

BOARD OF FINANCE
January 8, 2009
MINUTES

Present: Kathy McGannon, Marty Shapiro, Tom Tesoro, Bill Crooks, Mark Smith, Ken Martin, Joanna Bruner, Steve Lupien, Lisa Valenti

Also present: Lynn Heim, D/F; Liz Smith, A/A; Dan Schopick, T/A

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Finance was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Kathy McGannon. All those present joined in the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

Budget Schedule was reviewed by the Board and approved.

Public Comments: None

Approval of Minutes of December 11, 2009...Marty Shapiro moved to approve minutes as presented; Ken Martin seconded.

Mr. Crooks moved to amend minutes on Page 4 as follows...Following the paragraph beginning "At this time...continued discussion of Item 12-08-01", add "Ms. Heim returned to the floor to present a State of Connecticut grant document which indicated that the VoAg grant under consideration (\$125,058) was in fact still an outstanding obligation by the state to reimburse the Town of Trumbull upon proper filing of all related paperwork.

Mr. Crooks and Mr. Smith questioned why the Board of Ed officials were not here to represent this particular agenda item. The Chair advised that the BOE had other commitments on that evening and the chair indicated that the Finance Director was willing to present the item.

Further discussion took place regarding why this particular request was being presented again. It was noted that the BOE officials assumed that both appropriation amounts comprising this particular request were to be directed to a capital account and therefore the monies were not encumbered on the related June 30 year ending dates since capital accounts are relatively timeless. The confusion has been resolved.

Motion made by Marty Shapiro to table minutes until next meeting; seconded by Mark Smith. Motion carried unanimously.

11-08-03...Marty Shapiro moved to take Item 11-08-03 Parks...Appropriation from Unreserved Fund Balance to 4312000-450000 Park Land Trust in the amount of \$18,639.14 out of order; seconded by Tom Tesoro. Carried unanimously.

Motion made by Marty Shapiro; seconded by Tom Tesoro to move Item 11-08-03 as presented.

Chair stated that since the Town Council did not want to deal with it, it is improperly before the Board.

Motion fails unanimously 6 – 0

1-09-02...WPCA...Resolution appropriating \$26,395,000 for the planning, acquisition, and construction of sanitary sewers, Phase IV, Part B, Contract IV and authorizing the issue of \$26,395,000 bonds or notes of the town to meet said appropriation and pending the issuance thereof the making of temporary borrowings for such purpose.

It was moved by Mr. Shapiro; seconded by Mr. Tesoro.

The Chair stated that in speaking with Mr. Solemene, he is in agreement that to approve this amount would basically set a limit for people coming in to bid on it; they would know what we are going to spend on it and the bids would rise to that level. Mr. Solemene is going out to bid on this first and then come to us with the bid for approval; therefore the Administration is going to withdraw this resolution.

Resolution is withdrawn.

Motion made by Bill Crooks to add discussion of filling the Internal Auditor's vacancy; seconded by; Ken Martin. Motion carries unanimously.

Discussion followed.

Motion made by Marty Shapiro to form a two person search committee (one from each party) to review the Internal Auditor's job description and report back to the Board with recommendations; seconded by Bill Crooks. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion made by Marty Shapiro; seconded by Bill Crooks to appoint Steve Lupien and Lisa Valenti as the search committee. Motion carried unanimously.

1-09-01...WPCA... Resolution appropriating an additional \$2,626,000 for the planning, acquisition and construction of sanitary sewers, Phase IV, Part B, Contract III, and authorizing the issue of an additional \$2,626,000 of bonds or notes of the town to meet said appropriation and pending the issuance thereof the making of temporary borrowings for such purpose.

It was moved by Marty Shapiro; seconded by Tom Tesoro.

Joe Solemene was present for discussion.

Mr. Crooks requested that for future sewer projects, Mr. Solemene present the Board with copies of maps as done for Item 1/09/02.

Mr. Crooks inquired if bond issues were for thirty years. Ms. Heim responded that all bond issues are for twenty years.

Motion carried unanimously 6 – 0.

1-09-03...Presentation by George McLaughlin – CT Consortium of Municipalities

Mr. McLaughlin was present to explain to the Board what the Consortium was and what it wants to accomplish.

The consortium was founded in December and now has representation from 60 of the state's 169 towns and from 75 municipal boards. Their mission is to encourage local officials and their advocacy groups to communicate and work together for common objectives, to educate the Legislature about common problems and to lobby for legislative changes to permit communities to live within their means without impacting services and taxes. The Consortium is calling for changes to laws concerning binding arbitration, prevailing wage, and mandates from the state government. Their goal is to have at least 100 towns and 150 municipal boards vote to endorse its platform, which will give a unified voice to its concerns that will be hard to ignore at the state capitol.

When asked how the community could join, Mr. McLaughlin stated all that was necessary was for the Board to adopt a resolution endorsing the consortium's mission statement.

Motion made by Tom Tesoro that the Board of Finance in the Town of Trumbull join and support the CT Municipal Consortium for Fiscal Responsibility in its effort to bring about changes beneficial to the municipalities and taxpayers across Connecticut. Said changes to include 1) raising the cost thresholds under the prevailing wage statute from the current \$100K/\$400K levels to minimally the \$1 million level; 2) leveling the playing field in binding arbitration by allowing an arbitrated settlement, if rejected by the local legislature body, to then be sent back into negotiations, rather than directly in the last round of appellate review; and 3) a prohibition on new mandates upon the towns from the state until the legislature meet its own funding commitment already existing on the books; seconded by Bill Crooks.

Motion carries unanimously.

Marty Shapiro moved to adjourn; seconded by Tom Tesoro.

Mr. Crooks stated that they (Bill, Mark, Ken) were not going to vote for adjournment until discussion was had on the financial reports received in the last three days. They have

concerns and these concerns have been raised through emails. They would like the opportunity to discuss them and get answers. Chair suggested that Ms. Heim answer the questions by email and if there were still some concerns, Mr. Crooks and the Chair could come in and talk with her.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Bokine, Clerk

2009-2010 BUDGET SCHEDULE
SUBJECT TO CHANGE

2009 BUDGET HEARING SCHEDULE All meetings will begin at 7 pm unless noted

Tuesday, Feb. 10

Budget to BOF

Wednesday, Feb. 11
Council Chambers

7 PM

Business Education Initiative
Board of Education

Thursday, Feb. 12
Madison Middle School

7 PM

Public Hearing – Madison Middle School
Regular BOF Meeting

Monday, Feb. 23
Town Hall Conference Rm.

8:30 AM
5 PM

Emergency Medical Services
EMS
Fire Marshal
Fire Hydrants
Building Official

Recreation/Community
Arts Commission
Public Events
Trumbull Day Commission
Recreation

Library

Nurses
Nursing Sr/Well Child
Counseling Center
School Nurses
Non Public School Nurses

Health District

Social Services
Sr. Citizen Services

Youth Commission

General Government
Town Council

Monday, Feb. 23 (cont.)

Trumbull Nature Commission
First Selectman's Office
Elections
Board of Finance
Tax Assessor's Office
Board of Assessment Appeals
Tax Collector
Purchasing
Treasurer
Technology
Human Resources
Town Clerk
Vital Statistics
Planning and Zoning
Zoning Board of Appeals
Economic Development
Transit District
Finance Dept.
Ethics Commission
Employee Benefits
Probate
Town Hall
Town Attorneys
Treasurer

Wednesday, Feb. 25 7 PM
Conference Room

Board of Education follow-up, if necessary

Monday, March 2 8:30 AM
Conference Room 5 PM

Public Works
Public Works-Director
Security-Bldg & Grounds
PW-Street Lights
PW-Highway
PW-Snow Removal
PW-Paving
PW-Maintenance
Disposal Area
Town Engineer
Parks
Tree Warden
Custodial Services
Inland Wetlands Commission
Recycling Commission

Public Safety
Police

Monday, March 2 (cont.)

Emergency Management
Special Detail
Animal Control
Central Emergency Dispatch

Enterprise Funds

Debt Service
Revenues
Any remaining depts. From Monday, Feb. 25

Saturday, March 7 10 AM
Madison Middle School

Public Hearing – Madison Middle School

Thursday, March 12 6 PM
Conference Room

Voting

Monday, March 16 6 PM
Conference Room

Voting, if necessary

Thursday, March 19 7 PM

Regular meeting