

TOWN OF STONINGTON
BOARD OF FINANCE SPECIAL MEETING
Virtual Meeting/Stonington Police Dept Meeting Room
Wednesday, April 1, 2021

The Stonington Board of Finance held a virtual/hybrid meeting on this date immediately following the Public Hearing to discuss input from the public on the proposed Fiscal Year 2021/2022 budget.

Chairman Tim O'Brien, Mr. Glen Frishman and Mr. David Motherway were present at the Police Department Meeting Room, Mr. Michael Fauerbach, Ms. Lynn Young, Mr. Bob Statchen and Ms. Deb Norman were remotely present.

Finance Director Jim Sullivan was present remotely. Chairman O'Brien called the meeting to order at 5:57 p.m.

Chairman O'Brien inquired to Board members if anyone had any comments they would like to bring up after hearing the public input.

Ms. Lynn Young had questions regarding the distribution of funding for the three libraries. Pointing out that last year the Library Subcommittee established a formula for funding the libraries at 50/25/25, Ms. Young questioned why the budget presented by the Selectmen did not comply with the formula. First Selectman Chesebrough stated that it was an oversight and the current version of the budget had been adjusted to reflect level funding consistent with last year's funding. The Selectman noted that in the future the funding will be disbursed accordingly to the formula.

Ms. Young asked if the total dollars to the libraries are known, would it not make sense to disburse the funds proportionately to the formula now. First Selectman Chesebrough felt it would not be prudent to decrease funding to Westerly and Mystic-Noank without warning or a conversation with the libraries and felt the same level funding as last year was preferable. Ms. Young pointed out the fact that oversight or not they did violate the formula that was put in place.

Mr. Fauerbach stated he thought that what is proposed in the budget is consistent with what all the letters to the Board were asking for, which is maintain the level of funding. Should the formula be applied there would be a slight downward adjustment for those two libraries and Mr. Fauerbach added he would not feel comfortable doing that at this juncture. However, Mr. Fauerbach noted that Ms. Young's point is valid, there was a guideline that was established last year and that should be applied going forward.

Mr. Motherway proposed that the libraries be informed now of the allocation formula for next year so going forward they could work with

that number for an operating budget. This would eliminate any questions for next year.

As no changes to the presented budget would be made on the library funding, Chairman O'Brien suggested that the discussion be a part of the Board's regularly scheduled meeting agenda to further discuss the issue.

Hearing no other discussion, Mr. Frishman motioned to send the budget as follows to the Board of Selectmen:

General Government	\$23,893,408
Education	\$38,335,596
Debt Service	\$ 8,134,208
Capital Improvement	\$ 2,773,319
Total	\$73,136,531

Mr. Motherway seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

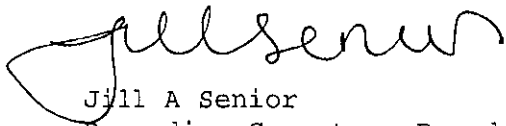
The mill rate increase is .49 mils.

The new proposed mill rate is 23.85

There was no new guidance on the American Rescue Plan funding and Chairman O'Brien suggested it would be on the agenda for the next regularly scheduled meeting.

Mr. Frishman motioned to adjourn. Mr. Motherway seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 6:11pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Jill A Senior
Recording Secretary Board of Finance