

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

MINUTES
Board of Finance Meeting
Wednesday, September 17, 2008
7:30 PM
New Fairfield High School Library

Members present:

Joe Hart, Chairman
Lucy DiRocco
Jane Landers
Wes Marsh
Tom Wahlig
Art Azzarito, Alternate (arrived 8:00pm)
Tony Sanches, Alternate
Brian Shea, Alternate

Members not present:

Al Mardis

Other Town Officials Present:

John Hodge, First Selectman (arrived 8:40 pm)
Jay Waterman, Finance Director
Ed Sbordone, Accounting Manager

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Appointments- Joe Hart made a motion to elevate Brian Shea to a regular member for the purpose of this meeting. Jane Landers seconded the motion.

Vote: 5-0-0 (Motion approved)

Correspondence and Announcements

Chairman Hart read into record an e-mail from resident Doug Thielan regarding the proposed Emergency Communications system. Mr. Hart also spoke of a lengthy e-mail from resident Roger Wise regarding the Emergency Communications system. Both e-mails will be attached to the minutes of this meeting.

Wes Marsh spoke of an e-mail from resident Jody Gemmell regarding the Dunham Pond Condominiums.

Public Comment

Ed Sbordone asked about the date and time for the Public Hearing regarding the Emergency Communications system.

Approval of Minutes

Joe Hart made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 20, 2008 regular meeting as presented. Wes Marsh seconded the motion.

Vote: 6-0-0 (Motion approved)

Joe Hart made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 20, 2008 Cap & Non subcommittee meeting as presented. Tom Wahlig seconded the motion.

Vote: 6-0-0 (Motion approved)

Vote on Interim Clerk

There was a discussion among the members of the BOF as to whether a “clerk” or an “interim clerk” should be voted on to fill the vacancy due to Al Mardis’ absence. It was decided that an “interim clerk” would be appropriate at this time.

Tom Wahlig nominated Jane Landers to be Interim Clerk for the BOF

Lucy DiRocco nominated Wes Marsh to be Interim Clerk for the BOF

Brian Shea nominated Tom Wahlig to be Interim Clerk for the BOF

Vote: Joe Hart, Jane Landers and Tom Wahlig voted for Jane Landers

Lucy DiRocco and Wes Marsh voted for Wes Marsh

Brian Shea voted for Tom Wahlig

Jane Landers was voted the Interim Clerk for the BOF

Review of revenues, expenses and available funds for Historic Houses

Finance Director Jay Waterman spoke of the funding and expenditures of the New Fairfield Museum District. There was a discussion among the members of the BOF regarding the bridge on the property and when it will be disassembled. The town will receive a reimbursement from the bridge company after the bridge is picked up.

First Selectman Hodge noted that the town is in the process of negotiating a lease with “Preserve New Fairfield Inc.” in which the town will own the properties and will lease it to “Preserve New Fairfield Inc.”

Jane Landers asked that a business plan regarding the Museum District be available for the next regular BOF meeting.

Bridge Removal Status

The bridge at the Museum District is scheduled to be disassembled on Monday, September 22nd. It was decided that an update on the bridge should be on the next BOF agenda.

Senior Center Status Update

Jay Waterman spoke of funding and expenditures for the new Senior Center. There was a discussion regarding both the DECD grant and the STEAP grants for this project and a lengthy discussion about the possible uses for the Senior Center.

Senior Center Status Update (con't)

First Selectman Hodge announced that bid packets are expected back by Tuesday, October 7th and expected to be awarded on October 8th. Mr. Hodge noted that it would be helpful if the BOF sent one of its members to act as a liaison to the Permanent Building Committee meetings.

Medical Update

Finance Director Jay Waterman spoke of the medical fund for first two months of the current year and noted that claims were \$797,000 which is compared to claims of \$853,000 from 2007-2008. Mr. Waterman noted that there is a credit of \$40,475 on the next bill.

Legal Update

Finance Director Jay Waterman spoke of the legal bills for the month of July 2008. There was a discussion regarding the legal bills for the Dunham Pond Condominiums.

Preliminary results for expenditures and revenues for 2007-2008

Finance Director Jay Waterman noted that revenues for the year 2007-2008 exceeded budget by \$154,114.00 and expenditures were under spent by \$191,214.00 for a net surplus of approximately \$345,000.

BOF Chairman Joe Hart asked Mr. Waterman to provide a list of BOE transfers and BOE purchase requisitions for the month of June 2008 for the next BOF meeting.

Mr. Waterman noted that the audit has begun and is going well. There was also a discussion of fuel usage and "locking in" a price.

First Selectman Hodge gave a summary of the October 2004 oil spill at the police station and the settlement to the town.

Budget Transfers

Joe Hart made a motion to make an Inter-Departmental transfer in the amount of \$15,994.91 from various line items to other various line items also in the amount of \$15,994.91. (Such document to be attached to the minutes of this meeting). Tom Wahlig seconded the motion.

Vote: 6-0-0 (Motion approved)

Joe Hart made a motion to make an Intra-Departmental transfer for the fiscal year 2007-2008 in the amount of \$74,993.62 from various line items to other various line items also in the amount of \$74,993.62. (Such document to be attached to the minutes of this meeting). Wes Marsh seconded the motion.

Vote: 6-0-0 (Motion approved)

Public Comment- None

Board member comments

There will be a Public Hearing on Wednesday, September 24th at 7:30 in the High School library regarding the Emergency Communications System.

Board member comments (con't)

There was a discussion of the budget process for 2009-2010 and the feasibility of giving a range to the BOS and BOE ahead of time. There was a discussion about setting a priority list for the next couple of years for projects for the BOS and the BOE.

Jane Landers noted that she will on set up a presentation with a FOI representative regarding laws and procedures for the BOF.

Adjournment

Joe Hart made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:53pm. Brian Shea seconded the motion.

Vote: 6-0-0 (Motion approved)