

Town of New Fairfield
Board of Finance
4 Brush Hill Road
New Fairfield, CT 06812

MINUTES
Board of Finance Meeting
Wednesday, January 17, 2007
7:30 PM
New Fairfield High School Library

Members present:

Joe Hart, Chairman
Michael Cockburn
Lucy DiRocco *left 10:05 pm*
Ron Graiff
Wes Marsh
Art Azzarito (Alternate) *left 10:00 pm*
Bob Carbone (Alternate) *left 9:50 pm*
Roger Wise (Alternate)

Other Town Officials Present:

John Hodge, First Selectman
Ron Oliveri, Selectman
Ed McCue, New Fairfield Fire Chief
Various members of the Fire Dept.
Jay Waterman, Finance Department

Call To Order Chairman Joe Hart called the meeting to order at 7:30pm

Appointments

Bob Burke sent an e-mail to Joe Hart asking that Roger Wise to be appointed in his absence for this meeting

Amendment to the Agenda

Joe Hart made a motion to amend the agenda to read "Approval of the November 29, 2006 **special** meeting minutes instead of Approval of the November 29, 2006 **regular** meeting minutes." Ron Graiff seconded the motion.

Vote: 6-0-0 (Motion approved)

Approval of Minutes

Roger Wise made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 15, 2006 regular meeting as presented. Mike Cockburn seconded the motion.

Vote: 6-0-0 (Motion approved)

Roger Wise made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 29, 2006 subcommittee meeting as presented. Mike Cockburn seconded the motion.

Vote: 4-0-2 (Motion approved-Ron Graiff and Wes Marsh abstained)

Roger Wise made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 29, 2006 special meeting as presented. Mike Cockburn seconded the motion.

Vote: 5-0-1 (Motion approved-Ron Graiff abstained)

BOF-Minutes

01/17/07

Page 1 of 4

Attachments- 4 pages

Transfers

Joe Hart made a motion to make an Intra-Departmental transfer in the amount of \$5,000 **from** line item # 4220-610 (Fire Co. Dept. M&S) **to** line item # 4220-430-1 (Fire Co. Maintenance & Repair) also for \$5,000 for Pump Testing and to transfer \$3,000 **from** line item # 4215-112 (Dispatch P/T Salaries) **to** line item #4215-660 (Alert Now) also in the amount of \$3,000 in order to set up a Town wide Alert system. Roger Wise seconded the motion. (Such document entitled Intra-Departmental transfer to be attached to the minutes of this meeting)

A discussion ensued as to why the request of money for the “Alert Now” system was coming to the BOF now and not waiting until budget requests.

Ron Graiff made a motion to amend Mr. Hart’s previous motion to split the two transfers into two separate motions. Roger Wise seconded the motion.

Vote to amend: 6-0-0 (Motion approved)

Joe Hart made a motion to make an Intra-Departmental transfer in the amount of \$5,000 **from** line item # 4220-610 (Fire Co. Dept. M&S) **to** line item # 4220-430-1 (Fire Co. Maintenance & Repair) also for \$5,000 for Pump Testing. Mike Cockburn seconded the motion.

Vote: 6-0-0 (Motion approved)

Joe Hart made a motion to Intra-Departmental transfer \$3,000 **from** line item # 4215-112 (Dispatch P/T Salaries) **to** line item #4215-660 (Alert Now) also in the amount of \$3,000 in order to set up a Town wide Alert system. Mike Cockburn seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-3-0 (Motion denied)

(Lucy DiRocco, Ron Graiff and Wes Marsh opposed)

(Mike Cockburn, Joe Hart and Roger Wise in favor)

Joe Hart made a motion to make an Intra-Departmental transfer \$3,000 **from** line item # 4161-332-5 (Health Code Enforcement) **to** line item # 4161-332-8 (Legal ZBA) also in the amount of \$3,000 and to transfer \$2,000 **from** line item #4210-110 (Salaries-Police) **to** line item # 4210-742 (Police Vehicle-maintenance/repair) also in the amount of \$2,000 for a total transfer of \$5,000. Roger Wise seconded the motion. (Such document entitled Intra-Departmental transfer to be attached to the minutes of this meeting).

Vote: 6-0-0 (Motion approved)

Joe Hart made a motion to make an Inter-Departmental transfer \$5,000 **from** line item # 3400-2 (Interest income) **to** line item # 4161-332-7 (Legal Zoning) and to make a transfer of \$8500 **from** line item #2532-1 (General Fund Balance) **to** line item # 4161-332-1 (Legal-Land Use) also in the amount of \$8500 and to transfer \$7500 **from** line item #2532-1 (General Fund Balance) **to** line item # 4161-332-3 (Legal Labor) also in the amount of \$7500 for a total transfer of \$21,000. (Such document to be attached to the minutes of this meeting). Roger Wise seconded the motion.

Joe Hart made a motion to amend the previous motion to change the transfer of \$8500 **from** line item #2532-1 (General Fund Balance) **to** line item # 4161-332-1 (Legal-Land Use) to \$7500 for a total transfer of \$20,000. Roger Wise seconded the motion.

Vote: 6-0-0 (Motion approved)

Joe Hart made a motion to amend the transfer sheet entitled “Inter-Departmental transfer” to read “Additional Appropriation” instead of “temporary loan-awaiting foreclosure reimbursement”. (Such document to be attached to the minutes of this meeting) Roger Wise seconded the motion.

Vote: 6-0-0 (Motion approved)

Medical Update

Jay Waterman spoke about the Medical Insurance reserve fund statement as of November 30, 2006. There was a discussion regarding the interest earned on this account.

Legal Update

The Board received a legal update dated December 26, 2006 with services rendered through November 30, 2006.

Police Update

There was a discussion about the detail of expenditures through December 2006. There is a surplus of Police Related Expenditures of \$169,681.86 as of December 31, 2006.

New Fairfield Volunteer Fire Department presentation on the revised Fire Apparatus replacement schedule

Roger Wise made a motion to remove the presentation by the Fire Department from the agenda. Lucy DiRocco seconded the motion.

Vote: 2-4-0 (Motion denied)

(Roger Wise and Lucy DiRocco in favor)

(Ron Graiff, Joe Hart, Mike Cockburn and Wes Marsh opposed)

Fire Chief Ed McCue made a presentation to the BOF regarding the schedule for apparatus replacement. A lengthy discussion ensued among the BOF regarding what needs to be replaced and how to finance it. There was a discussion as to the feasibility of waiting until the budget cycle for these requests. First Selectman John Hodge noted that the Board of Selectman endorsed the Fire Department's proposal at the January 11, 2007 BOS meeting with a commitment that the Town intends to move forward. Ron Graiff passed out a list of questions for the Fire Dept.

Joe Hart polled the members of the BOF as to their support of the Fire Department's replacement schedule. The BOF is unanimously in support of the replacement schedule, but did not want to commit to date. First Selectman Hodge asked the BOF to submit questions to the Selectman's office by January 24th.

Fire Chief Ed McCue thanked the BOS, BOF and Town Treasurer Phil Cammarano for their support of the Fire Dept.

Historic Houses Move

Lucy DiRocco made a motion that the Board of Finance request any and all expenditures to date relating to the move of the Historic Houses. Wes Marsh seconded the motion.

Joe Hart made a motion to amend the previous motion to have the Board of Finance ask for direct costs to date on the moving of the Historic Houses. Lucy DiRocco seconded the motion.

Vote to amend: 6-0-0 (Motion approved)

Vote on motion after amendment: 6-0-0 (Motion approved)

A discussion ensued regarding the responsibility of Town employees regarding the Historic Properties project.

Vote on accepting a \$5,000 grant from AT&T for the Senior Center

First Selectman John Hodge spoke about a computerized system for the Senior Center that will track usage. A grant proposal was written to pay for this system and AT&T granted the Senior Center with a grant of \$5,000. The total cost of this system is approximately \$8500. In addition to the \$5,000 grant, donations were made from the New Fairfield Thrift Shop and the Friends of the Senior Center.

Ron Graiff asked about any strings attached to this AT&T grant and also if it has been reviewed by Town Counsel.

Ron Graiff made a motion that subject to review by Town Counsel, the town accept a grant in the amount of \$5,000 from AT&T for the Senior Center.

Vote: 5-0-0 (Motion approved)

(Vote taken after Lucy DiRocco and alternates Bob Carbone and Art Azzarito left)

Public comment

Resident Rudy Barends spoke about enrollment in the schools and the upcoming Board of Education budget proposal.

Adjournment

Roger Wise made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:20pm. Joe Hart seconded the motion.

Vote: 5-0-0 (Motion approved)

(Vote taken after Lucy DiRocco and alternates Bob Carbone and Art Azzarito left)