

A regular meeting of the Board of Finance was held on this date in the meeting room of the Stonington Police Department. Members present were Chairwoman June D. Strunk, Secretary Glenn Frishman, Lynn Young, Mike Fauerbach, Blunt White and Danielle Chesebrough. Tim O'Brien was absent. Also present were Police Captain Todd Olson and Sergeant Bryan Schneider, interested citizens and members of the press.

Chairwoman Strunk called the meeting to order at 7:15pm.

Pledge of Allegiance

Comments from the Public- Allegra Griffiths, Co-President of the Stonington Free Library, and former Treasurer, thanked the Board for agreeing to form a task force to address the financial stability of the library. She also noted that a group of individuals recently provided one-time funds that allowed staff to re-open the library on Friday afternoons.

Previous minutes- Mr. Frishman made a motion to approve the July 11 minutes as submitted, Mr. White seconded, and voting was unanimous. **Motion carried.**

Bid Waivers

- Mr. Frishman made a motion to approve the bid waiver from Police Chief, to be allowed to purchase police vehicles from MHQ for \$118,451.10. MHQ is on the State Bid List Contract# 12PSX0194. Ms. Young seconded. Mrs. Strunk asked if this was an item in the FY 18-19 budget, and Captain Olson said that it was, and that it was for four cars. Sergeant Schneider noted that they were in a rush to buy the vehicles this year as they are changing the model of the car soon and that this will cause issues with up fitting. The Board voted unanimously to approve the waiver. **Motion carried.**
- Mr. Frishman made a motion to approve the bid waiver request from K-12 building committee to be allowed to purchase chrome books and accessories from CDW-G for Deans Mill and West Vine Street school projects for \$102,396 and \$86,708, respectively. The quotes come off a PEPPM national bid contract. Ms. Young seconded the motion, and voting was unanimous. **Motion carried.**
- Mr. Frishman made a motion to approve the bid waiver from K-12 building committee to be allowed to purchase Ipads and accessories from Apple for Deans Mill and West Vine Street school projects for \$23,026.50 for each school. The quotes come off a NASBO national bid contract. Ms. Young seconded and voting was unanimous. **Motion carried**
- Mr. Frishman made a motion to approve the bid waiver from the K-12 building committee to be allowed to rent a box truck from Enterprise Rental for meal deliveries to students while the cafeteria at DMS and WVSS are under construction. Mr. Fauerbach seconded. The request is for \$12,281.71 for 7 months. Mrs. Strunk noted that students need to have a certain number of warm meals in order for schools to qualify for the Free and Reduced Lunch Program. Voting was unanimous. **Motion Carried.**

Line Item Transfer-

- Mr. Frishman made a motion to approve the line item transfer from Solid Waste Manger to

approve various departmental transfers to cover operating deficits with transfers from other departmental items with YTD surpluses in the amount of \$104.19. Ms. Young seconded and voting was unanimous. **Motion carried.**

Discussion pertaining to SEAT- Susan Sedensky, Executive Director from the Pawcatuck Neighborhood Center, spoke along with Board Member Danielle Chesebrough regarding options to the SEAT bus program. Mrs. Strunk reminded the group that the Board had discussed eliminating the SEAT program in town due to low ridership and rising costs. Ms. Chesebrough, Human Services Director Leanne Theodore, First Selectman Simmons and Ms. Sedensky formed a subcommittee to look into alternatives to the program, which costs the Town \$24,000, up from \$14,000 last year. The new plan would be a partnership between the PNC and the Human Services Department. Ms. Sedensky noted that the PNC offers free rides to disabled Stonington residents and residents 60 and over at no charge, and that she was asked to take on some of the SEAT riders. She said that they would limit this to disabled riders only at this time, which is about 17 people. She also said that this number would likely grow when it is offered to all of Stonington residents that are disabled, regardless of age. Therefore, she is requesting \$15,300 for gas and to hire a part time dispatcher for 15 hours a week, due to the expected rise in ridership. This change would save the Town about \$9000 per year. She also noted that the Center is actively fundraising for a new handicap accessible vehicle. Discussion ensued.

*Correspondence-*Mrs. Strunk read a letter from Stonington Free Library Executive Director Belinda De Kay thanking the Board for their willingness to form a task force to look at the way the SFL is funded.

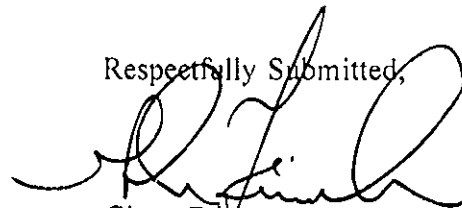
Liaison Reports- The Board agreed that Ms. Chesebrough, Mrs. Strunk and Ms. Young would be on the SFL Task Force. Mr. White mentioned that he has been meeting with Board members to discuss ways to make the budget book better. He said that they have a few more meetings scheduled but that it should be deliverable to the Board for review by September.

*K-12 Liaison Reports-*Mrs. Strunk said that the additions for the schools are complete. She noted that while the furniture should be delivered on time, 90% of the old furniture is stored in the additions in case there is a delay. She also said that the EPA approved the entire remediation plan.

The Board agreed to table the Executive Session.

With no further business to come before the Board, Ms. Young made a motion to adjourn, Mr. White seconded, and voting was unanimous. **Motion carried.** The meeting was adjourned at 8:22pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Glenn Frishman
Secretary



July 16th 2018

Chairperson June Strunk and the Board of Finance,
The Town of Stonington
Stonington Town Hall,
152 Elm Street,
Stonington, CT 06378

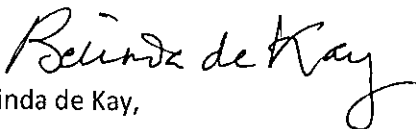
Dear Chairperson Strunk and Members of the Board of Finance,

On behalf of the Board and the Staff of Stonington Free Library I am writing to thank you for your expression of willingness to look at the way in which the Library is funded and in particular for your positive offer to form a task force to undertake this inquiry. We were particularly encouraged by your stated willingness to consider redefining our relationship with the Town.

The Trustees and Library staff have put a great deal of faith in the value of continuing conversation to create better understanding among us all. Attending the meetings of the Board of Finance and following your deliberations has given us a great appreciation of the challenges that you are faced with, the work that you do and the wide range of needs in the Town. On our side we believe profoundly in the value of the Library to the community and look forward to continuing to work with you on how best this beloved institution can be supported in the long term as it strives to meet the 21st Century library needs of the community.

We look forward to hearing how we can help with such a task force.

Sincerely and with gratitude for your support,


Belinda de Kay,

Executive Director, Stonington Free Library

**STONINGTON
FREE LIBRARY**

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