
Approved w/correction 4/6/16

BOARD OF FINANCE

Minutes

March 9, 2016

- I. Call to Order** - Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman R. Sulich
- II. Establishment of Quorum**
Members present: R. Sulich, R. Droesch, L. Pecoraro, E. Chalfant, P. Tracey, H. Tuttle
Members absent: None
Alternates present: W. Chalfant, C. Christensen
Alternates absent: S. Pelletier
- All voting members present.
- III. Pledge of Allegiance**
- IV. Corrections and Additions to Agenda**
- V. Approval of Minutes**
Regular Meeting – February 10, 2016 – approved with correction of date.
- VI. Written Communications / Correspondence**
- VII. Public Comment**
- VIII. Old Business**
1. Treasurer's Report – C. Miller stated that the current reports now agree with the audit and adjustments have been made. The current 2015 year balance sheet matches the audit sheet totals.
R. Piper said he had been waiting for a figure on the Profit & Loss report to plug into the Board of Selectmen budget and now can do that.
C. Miller indicated that tax collection is at 102% of the 98% required.
- IX. New Business**
1. Presentation of proposed 2016-2017 FY general government budget by Board of Selectmen - First Selectman, R. Piper was in attendance to present the proposed general government budget for the 2016-2017 FY. He reviewed each section of expenses and gave a brief explanation for each. Of note:
Expense for heating is down, due to the drop in oil prices.
R. Piper would like to increase the hours of the maintenance person to 18 hours/week.
Cost of insurance is increased by three (3%) percent.

Legal notices will now be published in the Turnpike Buyer, which is much cheaper, as opposed to the Norwich Bulletin. The Town Attorney has indicated this will cover the legal requirements for posting notices.

Fees for the registrars have increased because they are now required to have certification training.

The library director will be cutting her hours from thirty-five (35) to thirty (30) and adding a new position of "library substitute" at eight (8) hours per week.

There is now no after school program, reducing line #1171 by \$9,500.00.

Luther Thurlow is retiring from the CERT Program which he has been involved with as a volunteer. He has recommended that the Town make this a paid position and indicated that there is a matching grant available in the amount of \$3,000.00. R. Piper indicated he has already applied for said grant.

The Fire Company requested a budget increase of \$50,000.00 and R. Piper indicated that the BOS has put in an increase of \$25,037.00, including OSHA compliance. R. Sulich felt the Fire Company should be present with specific details of the request for such a large budget increase. R. Piper stated that the Fire Co. has \$55,000.00 sitting in the C.I.P. and the budget increase requested was for "increased maintenance and repairs on the aging fleet." R. Sulich asked, in light of the embezzlement issue, how funds are now being monitored. R. Piper said he would convey the request for more details to the Fire Co.

In summary, the General Government budget includes a total increase of .72%.

2. Presentation of proposed 2015-2016 FY C.I.P. budget by Board of Selectmen - First Selectman, R. Piper presented information concerning the C.I.P. Budget. R. Sulich said there needs to be a yearly effort to clear up projects and request that the treasurer move any remaining funds out of C.I.P. R. Piper said he would like to see a column added that shows the present total (running total) for each project. One of the items is a new fuel pump at the town garage, which will cost \$22,000.00. It is antiquated and needs to be replaced. The new pump will have a new system with keys that keep track of where the fuel is going. R. Sulich would like to see a line for non-reoccurring items. R. Piper said the bottom line is a \$337,000.00 budget. He would like to see the goal for each item, i.e. how much is needed. He also stated that the C.I.P. Committee plans to meet regularly during the year and not just at budget time.

W. Chalfant felt that the future year figures are too arbitrary.

R. Sulich disagreed and said these are needs that get pushed into the future.

3. 2016-2017 FY Budget Discussion. - This item was covered in the previous discussions for each budget.

R. Sulich indicated that revenues will be discussed at the next meeting.

R. Piper said he will make the necessary changes to the budget, leaving \$25,000.00 in the Fire Co. budget line.

X. Adjournment - Motion was made by L. Pecoraro at 8:35 p.m. to adjourn. Second by P. Tracey.

Vote 6-0-0. Passed.

R. Drosch / E. Chalfant / P. Tracey / L. Pecoraro / H. Tuttle / R. Sulich

Yes

Yes

Yes

Yes

Yes

Yes

Respectfully submitted

Joy A. Bissonnette
Recording Secretary