

**TOWN OF SOMERS
BOARD OF FINANCE
P.O. BOX 308
SOMERS, CT 06071**

**BOARD OF FINANCE MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
JUNE 28, 2010
TOWN HALL CONFERENCE ROOM – 7:00 pm**

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Steve Krasinski called the regular meeting of the Board of Finance to order at 7:01 pm. Members George Warner, Thomas Mazzoli, Michael Parker, and Marilyn Pronovost were present and constituted a quorum. Also present from the Selectman's office: Lisa Pellegrini, Kathy Devlin and Joe Tolisano, and Town CFO, Kim Marcotte. Fire Chief, Ed Pagani, and Bill Boutwell and Tim Potrikus, from the Board of Education were also in attendance.

II. BOARD OF EDUCATION UPDATE:

When called upon, Mr. Potrikus informed the BOF of the most recent Board of Education meeting where they passed a resolution on the Transitional Education program. It will require 1 additional staff person not included on the previously submitted 2010-2011 BOE budget. The program will result in savings to the Town in that the students are served in the district (cost of \$116,000) vs. outside of district (cost of \$163,000) at a net savings of \$45,000. Currently, there are 3 students in the program.

Mr. Parker reminded Mr. Potrikus of the BOF mandate to the BOE of no increases to the budget, and questioned the additional staff cost should the number of students decline. Mr. Krasinski pointed out that at the most recent BOF meeting, the BOE budget had been reduced by \$120,000. Mr. Krasinski also asked the BOE to submit a line item budget to the BOF.

III. SELECTMAN UPDATE:

a. Sunset Drive– TCP Well Water Remediation

Ms. Pellegrini told members of the Governor's (M. Jody Rell), recent visit to the Town Hall where Mrs. Rell committed State funding to move forward with this project. The cost of the project is approximately \$260,000, with \$241,000 to be funded by the State. Actual funds are expected to be released at the July Bond meeting. Steve Jacobs, Town Sanitarian and Jim Botellio, chairman of the WPCA will make a recommendation as to where the balance of funds will come from.

b. STEAP Grant Applications

Ms. Pellegrini stated that new STEAP Grants applications are due by 7/20/2010. She has asked Ms. Devlin and Mr. Tolisano for ideas regarding possible projects. Ideas already communicated to her office include additional lighting for Somers Street Scape, a tech-center for the high school, and sidewalks around the Town Center.

c. Additional 2010-2011 Budget reductions

Ms. Pellegrini summarized the \$42,000 in cuts to be made to the 2010/2011 Town Budget. They included:

- \$15,000 tipping fees
- \$12,000 Bonds & Insurance

- \$5,000 Civil preparedness
- \$3,000 Kibbe Fuller Heat
- \$2,000 Mileage (Selectman's Budget)
- \$1,000 Temporary Salaries (Selectman's Budget)
- \$3,000 Highway Salaries
- \$1,000 Publications in Recreation

d. Year-end Expenditures and Revenues Summary

Ms. Marcotte distributed copies of: 2009-2010 YTD Revenue Report; Expenditures Report and Town Budget to members. She pointed out that the remaining expected revenues and expenditures (approx. \$350,000) effectively counterbalance one another. She outlined the largest remaining expenditures as:

- BOE (not posted yet), pending transfer of electronic file
- CIP \$210,000
- State Police invoice (approx. \$600,000)

From the 2009-2010 Budget, a \$292,000 surplus is expected.

e. Capital Equipment Needs - Priority Requests

Mr. Tolisano opened by summarizing his recent email to BOF, which requests that members consider funding the following Capital Equipment items as immediate needs.

- Firehoses
- Ambulance replacement
- Town Hall Computer system
- Town Hall Phone system

The discussion that followed focused on these items and whether they ought to be funded (if at all) from CIP or from the 2009-2010 Budget surplus. Mr. Warner questioned whether a Town Meeting would be necessary as these would be new budget line items. Mr. Mazzoli suggested that the Health & Safety items be the primary focus.

Focusing on the firehoses, Chief Pagani stated the cost to be approx. \$60,000. He felt the purchase of new and reserve hoses, and appliances would last for approximately 10 years. The Town would then be in compliance with NFPA guidelines.

Mr. Parker questioned the need for spare hoses for a truck that currently doesn't exist. He added that while he agrees that Health & Safety should have their support, previously he understood the cost to be \$45,000-\$50,000; versus today's request of \$60,000.

Mr. Krasinski restated his repeated request from previous BOF meetings of CIP Priority Lists from BOS, BOE, Library, and Health & Safety. He had not seen Mr. Tolisano's email until this meeting. Ms. Pellegrini stated that these items are the same items previously discussed in CIP and that they continue to remain priorities. Mr. Krasinski then asked members if they felt the BOF should transfer \$60,000 for firehoses to CIP this year. All members said yes. Mr. Mazzoli stated the need for an Appropriation Form from Chief Pagani to effect this transfer.

Ms. Pellegrini then asked the Board if they were willing to make a similar commitment to a new ambulance as well. Chief Pagani's concern about continuing to put off a decision/funding on the ambulance is that the longer the Town waits, the price continues to increase. He currently approximates the cost at \$189,000. Mr. Parker

asked for a detailed proposal from the Chief on the ambulance. Ms. Provonost suggested the Chief submit a formal proposal for the ambulance and the BOF can consider it at the next meeting.

Ms. Pellegrini moved to the Town's computer system needs. Two computers recently required emergency replacement, due to failure of hard drive and/or lack of memory. PC's throughout the Town Hall have numerous hardware and software problems. The current server needs to be replaced (approx. cost \$8,000).

Discussion continued over the list supplied by Mr. Tolisano. Mr. Krasinski then asked for the Board of Selectmen to prioritize the list and supply that list at the next Board of Finance Meeting.

IV. MINUTES APPROVAL:

- February 22, 2010 Regular Meeting
- March 22, 2010 Special Meeting
- March 22, 2010 Regular Meeting
- April 6, 2010 Special Meeting
- April 12, 2010 Special Meeting
- April 26, 2010 Regular Meeting
- May 5, 2010 Special Meeting
- May 25, 2010 Special Meeting

Mr. Krasinski stated that due to the number of Minutes which need to be addressed, they should table this for this evening. Members should read all Minutes and plan on voting on them at the next meeting.

Ms. Pellegrini and Ms. Devlin felt that the Minutes of the May 25, 2010 BOF Special Meeting should be addressed, since the Board had set the new Mil Rate at that meeting. Members agreed and reviewed the May 25, 2010 Minutes.

Mr. Krasinski asked members for comments/changes on the May 25, 2010 Special Meeting Minutes. An error was discovered in the Adjournment Section... specific Board members who made the motion to adjourn and the seconding of the motion were not named.

The May 25, 2010 Board of Finance Special Meeting Minutes should be amended as follows:

#4. Adjournment. "A motion was made by Mr. Parker, seconded by Mr. Mazzoli and unanimously voted to adjourn the Special Meeting of the Board of Finance at approximately 8:30 pm."

A motion was made by Mr. Warner to approve the Minutes of May 25, 2010 as amended; seconded by Mr. Mazzoli, and unanimously voted as approved.

The Board members agreed to review and discuss the balance of the Minutes at the next Board of Finance meeting.

V. BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS ADOPTION:

Ms. Marcotte informed the Board that they needed to vote on the revised 2010-2011 Budget which reflects the additional reductions of \$42,000 from BOS Budget, and \$125,000 from the BOE.

A motion was made by Mr. Parker to approve the revised 2010-2011 Town Budget; seconded by Mr. Mazzoli, and unanimously voted as approved.

VI. BILLS, TRANSFERS AND APPROPRIATIONS:

Ms. Marcotte submitted the following transfers for the Board's review/approval:

From	To	Amount
Kibbe	Kibbe Maintenance	\$11,500.00
Fire Marshall	NFPA Membership	\$472.50
	Professional Svcs – Mapping	\$1,500.00

A motion was made by Mr. Mazzoli to approve the above transfers; seconded by Mr. Warner, and unanimously voted as approved.

VII. CORRESPONDENCE:

None.

VIII. OTHER:

None.

IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION – UPDATE ON PENDING LITIGATION:

A motion was made by Mr. Warner to move to Executive Session at 8:45 pm; seconded by Mr. Mazzoli, and unanimously voted as approved.

A motion was made by Mr. Krasinski to adjourn from Executive Session at 9:10pm; seconded by Mr. Mazzoli and unanimously voted as approved.

X. ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by Mr. Krasinski to adjourn from the June 28, 2010 Regular Meeting of the Board of Finance at 9:10pm; seconded by Mr. Mazzoli and unanimously voted as approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly E. Dombek, Recording Secretary

MINUTES ARE NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVAL AT A SUBSEQUENT MEETING.