

**North Stonington Board of Finance
Regular Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, January 21, 2009, 7:30 PM
NEW TOWN HALL
40 Main Street, North Stonington, CT**

1. **Call to Order** Chairman M. Donahue called the meeting to order at 7:34 PM. Vice Chair L. Southwick, Secretary T. Oswald, G. Herbert, E. Bresette, and E. Pavlovics were present.
2. **Public Comments and Questions** None.
3. **BOE: Financial Reports**

Two Board of Education representatives were present to discuss matters with the BoE as the BoF requested of the BoE on last meeting of December 2008. They were Chuck McCarthy, BoE Business Manager, and Chris Cressecchiaroli, BoE Financial Subcommittee Chairperson.

Many issues were discussed and information was exchanged about Capital Plan and Encumbrances. Broad discussion about the likelihood of funding to be dependable from the state in regard to ECS, for example, and what our options and situations may be like.

Mr. Mullane reflected that from what information he has gathered, he foresees an increasing state-wide wave of consolidation and regional-ization of many town services such as schools. No formal action taken or resolutions made.

The Tripartite meeting on January 28th at 6pm at the Elementary School was reaffirmed.

The issue of the School Heating Assistance was discussed.

4. **BOS: Financial Reports** First Selectman Mullane spoke to the BoF about town finances in general, and specifically as follows:
 - a. **Line item CC3.00: Ambulance Equipment**
 - b. **Line item CC1.10: Equipment Lease Buy Dump Truck** E. Pavlovics moves the BoF ask the BoS to formally request the BoF for an additional appropriation of \$29,384.68 to line item CC1.05. G. Herbert seconded. Discussion followed. This in order to make clear the details of this transaction for the sake of transparency. The motion passed 6-0-0.
 - c. **Town savings in fuel costs** Mr. Mullane presented the BoF with a detail of current fuel costs vs budgeted. It's still too early in the winter season to project how the use will result against budget.
 - d. **Overview of line item spending variances**
5. **Audit Report and Management Letter Follow-up** Draft copies of pages 6, 22, and 46 of Marcia Marien's Audit report were provided to the BoF to review changes. Chairman Donahue will inquire of the Auditor the details concerning the BoF's approval of the Audit Report after 31 January 2009.

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6. **2009/10 Budget Preparation Schedule** Discussion, no action.
7. **Management Reports/Board of Finance as Audit Committee/GASB 45 OPEB.**
 - a. **Tax Collection and Town Clerk Cash Control** G. Herbert reported to the BoF the status of the integration of the Town electronic cash register into the Town's new version of Quickbooks. The software integration is reported to be done will be done by next week. G. Herbert recommended the BoS follow by a 2 week testing period, yielding a go/no go result to be reported by mid-February including a written SOP. Provisions for managerial oversight are recommended to be included in this SOP.
8. **Town Report (June 30, 2008)** Discussion, no action.
9. **Budget/Budget Spreadsheet – 2008/9 Revision E** Tabled.
10. **Board of Finance Goals/Long Range Plans/Resources** Nothing new to be reported.
11. **Previous Minutes** L. Southwick motioned the BOF accept the minutes for the 01-07-09 BOF meeting as amended. G. Hebert seconded, and the motion passed 4-0-2 with E. Bresette, and E. Pavlovics abstaining.
12. **Correspondence**
 - a. Memo from Chair, BoE regarding School Heating Assistance
 - b. Copy of memo from Wm. Fitzgerald Jr, President USWA Local 9441 dated 01-12-09 to the First Selectman Mullane indicating the local members voted to not have a wage freeze for 2009-2010 in response to Mullane's request for such of 12-10-08.
 - c. A copy of a news article about drunken driving arrests.
 - d. A note from M. Marien about combining finances of the Town and the BoE.
13. **Future Agenda Items Identification**
 - a. Letter about the heating grant.
 - b. Revise the budget preparation schedule to more practical timing.
14. **Adjournment** L. Southwick moved to adjourn and G. Herbert seconded. The motion carried 6-0-0 and the meeting adjourned at 11:30 PM.
 - The next regular BOF meeting will be held at 7:30 PM Wednesday, February 4, 2009 in the New Town Hall Meeting Room.
 - There will be a Tripartite (BoF, BoE, BoS) meeting held next Wednesday January 28th at 6pm at the Elementary School Library.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tom Oswald
Secretary
Board of Finance

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