

Wednesday, March 22, 2017

A Special Meeting of the Board of Finance was held on this date in the meeting room at the Stonington Police Department. Members present were Chairman Bryan Bentz, June Strunk, Glenn Frishman, Tim O'Brien, Mike Fauerbach and Blunt White. Also present were Selectmen Rob Simmons and Mike Spellman, Finance Director James Sullivan, Police Captain Todd Olson, BOE Chairman Frank Todisco, BOE Director of Finance Gary Shettle, Director of Facilities Bill King, and several school administrators and Board of Ed members.

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

Bid Waiver – Captain Olson explained the need for the replacement of the town fuel management system, which was approved in last year's CIP budget. He said that they would like to use Service Station Equipment, Inc., which initially installed the system. The company services the system, as well as the highway equipment and fuel tanks. Mr. Frishman made a motion to approve the waiver, Mrs. Strunk seconded, and voting was unanimous.

Board of Education Budget Presentation- Mr. Todisco presented the highlights of the proposed 2017-2018 BOE budget which carries a 2.12% increase. He mentioned that the BOE negotiated a High Deductible Health Plan with the Stonington Education Association, which saves the district money, and that SEA also agreed to a 5% cap on premium increases. Mr. Todisco also said that the BOE was able to negotiate favorable electrical costs for the coming year. He stated that there are no new programs added this year.

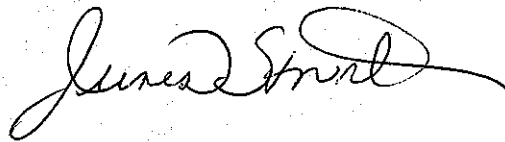
Mr. Shettle gave a brief summary of the budget. He mentioned there were deductions in salaries due to retirements, as well as staff reductions, which helped keep the budget increase low. He also mentioned the savings due to the elimination of the Facilities Manager. Mrs. Strunk asked that the BOE provide student enrollment numbers from last year and overall cost per student, as well as enrollment for the last five years. Since the school year is not yet over, Mr. Shettle said the largest variance in the budget would be in Special Services.

Mr. King gave an overview of the critical items in the CIP budget. He said that the hot water system at the high school needs replacing, as there is a temporary hot water tank in place now but it is not using the existing system. He mentioned the need for another Special Services van as well as replacement of underground storage tanks within the district. He said that AED's district wide need to be replaced, half at a time, as they are

phasing out. He noted that MMS and PMS need safety glass installed on the first floor. He mentioned the need to replace the fire alarm systems at MMS and SHS, which will ultimately result in cost savings. He said a maintenance truck for plowing needs to be replaced. Discussion ensued. In total, the cost is \$1,116,400 for items the district has considered to be critical.

With no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Frishman made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Mr. Fauerbach seconded, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "June D. Strunk".

June D. Strunk

kds