



Town of *North Stonington*
Connecticut



North Stonington Board of Finance

Draft Meeting Minutes of

Town Budget 2016 / 2017 Presentation

Tuesday October 11th, 2016

Elementary School Gymnasium @ 7:00pm

North Stonington, CT

1. **Call to Order**; Call to order @ 7:02pm
2. **Roll Call**:
 - a) Members Present;
Chairman Tim Main, Vice Chairman Charlie Steinhart, Secretary Tim Pelland, Emile Pavlovics and Carolyn Howell, Alt. Bob Testa.
Absent; Alt. Chris Hundt and Mustapha Ratib.
3. **Pledge to the Flag**; Completed
4. Tim Main presented a slide show to the Public of an updated version of the Budget prepared by the BOF. Hard copies of the Budget were also available and handed out at the meeting.
Upon going through the presentation, it was noted that Slide #5 had the wrong information at the top of the page and will be corrected. That information is for the School Project. The Budget presented has no Mill Rate increase.
5. **Comments and Questions** ;
The resident, Dan Spring mentioned the amount of debt coming off the books means the town will take on more debt if they had too. Also suggested why put money aside for EMS Project when debt is coming off the books. Emile suggested we present the money for payment so we can borrow less when the time comes.
Resident Ann Norway suggested without hearing from the bulk of the taxpayers, there could be difficulties from residents about cuts to service. Emile mentioned that the first budget was voted down.

Resident Brent Woodward questioned the Undesignated Fund and the amount that is being put aside for that. He questioned a policy that suggested 8 ½% that was in place in the past. Also he suggested that he wanted to see the Tractor put back in next year's budget. He also asked if this budget would keep the Transfer Station opened on Saturdays.

Resident Mike Urgo suggested that we need to pay attention to the Undesignated Fund so as we don't get our credit rating downgraded. A policy regarding the amount added to the Undesignated Fund was submitted to the First Selectman in previous years according to Dan Spring.

Resident Joe Gross asked if there is a book of policies regarding such things, and are they available on-line or on the town website.

Resident Brian Rathbun asked why would the Transfer Station close when so much money goes into the operation of it.

Resident Nita Kincade suggested keeping on the topic of the budget as we already be discussing a new budget soon.

First Selectman Shawn Murphy said that he doesn't see anything wrong with keeping the Undesignated Fund at 12% as suggested by the Auditor. He also stated that he would support the budget, but does take issue with certain items. He stated the Tractor will have to be replaced by spring time. The BOF did say they would consider a lease to own as an option. He also stated he was not a part of the cuts made to the Budget, but is prepared to move forward.

Resident John Olsen said he wants to see more communication and cooperation between the BOF and the BOS.

The BOE took a significant cut, but they stated they would live within their means.

Carolyn Howell did some comparisons of other surround Town Highway Depts.

6. Adjournment;

Charlie motioned to adjourn.

Tim Pelland seconded.

Approved 6-0-0. Adjourned 9:03 pm.

Submitted By: Tim Pelland
