

COPY RECEIVED
DATE: 3/30/09
TIME: 10:15 AM
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

MINUTES
Board of Finance
Tuesday, March 24, 2009 @ 7:00PM
Norma Drummer Room/Seymour Town Hall

Members present: Chairman Trisha Danka, Bill Paecht, Mark Thompson, Peter Jezierny, Michele Pavlik, and Jim Simpson.

Not present: Nancy Onofrio.

Others present: First Selectman Robert J. Koskelowski, Finance Director Doug Thomas, Assistant Finance Director Tony Caserta, Brian Koskelowski, Frank Loda, Theresa Conroy, and Alex Danka.

ITEM # 1 – Call meeting to order.

Chairman Trisha Danka calls the meeting to order 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.

None.

ITEM # 5 – First Selectman's Comments.

None at this time.

ITEM # 6 – Transfers.

Control # 11:

Motion to transfer \$32,489.49 for the Public Works Department from Contingency Acct# 1-001-410-1950-530-874 into Snow plowing overtime acct 1-001-430-3110-570-131 for \$14,558.50 and into Snow plowing materials acct # 1-001-430-3110-570-422 for \$17,930.99. Transfer is for snow plowing materials, sand, salt and overtime. Purchase price of sand is \$17/yard and salt mixture is \$96/ton.

Motion: Bill Paecht

Second: Michele Pavlik

Vote: 6-Yes

0-No

0-Abstain

0-Disqualify

Control # 12:

Motion to transfer \$22,000.00 for the Public Works Department from Regular Employees acct # 1-001-430-3110-570-110 for \$19,000.00 and from Electricity acct # 1-001-430-3110-570-622 for \$1,500.00 and from Clothing acct # 1-001-430-3110-570-615 into Communications acct # 1-001-430-3110-570-530 for \$3,000.00 and into Oil acct # 1-001-430-3110-570-624 for \$9,000.00 and into Repairs & Maintenance acct # 1-001-430-3110-570-430.

Motion: Bill Paecht

Second: Michele Pavlik

Discussion: Doug Thomas provides a back-up packet for the Board members with 30-day overdue bills, estimates for repairs and maintenance, tires, hydraulic, misc parts, mat cleaning, etc. These are all projections until the end of the fiscal year. Board members are not satisfied with the back-up presented due to missing dates and data included that is not included in the transfer.

(*Doug Thomas will prepare a report on the aggregate supplemental line transfers for the Public Works Department to make sure that they have not gone over the \$50,000.00 limit in the Charter.)

Vote: 6-Yes

0-No

0-Abstain

0-Disqualify

Control # 13:

Motion to transfer \$36,251.84 for the Public Works Department from Commercial Garbage acct # 1-001-430-3230-590-425 into Gasoline acct # 1-001-430-3110-570-626. Attached are overdue bills and usage has been up due to snow storms and the rest is a projected estimate until the end of the fiscal year.

Motion: Michele Pavlik

Second: Bill Paecht

Vote: 6-Yes

0-No

0-Abstain

0-Disqualify

Control # 14:

Motion to transfer \$10,000.00 for the Public Works Department from Commercial Garbage acct # 1-001-430-3230-590-426 and into Highway Materials acct # 1-001-430-3120-575-600. Current Highway materials account balance in \$12.33. Account activity attached. Due to winter storms more cold patch and curb replacement is anticipated. Commercial Garbage activity is down due to the economy. Commercial Garbage budget at \$135,000 and \$15,775 expended to date.

Motion: Bill Paecht

Second: Peter Jezierny

Board members would like estimates for curbing and cold patch.

Vote: 6-Yes

0-No

0-Abstain

0-Disqualify

ITEM # 7 – Correspondence.

- Copy of letter sent to Governor Rell from the First Selectman concerning Seymour's share of the Stimulus Package.
- Letter concerning action taken by the Board of Selectmen to give the Deputy Registrar a \$500.00 salary increase at their 2/17/09 meeting.

ITEM # 8 – Approval of Minutes from February 24, 2009 Special Meeting.

Motion to approve the Board of Finance Special Meeting Minutes from February 24, 2009.

Motion: Peter Jezierny

Second: Michele Pavlik

Vote: 6-Yes

0-No

0-Abstain

0-Disqualify

ITEM # 9 – Financial Reports.

Doug Thomas: Update on the Board of Education revenue tuition and ECS funds shortfall will be approximately \$261,000.00 for the current fiscal year. The First Selectman wrote a letter, which the Board members were given a copy of concerning this issue to Maryanne Mascolo, Superintendent of Schools. Board members ask who will be responsible to cover the shortfall and Doug responds that if the Board of Education does not choose to cover the shortfall than the Town will have to. He also states that he spoke with the Tax Collector and he is confident that the Town will receive 98% collection rate in property taxes for this budget year.

ITEM # 10 – Other Business.

#10a: Final look at proposed budget to make recommendation for public hearing.

Trisha Danka: States that she was not happy with Thursday's budget deliberations and although she would have liked a 0% increase in taxes, she feels that there either was not enough information given to the Board to make the appropriate cuts and she cannot in good conscience devastate Town Services. She is in support of the budget done on Wednesday, March 18, 2009, which has a minimal .28% increase, which will bring the mill rate to 25.80, which also equals \$56.00 on a \$200,000 home.

Bill Paecht: Agrees with Trisha and supports the budget done on Wednesday. He feels that this was very difficult due to the economic situation in the Town and Country right now.

Peter Jezierny: He also agrees with Wednesday's version of the budget and states that we have to deal with the economic times right now and they did the best they could with what they had.

Michele Pavlik: States that this was the hardest year so far trying to keep the budget down and that the Board did a lot of hard work. Also agrees with Wednesday's version of the budget with only a .28% increase and feels that a lot was accomplished. With that minimal increase the Board of Education stayed at a 0% increase, the Senior Tax Freeze remained the same, there weren't any public services lost and there weren't any layoffs on the Town side. She would like a 15 minute recess to look over the budget that was handed to the Board members earlier in the meeting.

Jim Simpson: Shows his support for the minimal increase from Wednesday's version of the budget. Feels any more taken out would be catastrophic to the Town.

Mark Thompson: Very impressed about how hard the Board members worked, as well as all of the departments and the Board of Education. Feels that Wednesday's version of the budget is the best balance for the Town. Feels that a recess is a reasonable request to review the copy of the budget before them.

Motion to take a 15 minute recess to review the Budget that was given to the Board Members tonight at 7:53PM.

Motion: Bill Paecht	Second: Michele Pavlik		
Vote: 6-Yes	0-No	0-Abstain	0-Disqualify

Discussion concerning some discrepancies found, which Doug Thomas will correct and bring the final Budget back to the Board of Finance.

Motion to come out of recess at 8:18PM.

Motion: Bill Paecht	Second: Peter Jezierny		
Vote: 6-Yes	0-No	0-Abstain	0-Disqualify

Public Comment:

Frank Loda, 27, Osprey Drive: States that he cannot follow along due to changes that have been made with his version of the budget that he received at one of the budget workshops. He lists many items that he feels are inaccurate and would like the Board to take another look at. The items that he feels are inaccurate include: calculation page, bad debt allowance, total property taxes, capital reserve fund page, personal property tax, health & savings, capital for fire vehicle, debt service, salary accounts and fica payments.

Robert J. Koskelowski: Adjustments have already been made on many of the items that Mr. Loda mentioned and the Finance Director will be directed to make any more appropriate adjustments needed. The final numbers do not have to be on the budget hearing notice and he encourages the Board of Finance to set the annual budget hearing and recommends that they accept the Wednesday's version of the budget tonight.

Trisha Danka: Would like to make sure that Doug Thomas brings the final copy to the Board of Finance at a Special Meeting that they will have next week. She would like to make sure that the salary footer is on the pages. She would like to make sure that there will be no changes in the mill rate. Doug Thomas states that there will not be any change in the mill rate.

Board members have a discussion concerning the Capital Projects, which was voted on by the Board of Selectmen for \$11,319.00, but is in the budget for \$11,127.00.

The First Selectman explains that this will be voted on by the Board of Selectmen for approval and they had the wrong amount before.

#10b: Pass Resolution on Grand Total Budget.

Motion to table approval of grand total budget until Special Board of Finance meeting to be set for Tuesday, March 31, 2009 @ 7:00PM in the Norma Drummer Room/Seymour Town Hall.

Motion: Peter Jezierny Second: Michele Pavlik

Vote: 6-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

#10c: Set Annual Budget Hearing.

Motion to set Annual Budget Hearing for Wednesday, April 8, 2009 @ 7:00PM at the Seymour Middle School, 211 Mountain Road, Seymour.

Motion: Bill Paecht Second: Peter Jezierny

Vote: 6-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

#10d: Set Mill Rate.

Motion to set the Mill Rate @ 25.80.

Motion: Bill Paecht Second: Mark Thompson

Vote: 6-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

Motion to set a Special Board of Finance meeting for Tuesday, March 31, 2009 @ 7:00PM in the Norma Drummer Room/Seymour Town Hall to set the Grand Total Budget.

Motion: Peter Jezierny Second: Michele Pavlik

Vote: 6-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

ITEM # 11 – Public Comment.

None.

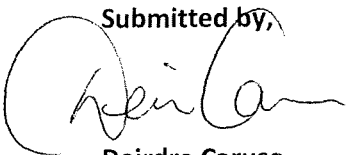
ITEM # 12 – Adjournment.

Motion to adjourn at 8:58PM.

Motion: Bill Paecht Second: Peter Jezierny

Vote: 6-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

Submitted by,



Deirdre Caruso,
Recording Secretary

Reviewed by,

VIA EMAIL

Trisha Danka,
Chairman Board of Finance