MINUTES
Board of Finance
Tuesday, April 27, 2010 @ 7:00PM
Norma Drummer Room/Seymour Town Hall

Members present: Chairman Mark Thompson, Bill Paecht, Peter Jezierny, Bill Sawicki, Len Greene, Kristen Harmeling, and Nancy Onofrio.
Others present: First Selectman Paul Roy, Doug Thomas, Tony Caserta, Michelle Walsh, John Stelma, Frank Loda, Jeanne Loda, W. Kurt Miller, Tom Eighmie, Joan Gee, Robert J. Koskelowski, All Rochelle.

ITEM # 1 - Call meeting to order.
Meeting was called to order by Chairman Mark Thompson at 7:03PM.

ITEM # 2 - Pledge of Allegiance.
Everyone salutes the Flag and states the Pledge of Allegiance.

ITEM # 3 - Seating of Alternates.
None.

ITEM # 4 - Public Comment.
Robert Koskelowski, Pearl Street: Comments that the current budget states $125.00 per hour for Town Counsel and not $160.00 per hour. He asks that the Board does not approve the increase. He also states that the firm did not get appointed by the Board of Selectmen only the Town Counsel and he questions the billing.

Joan Gee, 5 Bassett Road: Very concerned that the HR position was eliminated from the proposed budget and feels that the position is a necessity.

ITEM # 5 - Remarks from the Chairman.
Mark Thompson reminds everyone that the budget referendum machine vote will be held on Thursday, April 29, 2010 from 6am to 8pm at the Seymour Community Center. Whether the budget passes or not the Board must have a meeting within 5 days so we will be scheduling a special meeting for Tuesday, May 04, 2010. There will also be a public notice put in the paper for the special meeting. He also states that at the last meeting the Town's health insurance policies were being questioned and a comparison was requested, although it was not done, he feels that the Town's Insurance Agent is good and he trusts that he is working to get the best deal for the Town. He is hoping to have a cost comparison done by July 2010. A labor negotiation team may be formed for union contracts.

ITEM # 6 - First Selectman's Comments.
Paul Roy, First Selectman: Also reminds everyone to vote on Thursday, April 29, 2010. States that the Town and Emergency Management Director will be utilized to perform a test and reminding citizens to vote.

ITEM # 7 - Transfers.
Motion to approve control # 18 for the Dog Warden for $2,007.00 from salary assistant acct #10014404143605102 into heating fuel acct # 10014404143605624 for $607.00 and into kennels acct # 10014404143605440 for $400.00 and into communications acct # 10014404143605530 for $500.00 and into repairs and maintenance acct # 10014404143605430 for $500.00 for repairs and bills and since the assistant resigned there are funds left in that line item.
Motion: Peter Jezierny Second: Len Greene
Vote: 6-Yes (Mark Thompson, Len Greene, Peter Jezierny, Bill Sawicki, Nancy Onofrio, Kristen Harmeling) 1-No (Bill Paecht) 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

Motion to approve control # 19 for the Communications Commission for $16,450.00 from bulky waste landfill 10014101940520310 for $3,000.00 and from other purchased services 10014101940520500 for $1,450.00 and from Conservation Aquifer Protection 10014101950530859 for $3,000.00 and from Contingency 10014101950530872 for $9,000.00 into Machinery and Equipment 10014202151540740 for $16,450.00 for unanticipated expenses concerning the communications tower in Oxford.
Motion: Bill Paecht Second: Bill Sawicki
Vote: 6-Yes (Bill Paecht, Bill Sawicki, Peter Jezierny, Nancy Onofrio, Len Greene, Kristen Harmeling) 1-No (Mark Thompson) 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

Mark Thompson would like a letter written by the First Selectman to AT&T expressing the Town’s displeasure on all of the unexpected charges for the communications tower.

Motion to approve control # 20 for the Public Works Department for $22,400.00 from Purch. Serv. Garbage Residential 10014303230590425 and into Communications 10014303110570530 for $2,400.00 and into Oil 10014303110570624 for $5,000.00 and into Gasoline 10014303110570626 for $15,000.00 for additional expenses.
Motion: Len Greene Second: Bill Paecht
Vote: 7-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

Motion to approve control # 21 for the First Selectman’s Office for $7,500.00 from Purchased Services EDC MDP 10014101330435310 for $3,000.00 and from Registrars Purchased Services 10014101400440310 for $3,000.00 and from Purchased Serv. Tax Office 10014101515455500 for $1,000.00 and from Education 10014101522465350 for $1,000.00 and into Communications 10014101310430530 for $7,500.00 to pay for the phone bills associated with Town Hall.
Motion: Bill Paecht Second: Len Greene
Vote: 7-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

Motion to approve control # 22 transfer for the Fire Department for $8,545.10 from Building Improvements 10014202200550720 for $1,807.00 into Salary Part-time 10014202200550120 $1,807.00 and from machine & equip 10014202200550743 for $6,738.10 into Communications 10014202200550530 for $1,260.00 and into Repairs & Maintenance 10014202200550430 for $5,478.10. For new clerk training communications, and more breakdowns than expected.
Motion: Len Greene Second: Bill Sawicki
Vote: 7-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify
ITEM # 8 - Correspondence.
None.

ITEM # 9 - Approval of Minutes from Board of Finance Meeting on 3/23/10.
Motion to approve minutes from Board of Finance meeting on 3/23/10.
Motion: Peter Jezierny Second: Len Greene
Vote: 7-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

ITEM # 10 - Approval of Minutes from Special Board of Finance Meeting on 4/13/10.
Motion to approve minutes from special Board of Finance Meeting on 4/13/10 with the following amendments: add Michelle Walsh and John Stems to Others present and additional public comment not recorded by resident.
Motion: Bill Sawicki Second: Peter Jezierny
Vote: 7-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

ITEM # 11 - Finance Director’s Report.
- The Auditor will be field testing in the end of May.
- There may be a few line items that will be short funds that may need to be transferred before June 30th.
- Discussion was had concerning employee cell phone usage and Bill Sawicki requests a list of everyone that has a town cell phone.
- The Board members would also like a new grant list with more detail. They would like the list to state explanations of grants, dates, amounts, etc.

ITEM # 12 - Other Business.
- Item's 12 a & b are tabled due to the budget going forward to referendum as is.

Item 12c - Town Counsel and Special Town Counsel hourly rates. (Take possible action).
A discussion was held concerning the Board of Selectmen approving the fees for the Town Counsel and the Board of Finance not approving it. The Charter states that the fee schedule for Town Counsel must be approved by both Boards. The First Selectman submits a comparison list of the fees from the prior Town Counsel's vs. the present Town Counsel's. He also shows minutes from prior years showing that the approval process was never done in the past either. A lengthy discussion was had concerning Town Counsel, which includes credentials, hours and fees.

Motion to approve $160.00 per hour for Town Counsel retro-active from December 16, 2010.
Motion: Kristen Harmeling Second: Bill Sawicki
Vote: 2-Yes (Kristen Harmeling and Bill Sawicki) 4-No (Len Greene, Bill Paecht, Peter Jezierny, Nancy Onofrio) 1-Abstain (Mark Thompson) 0-Disqualify
Motion Fails.

The Board members would like this matter to go back to the Board of Selectmen.

ITEM # 13 - Adjournment.
Motion to adjourn at 9:06PM.

Motion: Nancy Onofrio
Vote: 7-Yes 0-No

Second: Kristen Harmeling
0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

Submitted by,

Deirdre Caruso,
Recording Secretary

Reviewed by,

Mark Thompson,
Chairman Board of Finance