

Board of Finance
Special Meeting

January 19, 2011
6:30 pm

PRESENT Chairman Ronald Fedor, John W. Sheehan, Norman Glidden, Rosalyn Dupuis, G. Brian Vachris at 7 pm

ABSENT Alan Wilensky, George Peteros

OFFICIALS First Selectman Daniel Steward, Selectman Paul Konstantakis

ALSO Town Treasurer Bernard Pisacich, Dr. Randall Collins, Donald Blevins, Incoming Superintendent of Schools Jerry Belair

RTM Andrea Kanfer

STAFF Ruth Beers, Finance Director; Yvette M. Pier, Secretary

MEDIA Steven Chupaska, The Day; Paul Petrone, Waterford Patch

Chairman Fedor called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm.

ITEM 1 Public Comment - none

ITEM 2 MOTION Approval and acceptance of minutes of Regular Meeting on December 8, 2010
To approve the minutes of Regular Meeting on December 8, 2010 noting that Selectman Paul Konstantakis was in attendance.
Sheehan, Glidden Yes: Sheehan, Glidden, Fedor
Abstained: Dupuis

ITEM 3 Discussion with Dr. Collins, Interim Superintendent of Schools, regarding Board of Education actions planned to achieve next year's recommended budget guidelines.

Dr. Collins addressed the Board noting that the Board of Education will receive the budget tonight in the amount of \$42,914,414, subject to wage freezes for all employees and/or staffing reductions. He reviewed significant budget increases: Health insurance, FICA, Unused Sick Leave, Fire/Property/Liability and Other Insurance; Budget Additions/Absorptions – ARRA Title 1 Positions, ARRA

IDEA

Positions, ARRA ECS Stabilization Positions, Furlough Days, and Supplemental Increase. He reviewed the value of wage freezes and support staff salaries as well as significant budget decreases.

Short-term Solutions: Offer of an early retirement incentive, asking each of the six unions for a wage freeze for which the Board will be giving a one-year extension on the collective bargaining contracts for the unions' agreement, and reviewing all vacant positions to see if there is a need to fill them.

Long-term Contract Negotiations: Reducing wage increase, in negotiations to address health care benefits the town can afford to offer, reducing or eliminating unused sick leave buy-out provisions.

ITEM 4 MOTION To consider exercising the 3rd year extension of the appointment of the current auditors, McGladrey & Pullen, LLP Mr. Vachris arrives.
To approve the 3rd year extension of the appointment of the current auditors, McGladrey & Pullen, LLP
Sheehan, Dupuis Yes: Fedor, Glidden, Sheehan, Dupuis
No: Vachris

ITEM 5 MOTION Review and approval of Board of Finance budget for FY2011/2012
To approve the Board of Finance budget for FY 2011/12 in the amount of \$65,848
Sheehan, Dupuis

After some discussion Mr. Sheehan modified his motion by reducing line 51210 Clerical/Technical to \$13,019, line 51920 FICA to \$996 for a 52000 series subtotal of \$14,015 and reducing line 52010 Advertising to \$2,167 and line 52030a Professional fees to \$46,000 with a 52000 series subtotal of \$48,222 and a new total Board of Finance Budget of \$62,267. Ms. Dupuis accepted as friendly amendment.

Vote: Yes: Fedor, Glidden, Sheehan, Dupuis
No: Vachris

ITEM 6 Review and approval of Contingency budget for FY2011/2012
MOTION To approve the Contingency budget for FY 2011/12 in the amount of \$250,000.
Sheehan, Vachris Unanimous

ITEM 7 Remove from table to consider endorsing the recommendation of the Ad-Hoc Committee
MOTION on Fleet Sizing and Utilization
To remove from the table.
Vachris, Sheehan Unanimous

ITEM 8 To consider and act upon consideration of endorsing the recommendation of the Ad-Hoc
MOTION Committee on Fleet Sizing and Utilization
To consider this item.
Sheehan, Dupuis

Discussion: Mr. Vachris noted that W-15 should be replaced with a combined apparatus that can function as a pumper.

Vote: Unanimous

ITEM 9 Liaison Reports
Board of Selectmen -Mr. Sheehan reported that budget hearings have begun, Social Service Grants Committee has met and the requested total for that budget in FY11 is \$96,091.

The Utility Commission will meet on January 20, 2011, and Paul Goldstein has been appointed to replace Diana Cramer who is now the Democratic Registrar of Voters.

ITEM 10 Correspondence
Mr. Sheehan asked First Selectman Steward to expand on his e mail to Department Heads on January 4, 2011 regarding a 50% increase in health insurance rates effective July 1, 2011. Finance Director Beers explained that since health claim expenses had “invaded the risk corridor” those insured must now pay a higher rate to refund that corridor. Mr. Steward noted that the increase will mean a significant increase in insurance premiums for some employees and especially the retirees on the Town’s Insurance Plan

ITEM 11 Adjournment
MOTION To adjourn at 7:25 pm.
Sheehan, Dupuis Unanimous

Submitted by,

Yvette M. Pier, Secretary

