

BOARD OF FINANCE
BUDGET HEARING
MARCH 2, 2009

Present: Kathy McGannon; Marty Shapiro; Mark Smith; Bill Crooks; Ken Martin

Meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by Kathy McGannon, Chairman

Golf Course...Tom Galla, Bobby Brown, Don Espach...responding to a question from Tom Tesoro with regard to what is forecast for next year, Don Espach replied that they used calendar years 2006, 2007, 2008 and came up with an average of 40,000 rounds for Tashua Knolls. For the Glen they matched the number of rounds played in 2008. One of the things that Bobby Brown has done is to identify slack times. The Golf Commission has given him permission to use this slack time to run specials during those times. Hopefully those times can be filled up. Golf Course Superintendent position not to be filled. A new position "Asst. Golf Course Superintendent" to be created.

Presentation by CCM – Kevin Maloney and Andy Merola...a membership in CCM helps in the following ways: cost saving research; no cost training; energy savings; sustaining state aid; reduces costly state mandates; no cost publications. Introducing Reverse Auction Program to the town. In a regular online auction, the seller posts an item for sale, bidders increase bids, and the item is awarded to the highest bidder (much like eBay). In a reverse auction, a buyer posts its purchase requirements online and approved suppliers place lower and lower bids against one another until the event is closed. If used properly, reverse auctions can drive costs down compared with traditional paper-based bids. In 2008 Trumbull saved \$23,000 a month through CCM Energy – CCM dues are \$22,597 so the dues are paid for in a single month through the savings.

Inland Wetlands...Steve Savarese...Legal Notices...depend on type of function would determine how many legal notices are required.

Engineering...Steve Savarese...Would like dues and seminars to be restored. These are great opportunities for engineers to keep in contact with other engineers. Steve stated that the town is in desperate need of aerial mapping. In 1964, 6,817 dwellings were shown on the maps; today there are nearly 12,500 dwellings of which 5,683 are not shown.

GIS is a tool to get access of all information town has. A GIS system will enable the town to provide public services with efficient and accurate state of art tools to assist economic development, property assessment, planning, engineering, emergency preparedness and delivery of education and training. It is a tool that every department could use. 70% of Connecticut municipalities utilize GIS. GIS is a computer-based data and mapping system. It maintains and displays geographic data in a storage and retrieval database. Proposal is for \$130,000 to get bring the town up to speed and get it on the web. Follow-up can be as low as \$10,000 or as high as \$20,000.

WPCA...Joseph Solemene...Mr. Solemene stated that the Sewer Department does the most with their budget. There was a substantial savings in heat due to the fact that heat has been eliminated in the garage. He also stated that we pay a lot for sewage treatment from Bridgeport. That's because it's an aging system with infrastructure that needs maintenance. Our sewage usage bills are determined by Bridgeport's sewage usage bills. If we were to put a sewage usage plant in Trumbull, we would probably need to bond it. Bond fees could probably be paid by sewer usage fees with a minimum increase in the fees.

Technology...Matt Altieri and Matt Heffern...Lynn Heim stated there is a need for a technology upgrade in the town, communication and dispatch. The First Selectman said he would like to do a technology bond. The Technology Department is working it. They are now doing an overview of the town buildings as well as the internet and would be using fiber optics.

P&Z/ZBA...Bill Levin...Lynn Heim explained that she has put all salaries and clerical fees from ZBA into the P&Z budget. The only thing left in ZBA is the legal notices. Mr. Levin, new department head, has requested 28 hours for Fred Bietsch for a combined position of zoning enforcement officer (60%); blight officer (40%). The duties he is performing were currently done by two people for approximately \$58,812. Current cost for the combined job is approximately \$43,680. He is also requesting \$750 for training/seminars, \$100 for travel and 4 new computers at approximately \$3,400.

Board of Assessment Appeals

Conservation Commission

Youth Department...The Youth Department is divided into four sections: 1) the enrichment programs (this includes summer, fall and spring camps totaling 300 students in preschool-8th grade, 2) TYA (prevention program for students 9th grade through age 20 engaging them in a full scale musical production totals 45 students, 3) Prevention (Co-chair of RYASAP and represents Trumbull), and 4) Kids First Conference (attracts over 125 Jr. & Sr. full scale conference). Participates in Tree lighting ceremony, breakfast with the Easter Bunny and preparation of the Choices Booklet.

Adjournment at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Bokine, Clerk