



STATE OF CONNECTICUT – COUNTY OF TOLLAND
INCORPORATED 1786

TOWN OF ELLINGTON

55 MAIN STREET – PO BOX 187
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BOARD OF FINANCE

JOHN P. RACHEK
Chairman

PEGGY BUSSE
DOUGLAS B. HARDING
DAVID J. OLENDER
BARRY C. PINTO
MICHAEL D. VARNEY

REGULAR MEETING FEBRUARY 6, 2018 MINUTES

Members Present: J. Rachek-Chair, P. Busse, D. Harding, D. Olender, B. Pinto, M. Varney

Others Present: N. DiCorleto-Finance Officer, L. Spielman-First Selectman, Selectman R. Stomberg, F. LaPlante-Asst. Finance Officer, J. Gage-Treasurer NCLT

Call to Order

Chairman John Rachek called the meeting to order at 8:00 pm.

Approval of Minutes of January 9, 2018 Regular Meeting

MOVED (PINTO) SECONDED (HARDING) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 9, 2018 MEETING AS WRITTEN.

Financial Statements

Nicholas DiCorleto stated that the audit is progressing and he should have it done by Friday. The Grand List has been completed and the report should be ready next week. The Tax Collector's report shows the collection percentage up from the same time last year. She will not have a final figure until Mid-February as she is still posting payments. He passed out a list of properties slated for tax sale. He stated that the Tax Collector is appreciative of the support she has received from the Boards to go forward with this sale. Mr. DiCorleto told the Board that because the Town did not do a supplemental tax, the charges for December billing was only \$1,765.42.

He passed out a tabulation on how the State figures the spending cap for Ellington, showing the increase to be 2.9%. The allowable increase is 2.5%; there is no penalty in place for this first year. He passed out a copy of CCM Governor's State Budget Impact on Ellington, the total change is -.05%. The LOCIP and Pequot funds were reduced. The report from Moody's on the Town of Ellington rates the Town at Aa3, and Mr. DiCorleto stated that Moody's is impressed that the Town does not have that much debt on the books.

He then passed out the financial statements and highlighted the notes; #9 DPW Overtime balance is \$64,196 and #2/3 the tax collector has been paid \$108,456 in back taxes from the list of tax sales. He noted on the debt budget that he did last month that there was an error in that two lease payments were put into the 2017-18 FY and should be in the 2018-19 FY. He distributed the Board of Selectmen's capital improvement budget that they will present to the Board of Finance next Tuesday.

New Business

The Town's purchase of this property will be funded from the Open Space Fund which has a balance of \$727,987.15. John Rachek asked who will actually own this land after it is purchased. Mr. Gage stated that the Land Trust owns the land and that the Land Trust owns several properties in other towns also. If the Land Trust ever ceases to exist, the property is to go to another organization with a similar mission. This land is for passive recreation only with the objective to preserve open space to be used by the public. No development is permitted. The property is insured and maintained by the Northern Connecticut Land Trust.

MOVED (HARDING) SECONDED (VARNEY) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY THAT THE TOWN OF ELLINGTON ENTER INTO A PARTNERSHIP WITH NORTHERN CONNECTICUT LAND TRUST INC. (NCLT) FOR THE PROTECTION OF OPEN SPACE CONCERNING THE PURCHASE OF THE BELLANTE PROPERTY, A 37-ACRE PARCEL OF LAND LOCATED AT 14 SANDY BEACH ROAD IN ELLINGTON TO BE USED BY THE PUBLIC FOR PASSIVE RECREATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$80,000; \$36,000 SHALL BE FUNDED THROUGH A CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION STATE GRANT; \$14,000 CONTRIBUTED FROM A FORMER NCLT DIRECTOR; AND THE TOWN OF ELLINGTON WILL CONTRIBUTE \$40,000. THE TOWN'S FUNDING WILL COME FROM THE OPEN SPACE FUND ACCOUNT.

Old Business

None


Liaison Reports

Mr. Varney stated that the Board of Education had their budget workshop. When the Board of Education met later, they reduced the Superintendent's budget by another 1%. Their budget increase is 4%.

Adjournment

MOVED (PINTO) SECONDED (OLENDER) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted:



Lori Smith, Recording Secretary