

TOWN OF STONINGTON
BOARD OF FINANCE MINUTES
Police Department Meeting Room
Wednesday, September 05, 2018

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, Tim O'Brien and Danielle Chesebrough. Also present were Public Works Director, Barbara McKrell, Highway Supervisor Tom Curioso, Captain Todd Olson and interested parties.

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Comments from the Public - Mr. Rob Simmons, First Selectman, brought attention to a recent publication from the Yankee Institute for Public Policy which has to do with the fiscal health of the 169 towns here in the state of Connecticut. According to Mr. Simmons, a score below 70 is a town in trouble and 2/3rd's of our towns are in trouble. Stonington fortunately scored 83, but more significantly ranked 20th of 169 towns. One of the criteria for the ranking has to do with indebtedness. Considering that the Town of Stonington is carrying a larger debt burden with the two schools being renovated to new, Mr. Simmons felt that with Stonington being ranked 20th now, the Town would have been ranked 10 – 12th without the school debt. Mr. Simmons said the bottom line is that our current ranking under these conditions is great credit to our board of Finance. He thanked the members, past and present, for all of their hard work.

Previous Minutes – Mr. Frishman motioned to approve the August 1st minutes, Ms. Young seconded. Ms. Chesebrough addressed the current verbiage in the discussion pertaining to SEAT. To clarify, the PNC offers free rides to disabled Stonington residents and to those over the age of 60. Mr. Fauerbach noted a redundant entry of Mr. Frishman's motion to approve the bid waiver from the K-12 committee to purchase Chromebooks. One entry will be deleted. Based on these corrections and the minutes amended, the August 1st minutes will be approved. Voting was unanimous with Mr. O'Brien abstaining as he was absent from the August 1st meeting. **Motion carried.**

New business

Additional Appropriations: \$77,600.00

- Mr. Frishman made a motion to approve a request from the Public Works Director for an additional appropriation of \$6,000 for development of plans for the repair of the Isham Street boat ramp. Due to an injury sustained by an individual and a claim filed thru CIRMA, it has been discovered that it is not a State registered boat ramp. Docko, Inc. was contacted to determine the necessary requirements for registration and permitting for the repairs. Mr. White asked that it be made

clearer in the agenda that the funds are not for actual plans, but the permitting application. Ms. McKrell stated that for the \$6,000 the Town receives the permit to do the repair and as a part of that permit application they will prepare plans that will be provided to the State. Discussion ensued, and it was agreed that the agenda be modified to state the funds are for the development of the application and plans and intended thereto for repair. Ms. Young seconded. Voting was unanimous. **Motion carried.**

- Mr. Frishman made a motion to approve a request from the First Selectman and Public Works Director for additional appropriation to replace the generator for the Town Garage and Town Hall. The 1999 generator has been out of service since August 22nd after the alternator caught fire. Quotes from Cummins and Kohler were discussed and feeling that Kohler provided a better proposal Ms. McKrell is requesting \$71,600 for the generator replacement and informed the Board she felt she could cover the costs of a temporary 12-week rental out of her general maintenance fund. Ms. Young seconded. Voting was unanimous. **Motion carried.**

Bid Waiver Request:

- Mr. Frishman made a motion to approve a bid waiver request from the Police Chief, to be allowed to purchase Police Facility Internal camera system from Wireless Design Group, LLC for \$38,789.85 for option 1 or \$41,464.61 for option 2. Captain Todd Olson discussed additional cameras within the building and in the exterior parking lot. A more robust recording system will also be utilized to maintain records for 2 years as the State requires. Mr. Richard LaSaracina from Wireless Design Group spoke and after discussion the Board agreed to Option II for \$41,464.61. Tim O'Brien seconded. Voting was unanimous. **Motion carried.**
- Mr. Frishman made a motion to approve a bid waiver request from Lieutenant Schneider, to be allowed to purchase vehicle upfit accessories for FY18/19 Police vehicles from Strobes-N-More for \$29,049.93. A number of years ago the cars were outfitted by MHQ, the State bidder, however due to the State Police cars obtaining priority the Police Dept turned to a local vendor. The amount requested covers a full outfitting of (1) unmarked and (3) marked vehicles. Lightbars and such are reused off of trade-ins to save money and Strobes-N-More are comparable in their labor rates. Ms. Chesebrough seconded. Voting was unanimous. **Motion carried.**
- Mr. Frishman made a motion to approve a bid waiver request from Director of Public Works, to be allowed to purchase several items off the state bid list or other bidding services totaling \$143,891.70. The \$88,944.23 funds requested for the (2) trucks were approved in last year's budget and are within such budget. A \$42,631.74 quote from RI Harvesting for a Kubota tractor for the athletic fields was determined to be lower than a State bid from NJPA Sourcewell. The \$12,315.73 to purchase a Zero Turn Mower will eliminate the services currently provided by an outside vendor. Also discussed but determined to need its own bid waiver request is the contract agreement with Morton Salt. The Town's 5th year

with Morton Salt, they were the low bidder on CRCOG at \$66.87/ton. This fixed price is lower than last year and there is no commitment on volume. Ms. Young seconded. Voting was unanimous. **Motion carried.**

- Already discussed under additional appropriations was the request from Director of Public Works, for a bid waiver for the purchase of a generator for the Town Garage and Town Hall. Mr. Frishman made the motion to approve, Ms. Young seconded. Voting was unanimous. **Motion carried.**

Line Item Transfers:

- Mr. Frishman made a motion to approve the line item transfer request from the Director of Finance, to transfer \$65,250 from Insurance line item in Risk Management a/c#10137-80371 to CIP line item Stillman Avenue Bridge Repairs A/C#4022012-88099 for the 17/18 fiscal year. Ms. Young seconded and voting was unanimous. **Motion carried.**
- Mr. Frishman made a motion to approve the line item transfer request from the Director of Finance, to transfer \$15,000 from Grant Clerical line item and \$1,659.17 from Employee Training/Education to Project Inspection Support a/c#10126-80085 in fiscal 17/18 to fund reimbursement of \$16,659.17 to state of CT for overpayment related to the Route 27 Streetscape Improvement project. Ms. Young seconded and voting was unanimous. **Motion carried.**
- Mr. Frishman made a motion to approve the line item transfer request from the Director of Admin Services, to transfer \$5,189.50 from Unemployment A/C#10123-80345 to Labor Negotiations A/C#10123-80341 for the 17/18 fiscal year. Ms. Young seconded and voting was unanimous. **Motion carried.**
- Mr. Frishman made a motion to approve the request from the Police Chief, to transfer surplus funds from CIP Generator Project a/c#4022019-88252 appropriation to CIP Police Facility Internal camera system project a/c#4022019-88253 of \$16,464.61. Ms. Young seconded and voting was unanimous. **Motion carried.**
- Mr. Frishman made a motion to approve the request from the Director of Finance, to transfer funds from various line items with surpluses to those with deficits for the 17/18 fiscal year. Ms. Young seconded and voting was unanimous. **Motion carried.**

A discussion/review of the Board of Education administrative and reporting requirements to the Board of Finance was tabled.

Mr. Frishman made a motion to add to the agenda a request from the First Selectman and Police Chief to approve a financing agreement with Eversource for \$32,000 to fund the retrofit of the Police Station lighting with efficient LED lighting thru Lantern Energy. The \$32,000 cost should be paid for in realized savings to the Police Department utility line item in 3.2 years. Mr. O'Brien seconded. Discussion ensued. Mr. Rob Simmons spoke, pointing out that the Town has received an extension to Oct 8th to sign the agreement but will be requesting an additional extension to November so that the agreement has time to go to Town Meeting on Oct 16th. If the Boards of Selectman and Police act and support the agreement, the First Selectman will send the agreement to Town Meeting to evaluate. The project will be financed through a (4) year 0% interest loan. It is noted that the other Town buildings have already been completed. After an assessment was completed and run by the Chief and Board they agreed it would be beneficial. Mr. Fauerbach made a motion to approve with Mr. O'Brien seconding. It will now move forward to the Board of Selectmen. **Motion carried.**

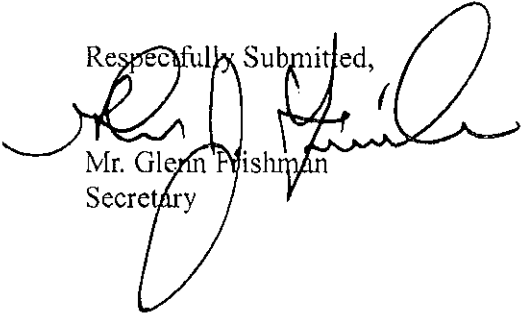
Mr. White distributed a memo dated 9/5/2018 as part of a presentation of the Budget Subcommittee for recommendations improving the FY19/20 budget book. A key issue is the presentation format, the committee is recommending to present the revenues, expenses and then use of fund balance. Mr. White suggested that the format appear more like a traditional profit & loss statement. This will be further discussed at the next meeting after members review the memo.

Liaison Reports – Ms. Chesebrough spoke regarding the SEAT Bus options. Leanne Theodore and her team are handing out transportation surveys, and utilizing social media to get more information on who uses the service. They are presently in the process of setting up a meeting with the First Selectman to discuss potentially reducing a route for possible money savings. Ms. Theodore will also be meeting with a current outside service that provides rides to determine a cost for providing transportation to individuals not meeting the PNC population. As a note, since the Westerly Sun article was published the PNC received (9) new requests for service.

Mr. Fauerbach informed the Board that he had received an email from the Stonington Free Library asking about the status of the task force. Ms. Chesebrough suggesting setting up a meeting and after discussion, September 19th at 5pm is set to be scheduled. Mr. O'Brien noted that the town attorney has said any committee meeting with more than (2) members has to be posted. Mr. Sullivan stated he will post the agenda and the meeting will take place at the SPD or Town Hall.

K-12 Liaison Reports – School has begun! More to come.

With no further business to come before the Board, Ms, Young made a motion to adjourn, Mr. Frishman seconded and voting was unanimous. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mr. Glenn Frishman
Secretary