

**North Stonington Board of Finance
Regular Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, February 18, 2009
NEW TOWN HALL, 7:30 PM
40 Main Street, North Stonington, CT**

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TOWN CLERKS OFFICE
NORTH STONINGTON CT
1. **Call to Order** Chairman M. Donahue called the meeting to order. Vice Chair L. Southwick, Secretary T. Oswald, G. Herbert, E. Pavlovics, and E. Bresette were present.
 2. **Public Comments and Questions**
 - Nick Mullane spoke about where the BoS needs to cut their budget going forward. - He feels the Town constituency will not accept any tax increase at all.
 - Mullane suggested that we may need to cut a Resident Trooper.
 - In re budget referendum: the State will no longer provide materials for these referendum votes and that cost will fall to the Town if incurred.
 - FOIA lawsuit: Mullane and Assessor D. DelGrosso went to the FOI commission. The commission says they need to enforce the law and found against DelGrosso. Mullane feels this matter is an exception to the law as it includes the motor vehicle list divulging the addresses of people who are allowed to not be publicized, such as prison guards, judges, and law enforcement personnel.
 - Despite the BoS already declining to finance the approximately \$1,500 needed to hire representation for the Assessor in this matter, Mullane asked if the BoF had "...any position..." as to the authorization of the funds to pay for the legal representation.
 - At the crux of the issue, there appears to be a conflict between the intent and effect of some laws concerning this FOIA matter.
 - G. Herbert motioned that the BoF support this initiative, as presented by Mr. Mullane, by expressing approval for the use of unused Town account funds for the \$1,500 needed to represent Mr. Delgrosso, provided this step poses no adverse consequences to Town operational capacity, and that the State Attorney General will actually pursue this matter. The motion did pass according to the vote 3-2-1 with M. Donahue and E. Pavlovics opposing, and L. Southwick abstaining
 3. **Tax Collector Report** L. Southwick discussed his review of the report with the BoF.
 4. **BOS: Financial Reports**
 - a. Additional Appropriation for Truck Purchase: Mr. Mullane will present a letter to the BoF at our 4 March 2009 meeting.
 - b. Schedule of Anticipated Revenues: Mr. Mullane presented a copy of the State of Connecticut Grant Receipt Schedule.
 - c. P&L Format: E. Bresette met with Mr. Mullane and Town Treasurer R. Roohr about the format of the financial reports. Mr. Bresette feels it's entirely possible to manipulate the software/data in a fashion that would yield greater reporting utility to the BoF.
 5. **BOE: Financial Reports** Discussion, no action.
 6. **Audit Report and Management Letter Follow-up**
 - a) Mr. Mullane advises that the melding of the Town accounting software to the new cash register output is proceeding well though testing and that he will produce an SOP document for reference for the users.

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- b) Mr. Mullane expects to have accomplished compliance with the Management follow-up items and will send a report to the State by the end of March 2009.
7. **2009/10 Budget Preparation Schedule** Both the Boards of Education and Selectmen agree to our proposed meeting schedule. The BoE meetings are scheduled for 3-18 and 4/1. The BoS meetings are scheduled for 3-11 and 3-25.
8. **2009/10 Budget/Budget Spreadsheet**
a. Unreserved Fund Level: Discussion, no action.
9. **Management Reports/Board of Finance as Audit Committee/GASB 45 OPEB.**
a. The question of funding this projected outlying obligation was discussed.
b. E. Pavlovics moved we forward last year's BoF budget, per lines BB3.Board of Finance (including B3.3, B3.0, B3.1, B3.2, and BB3) to the BoS as a guide for next year's budget. L. Southwick seconded and the motion passed 6-0-0.
10. **Town Report (June 30, 2008)** We have so far received 4 of the 6 Town budget component items outstanding and expect to receive the remainder in the near future.
11. **Previous Minutes** L. Southwick motioned the BoF accept the minutes of the 02-04-09 BoF meeting as amended. E. Bresette seconded, and the motion passed 6-0-0.
12. **Correspondence**
a. Marcia Marien's bid for next year's services.
b. Flier about the N. Stonington Remembrance Book.
13. **Future Agenda Items Identification**
a. Unreserved Fund Level
b. Auditor invoices
c. Solar panel RBA analysis
d. The BoS is to present their budget on March 11, 2009
e. At some future point the BoF will invite the Economic Development Committee and the Planing and Zoning Committee representatives for a joint information sharing session at one of our meetings.
14. **Adjournment** L. Southwick moved to adjourn and G. Herbert seconded. The motion carried 6-0-0 and the meeting adjourned at 11:11 PM. The next BOF meeting will be held at 7:30 PM Wednesday, 4 March, 2009 in the New Town Hall Meeting Room.

Respectfully Submitted,
Tom Oswald
Secretary, Board of Finance