

**TOWN OF EAST HADDAM  
BOARD OF FINANCE**

Regular Meeting  
April 11, 2011  
7:00 pm  
Grange Hall

**Call to Order**

The regular meeting of the East Haddam Board of Finance was called to order by Chairman Paul Maxwell on Monday, April 11, 2011 at 7:05 pm at the Grange Hall.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

In attendance:

Board of Finance Members:

Paul Maxwell, Chairman  
Robert Bennett  
Matthew Budzik  
Bruce Dutch  
Susan Link

Others:

Deb Denette, Town Clerk and BOF recording secretary  
Cindy Varricchio, Finance Administrator

Mr. Maxwell requested the Finance Administrator's report be given first to accommodate Mrs. Varricchio who needed to leave early.

**Finance Administrator's Report**

**a. March YTD Budget Reports and Year End Forecast:**

Mrs. Varricchio advised that next month a request will be brought forward for \$9,000, representing the Town's portion of a grant that will enable the purchase of a generator for the Senior Center. The Senior Center has been identified as an emergency shelter for East Haddam. The generator being obtained through the grant is a \$59,000 item.

Also next month, the tax relief for elderly and disabled program will be brought forward for action with recommendations from the Assessor. The program was put in place three years ago and will sunset shortly without action.

Mrs. Varricchio stated that expenses are tracking on schedule; however, revenue is below budget. A good spring for the Town Clerk with home sales, and transfer station bulky weight can hopefully return revenues to the level projected. Interest income was noted to be a fraction of what it has been. It was noted that a supplemental appropriations may be required to balance the budget if it goes over. Mrs. Varricchio stated that revenues are presently down \$125,000 from budgeted.

Mrs. Varricchio advised that \$27,000 more than anticipated was received in connection with the purchase of the Patrell property. This additional funding must be

applied to debt service resulting in the debt services expenses being lower than budgeted. Mrs. Varricchio stated that the snow budget will be approximately \$14,000 over budget; now that all of the purchase orders and encumbered funds have been released and/or expended. Mrs. Varricchio stated that potential savings are being reviewed from all departments.

Mr. Maxwell inquired what FEMA funds from the big snow storm would have done for the budget. Mrs. Varricchio stated that the Town would have been eligible for \$28,000 if FEMA approved the funding for Middlesex County, however, it did not.

**b. Budget Calendar Reminder:**

A brief review of the upcoming meeting schedule was reviewed. The budget public hearing will take place on Monday, April 25<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. The Town meeting will be held on May 11<sup>th</sup> and the budget referendum is planned for May 24<sup>th</sup>.

Discussion resumed to the elderly tax relief program. Mr. Maxwell relayed concerns he has heard that the program is not publicized enough. A listing of those obtaining the benefit was reviewed, it was noted that one of the lists begins with "V" and is likely an incomplete list. In response to an inquiry, it was noted that the list is not confidential and the list of those receiving the benefit is public information.

Mrs. Varricchio departed at this time.

**Approval of Minutes**

**Motion was made by Mrs. Link motioned to approve the minutes of the March 14, 2011 Regular Meeting and the March 31, 2011 and April 4, 2011 Special Meetings as presented. Mr. Budzik seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.**

**Chairman's Report**

**a. Tax Collector's Report:**

Mr. Maxwell noted that the collection rate is over 99%, there were no comments or questions.

**Liaison Reports**

None noted.

**Audience of Citizens**

No audience was present.

**Mr. Bennett motioned to adjourn at 7:25 p.m. Mr. Dutch seconded the motion. The motion to adjourn carried unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,

Deb Denette