

TOWN OF ELLINGTON

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BOARD OF FINANCE

ROBERT J. CLEMENTS
Chairman

DOUGLAS B. HARDING
MARK A. JOYSE
BARRY C. PINTO
JOHN P. RACHEK
MICHAEL D. VARNEY

SPECIAL MEETING MAY 31, 2016 MINUTES

Members Present: R. Clements-Chairman, D. Harding, M. Joyse, B. Pinto, J. Rachek and M. Varney

Others Present: N. DiCorleto-Finance Officer, L. Spielman-First Selectman, T. Palshaw-120 Pinney St, Members of the Ellington Volunteer Ambulance Corps.

Call to Order

Chairman Robert Clements called the meeting to order at 8:15 PM.

Approval of Minutes

MOVED (RACHEK) SECONDED (HARDING) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS MEETING OF FEBRUARY 9, 2016 AS WRITTEN.

MOVED (JOYSE) SECONDED (PINTO) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE BUDGET HEARINGS OF MARCH 8, MARCH 22 AND MARCH 29, 2016 AS WRITTEN.

MOVED (JOYSE) SECONDED (RACHEK) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 12, 2016 PUBLIC HEARING AS WRITTEN.

MOVED (PINTO) SECONDED (HARDING) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE BUDGET DELIBERATIONS OF APRIL 14 AND APRIL 26, 2016 AS WRITTEN.

Set Mill Rate for FY 2016-17

Nicholas DiCorleto passed out a spreadsheet showing the State's readjustment to the budget and giving the town back some of the reductions anticipated when the deliberations were done in April. In total it is an additional \$539,665 in revenue. Mr. Clements proposed setting the mill rate at the present rate of 30.5. Mr. DiCorleto stated that this would still leave some extra funds from what were budgeted. Mr. Joyse considered setting the mill rate at what was approved to help offset any reductions next fiscal year. He felt that the State would probably be facing

worse conditions next year. Mr. Clements stated that the tax collection rate is almost always higher than this Board budgets and felt it was in the town's best interest to keep the mill rate at the present rate.

MOVED (RACHEK) SECONDED (HARDING) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO SET THE MILL RATE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016-17 AT 30.5 MILLS.

Transfers to Suspense

Each year the Tax Collector requests that delinquent accounts be transferred to suspense. Although they are transferred, she still works to collect the funds. This year she is requesting that 191 accounts be transferred totaling \$28,376.74.

MOVED (PINTO) SECONDED (VARNEY) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ACCEPT THE TRANSFERS TO SUSPENSE OF 191 ACCOUNTS TOTALING \$28,376.74 AS REQUESTED BY THE TAX AND REVENUE COLLECTOR, ANN MARIE CONTI, SUBMITTED IN MEMO DATED MAY 18, 2016.

Contingency for School Projects

John Rachek stated that the funds left in the contingency from the Crystal Lake School and Windermere School projects may be up to \$500,000. Nicholas DiCorleto stated that he spoke to Bond Counsel to find out what the funds can be spent on. He was told that the funds must be spent within the scope of the project or the funds can be re-appropriated but there is a procedure with a special motion that is required. The items have to be capital items. There was discussion regarding the generator revision for Crystal Lake School to power the entire building that was mentioned previously as well as the asbestos abatement for Windermere School. Mr. Clements felt that the generator should be at the top of the priority list because of the benefits to Crystal Lake School as well as other agencies of the town. The Senior Center would receive the generator that is now at Crystal Lake School and the new firehouse on Nutmeg Dr. would receive the Senior Center's generator. The balance of the funds could be used for the asbestos removal at Windermere although there may not be enough to complete the entire school.

Lori Spielman stated that she would ask the Public Works Director to check with his generator vendor to see what size generator they would recommend and to get prices for the changeover. There was also some concern that the Architect will be recommending two panels for the generator and the Board of Finance as well as the First Selectman were not happy with the two panel proposal. They would like to see one panel put in place.

MOVED (JOYSE) SECONDED (PINTO) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO RECOMMEND TO THE PERMANENT BUILDING COMMITTEE TO PURCHASE AN ADEQUATELY SIZED SINGLE GENERATOR AT CRYSTAL LAKE SCHOOL WITH THE ADDITIONAL CONTINGENCY FUNDS TO INCLUDE ONE PANEL AND THAT THE CL GENERATOR BE REPURPOSED TO THE SENIOR CENTER AND THE ONE AT THE SENIOR CENTER BE REPURPOSED TO THE NUTMEG RD FIREHOUSE.

Mr. Varney asked Nicholas DiCorleto what he had found out about the turf fields study. He told the Board of Finance that he spoke to Dave Stager of the State of CT regarding the STEAP grant received for the turf fields at the High School. He was told that they would not pay for the study out of the grant funds, however they require a study before the funds can be approved to

be spent. The Board of Selectmen had previously approved spending the funds for the study. The Board of Finance agreed that the Finance Officer spend the \$40,000 from the Engineering Account to have the study done.

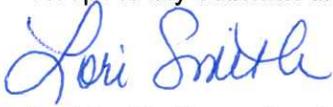
Cancellation of June 7 meeting

MOVED (JOYSE) SECONDED (HARDING) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO CANCEL THE JUNE 7 REGULAR MEETING.

Adjournment

MOVED (JOYSE) SECONDED (RACHEK) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted:



Lori Smith, Recording Secretary