. The Chairman called for a vote to pass the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

The Chairman called for a motion to approve an ARPA Grant Funding Request of \$19,975.00 from the Human Services Director, to fund the West Pavilion roof replacement at Spellman Park. Ms. Norman made the motion, which was seconded by Ms. Young. Mr. O'Brien explained that the West Pavilion roof is leaking, so the HS Director requested to allocate funds from ARPA contingency to fund the roof repair. It was also noted that the Human Services ARPA funded HVAC project has been cancelled, so there should be adequate funds in contingency for the roof. The Chairman called for a vote, and the motion was unanimously passed.

Discussion of renegotiated Solid Waste hauling contract: The Chairman advised the Board that the contract has been tabled, due to ongoing contract negotiations.

Bid Waiver Request from the Board of Education IT Director (Apple Computers for fiscal 2022/2023): The BOE IT Director, Chris Williston, requested a \$19,204.00 bid waiver for Apple Computers during the 2022/2023 fiscal year. The Chairman called for a motion to approve the bid waiver request for purchase; Chris motioned and Bob Statchen seconded. Mr. Williston stated the bid waiver will allow him to purchase computers directly from Apple for the remainder of the year, but he's applying for additional grants as well. The Chairman called for a vote on the bid waiver request, and the motion unanimously passed.

Bid Waiver Request from the Director of Human Services (West Pavilion roof): The Director of Human Services, Leanne Theodore, asked for a bid waiver request for \$19,975.00 for Pawcatuck Roofing to repair the Spellman Park West Pavilion roof. The Chairman called for a motion to approve the bid waiver request, Mr. Young motioned, seconded by Mr. Statchen. The Chairman called for a vote, and the motion passed unanimously.

Bid Waiver request from Lieutenant Schneider for Stonington Police (four Police cars): Lieutenant Schneider requested a bid waiver request for four Police cars from MHQ for a total of \$138,448.40. The Chairman asked for a motion approving the bid waiver request. Mr. Statchen made the motion and Ms. Young seconded. Lt. Schneider stated that cars are in short supply, but that MHQ had purchased two hundred vehicles on spec, therefore Lt. Schneider encouraged purchasing these vehicles as soon as possible from MHQ. Mr. Statchen voiced his appreciation that the cars will be provided by MHQ, a state-approved contractor. The Chairman asked for a vote, and the motion unanimously passed.

The Chairman called for a motion to add to the agenda a second bid waiver request from the BOE IT Director, for two Lu Duo Interactive Projectors totaling \$58,408.00, from CDW. Ms. Norman made the motion, which was seconded by Ms. Young. The Chairman called for a vote, and the motion unanimously passed. Item was added to the agenda.

Bid Waiver request from BOE IT Director Mr. Williston (two Lu Duo Interactive Projectors):

The Chairman called for a motion to approve the bid waiver request from the BOE IT Director for \$58,408.00 to purchase two Lu Duo Interactive Projectors from CDW. The motion was made by Mr. Statchen and seconded by Mr. Johnson. Mr. Williston explained the CDW quotes are for two interactive projectors – one for Dean’s Mill School, and the other for West Vine Street School. Mr. Williston also detailed several grant requests he plans to apply for that may help with some of the costs. The Chairman called for a vote on the bid waiver request, and the motion unanimously passed.

Line-Item Transfers for fiscal 2021/2022:

- 1) The Chairman requested a motion to approve the request from the Finance Director to transfer \$107,750.00 from account #10139-80419 “Principal for 2013 GOB” to account #10138-80429 “2021 Refunding of 2013 GOB”. The motion was made by Ms. Young, and seconded by Mr. Johnson. Ms. Young asked the Finance Director what the interest rate was for the refunding bond, and Mr. Sullivan stated each bond was less than 2%.

The Chairman called for a vote, and the motion was unanimously passed.

- 2) The Chairman called for a motion approving the request from the Finance Director to transfer \$7,962.00 and \$6,334.00 from account #10136-80197 “Legal Support” to account #10136-80321 “Accounting and Auditing” and #10136-80368 “PCB Testing” respectively, to cover bid price for audit and additional PCB testing at DMS and WVSS. Mr. Johnson made the motion, which was seconded by Mr. Statchen. The Chairman called for questions, and Ms. Young asked how long the PCB testing will continue for, and the Board discussed the timeline until the process will be complete. Mr. Sullivan responded that we’re currently in the process of requesting an end date to monitoring and testing, with the EPA, and are hopeful we can stop testing semi-annually after the winter of 2023, and institute a plan for two more rounds of sampling, one in 2025 and one in 2030, at which point if results are still positive any further testing will cease.

The Chairman requested a vote, and the motion unanimously passed.

- 3) The Chairman called for a motion to approve the request from the Director of Finance to approve BOE CIP line-item transfers totaling \$5,923.68 from account #4022019-88168 “BOE Athletic Field Repair” to account #4022020-88298 “Health Center SMS”

(\$4,427.19), account #4022020-88303 “Classroom Upgrades” (\$349.30), and account #4022022-88338 “SHS Gym Upgrade” (\$1,147.19) respectively. Mr. Statchen motioned, and Ms. Young seconded the motion. Mr. Sullivan explained in 2019, \$25,000.00 was budgeted for a netting system on the baseball field, but the school purchased the netting and installed it with their maintenance team instead of using a vendor, saving \$15,000.00. There was additional discussion between Mr. Sullivan and the Board pertaining to possible uses for the surplus funds, and where funding is being moved to. Mr. O’Brien called for additional questions, and there were none.

The Chairman called for a vote, and the motion was unanimously passed.

Additional Appropriation Request in fiscal 2021/2022 and fiscal 2022/2023: Mr. Sullivan mentioned there was nothing to date to report, and there were no follow-up questions from the Board.

Discussion about possible computers for BOF Members: Mr. Sullivan shared that Stonington IT Manager Roger Kizer suggested providing computers for BOF and other Board Members for use in the Police Station Meeting Room. The Board discussed the possibility, and concluded that new computers in the Meeting Room really aren’t necessary.

Correspondence: Correspondence pertaining to the Veterans Memorial, was already discussed during the discussion about the request for ARPA funding for the Memorial.

Liaison Reports

WPCA Liaison report: Ms. Young reported there was a bit of a rough go after the previous Director retired, but the new Director is up to speed and working out well. Ms. Young informed the Board that the I&I study is progressing, but that the drought has complicated and delayed certain necessary I&I studies that need to be conducted.

BOE Liaison report: Mr. Motherway, the BOE Liaison, was not in attendance, but the Chairman noted that he spoke to the Chairman of the BOE, and was advised that 50% of the engineering for the SMS HVAC project was complete, and the current plan is to implement the project in three phases.

The Chairman requested a motion to adjourn, Ms. Young motioned, with Ms. Norman seconding. The motion was passed unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Justin Eckert', with a stylized, cursive script.

Justin Eckert

Board of Finance Recording Secretary