

**TOWN OF STONINGTON**  
**BOARD OF FINANCE SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES**  
**DISTRICT OFFICE BOARD ROOM**  
**40 FIELD STREET, PAWCATUCK**  
**Thursday, May 04, 2023**  
**7:15 PM**

A meeting of the Board of Finance was held on this date at the District Office Meeting Room. Members present were Tim O'Brien, Bryan Bentz, Chris Johnson, and Lynn Young. Michael Fauerbach, Deborah Norman, and Bob Statchen were not in attendance.

Mr. O'Brien called the meeting to order at 7:15 pm.

Public Comments: No comments from the public.

Previous Minutes: The Chairman requested a motion to approve the April 05, 2023, meeting minutes. Ms. Young motioned, and Mr. Bentz seconded it. The Chairman asked members for any discussion or corrections pertaining to the minutes. No edits or corrections were noted. The Chairman called for a vote to approve the minutes, and the motion was unanimously approved.

Line-item Transfer Requests:

Chris Greenlaw, Town Engineer, requested the Board approve two-line item transfers with the ARPA grants budget to help fund the Town Hall HVAC project, a/c#248515-88346, which is being undertaken using ARPA grant funds. The first is for a transfer of \$247,485 from the ARPA Town Hall Parking Lot Paving and Drainage project line-item, a/c#248515-82705, and the second is a transfer of the remainder of the ARPA Contingency line-item of \$87,838, a/c#248515-80435. The Chairman called for a motion to approve the two line-item transfer requests. Mr. Bentz motioned, and Ms. Young seconded the motion. The Chairman asked for questions and discussion. There was some discussion between the Board and Town Engineer regarding the total cost of the project and project timeline. The Town Engineer responded that the project had to start soon because heating season starts in October so the project has to be done by then, and that the sole bid for the project came in at \$2,039,896. Member Johnson, inquired as to why only one company bid. The Town Engineer responded that they had had four firms at the walkthrough but didn't know why three of them didn't submit a bid. The Chairman requested a vote, and the line-item transfers were passed unanimously.

Chris Greenlaw, Town Engineer, requested a second line-item transfer, also to complete the funding of the Town Hall HVAC project, in the total amount of \$226,112.50, from the following CIP accounts: a/c's # 4022021-88323 WBSS for \$19,843.24, a/c#4022022-88323 WBSS for \$30,000, a/c#4022023-88323 WBSS for \$50,000, a/c#4022023-88255 Human Services HVAC replacement, and a/c#4022021-88344 Town Hall Roof Replacement.

The Chairman called for a motion to approve the two line-item transfer requests. Mr. Bentz motioned, and Ms. Young seconded the motion. The Chairman asked for questions and discussion. The Town Engineer explained to the Board that this second transfer would provide the project with a \$230,000 contingency balance that he believes a project of this size demands. The Chairman called for a vote, and the line-item transfers were passed unanimously.

The Chief of Police, and Deputy Chief, requested a line-item transfer of \$48,000.00, from the Highway "Snow Plowing Labor" account, #10151-80240, to SPD account #10161-80522 "Building Maintenance" to fund the buildout of the new EOC center at the PD. The Chairman called for a motion to approve the line-item transfer request. Mr. Johnson motioned, and Ms. Young seconded the motion. The Chairman asked the members for any questions or discussion. The Members asked if a dedicated EOC was truly necessary, and what was wrong with the one they have now. The Chief explained that the technology to run the EOC is getting more complex and that they need to have a permanent installation of technology, it's now getting much too difficult to set up the old temporary EOC each time there is an event. The Chairman called for a vote on the motion, and the line-item transfer was passed unanimously.

The First Selectman, and representatives from the Beautification Committee, requested a line-item transfer of \$33,702.00, from the Highway "Snow Removal Materials" account, #10151-80241, to the "Donahue Park Security Lighting CIP" account #4022022-88352, to fund six lighting projects in and around Donahue Park. The Chairman called for a motion to approve the line-item transfer request. Ms. Young motioned, and Mr. Johnson seconded the motion. The Chairman asked the members for any questions or discussion. Mr. O'Brien and Ms. Young both expressed their opinion that the current lighting at Donahue was sufficient as is, and adding more lighting might draw more people to the park after closing hours. There was much spirited conversation between the Board, the First Selectman, and the BC representative, Carol Nossek. In the end, the Chairman communicated to everyone, that the absent Board Members, Mr. Fauerbach, Ms. Norman, and Mr. Statchen, requested the request be tabled until the next meeting when they would be able to participate in the discussion and vote. The Chairman then asked Ms. Young to withdraw her motion, which she did. The Chairman called for a motion to table the request until the June 7<sup>th</sup> BOF meeting. Ms. Young motioned, and Mr. Johnson seconded the motion. The Chairman called for a vote on the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

#### Bid Waiver Requests:

The WPCA Director, requested a bid waiver to purchase a new Magnetite Recovery Drum from Evoqua Water Technologies, for \$77,965.46. The Chairman called for a motion to approve the bid waiver request. Ms. Young motioned, and Mr. Bentz seconded the motion. The Chairman asked the members for any questions or discussion. The Members asked why not bid this item out. Mr. Smith responded that this is a custom piece of equipment, and that it won't actually be a new piece of equipment, but rather, Evoqua Water Technologies, the original manufacturer is going to refurbish the one they currently have. The Chairman called for a vote on the motion, and the request was passed unanimously.

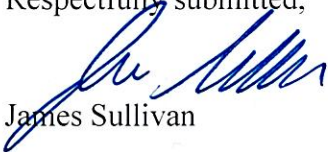
Appointment of Auditor:

The Finance Director requested the Board appoint the outside auditor for the fiscal 22/23 audit. The Chairman called for a motion to approve the request. Mr. Johnson motioned, and Ms. Young seconded the motion. The Chairman inquired of the Finance Director as to whether he is satisfied with the performance of the current auditor, and whether the Finance Director recommends reengaging them for the fiscal 22/23 audit. The Finance Director responded he is very pleased with the firm, O'Connor Davies, and thinks they are one of the premier firms in the municipal audit space, and highly recommends them for the 22/23 audit. The Chairman called for a vote on the motion, and the request was passed unanimously.

Liaison Reports: (No liaison reports)

The Chairman called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Bentz motioned, and Ms. Young seconded. The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'James Sullivan', is written over the printed name.

James Sullivan

Director of Finance