

Board of Finance Minutes
Regular Meeting • February 4, 2015

Received February 11, 2015 Carolyn Phillips Town Clerk

The Meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm

Present; Ron Emanuel, Barbara Burch, Tracy Martin, Ed Dorsett, Selectman Aiello, members of the public.

Absent: Scott Pottbecker, Larry Sweeney, Jessica McDonald, Lisa Weik

Motion to seat Ed Dorsett for Scott Pottbecker by Tracy Martin; Barbara Burch 2nd. Motion carried.

Selectman's Update; Extension on the audit has been approved. Re-evaluation by tax assessor is being done right now, and will be done by March 1, 2015, but we have no confirmation or report from the tax assessor to confirm.

Tax Assessor's Report: Tax Assessor informed Chairman Emanuel that she will not be coming to the Board of Finance meetings.

Barbara Burch made a motion for Chairman Ron Emanuel to contact OPM to find out if an extension was filed regarding the 10 year evaluation and the amount of time permitted to complete the evaluation and whether all properties are evaluated by house or only those that have had permits pulled. 2nd by Tracy Martin. Motion carried.

Ed Dorsett made a motion to contact the assessor for update on the 10 year re-evaluation process. 2nd by Barbara Burch. Motion carried.

To be noted: Despite repeated requests, we do not have any new information or enough information to determine the size of the computer glitch/error regarding tax income numbers.

Motion by Ron Emanuel that the board file a joint request to the tax collector and the tax assessor to work together to provide a report that includes the exact tax revenue shortfall number. Ed Dorsett 2nd. Motion carried.

Budget Review:

2013 - 2014;

Emails received; update from auditor. Extension filed and approved, there are still outstanding items, but hopes to get the information in time to meet deadlines and have management meeting.

2014 - 2015;

Ed Dorsett repeated for the record that as of the December 31, 2014 figures that there was a projected overage of \$120,691.00 for Insurance line item totals. "Statement of Expenditures, Encumbrances and Appropriations dated 1/5/15" from the fiscal office was used to generate this report.

1 copy of the financial statements for the month of January was received. The board is only getting statements once a month, and then they seem to be incomplete.

2015-2016;
Budgets in for the 2015-2016;
Pension
Bantam Lake Authority
Beach and Recreation
Library (2 separate budgets)
Tax Collector
Treasurer
ZBA
Planning and Zoning
Conservation
Board of Finance

Bantam Lake Authority to be entered AS IS to our 2015 Budget line items.

Recommendations for Board of Finance Budget:
Remove Clerk from board of finance
We don't know what the cost of printing will be, so we will call around for quotes, guesstimating \$600 for next year.
Legal notices - \$200.00
Professional Services - \$1,000
Need to budget \$20,000 for audit, will check again the audit contract figures.

Draft finalized

Table the remaining budgets until next week when the board will have computerized spreadsheets to work from.

Ed Dorsett moved to accept minutes of the January 21, 2015 Board of Finance Meeting, as written. Barbara Burch 2nd. Motion carried

FOIA Complaints;
Library information - request to the 1st selectman has been fulfilled. Chairman Emanuel recommended that the request has been satisfied.

Ed Dorsett made the motion to withdraw the FOIA complaint against the first Selectman regarding the ADP records and time sheets regarding the special

projects of the library. Asked that Chairman Emanuel inform FOIC that it is withdrawn with a copy to the 1st Selectman. Docket No. FIC2014-841 Ron Emanuel vs. 1st Selectman Town of Morris and Town of Morris. Tracy Martin 2nd. Motion carried.

No response from the 1st Selectman regarding the Board of Finance receiving legal counsel for the upcoming FOIA. Request had been sent, but there has been no response to date.

Motion by Barbara Burch, add to the agenda: Tax Collector Report. Ed Dorsett 2nd. Motion Carried.

Barbara Burch made a motion to ask the Tax Collector to provide the Board of Finance with tax collection information every month, at the 1st of the month, in a Tax Collector's report. Tracy Martin 2nd. Motion Carried.

Motion made by Ron Emanuel to add the topic of Board of Finance copier access to the agenda. Ed Dorsett 2nd. Motion carried.

Motion to have Chairman Ron Emanuel put in request to the 1st Selectman to have the Chairman of the Board of Finance to have a code to the copier to make copies for the Board of Finance. Ed Dorsett 2nd. Motion Carried.

Add to the agenda, meeting time Tracy; Ed 2nd. Motion carried.

Motion made by Tracy Martin for Chairman Ron Emanuel to send an email to all Board of Finance members asking for attendance or consideration for resignation if they feel they are unable to fulfill their elected duties. Barbara Burch 2nd. Motion carried.

Barbara Burch made a motion to add to the agenda; 2 motions that were filed by Attny. Slater on behalf of the Treasurer and 1st Selectman regarding the FOIA complaints. Tracy Martin 2nd. Motion Carried.

Correspondence dated Jan. 30, Motions that have gone to FOI Commission, need a response. Docket 2014-907, docket 2014-906. Motion by Tracy Martin, Barbara Burch as Vice Chairman of the Board of Finance to respond on behalf of the Board of Finance to these motions. Ed Dorsett 2nd.. Motion Carried.

Ed Dorsett made a motion to add to the agenda a letter from the Morris Public Library. Tracy Martin 2nd. Motion carried.

Letter dated Jan. 21, 2015 - Elimination of the Library Director Position.

Sally Irwin, Treasurer, Library Board of Directors, noted that 50% of the entire Library Budget is to go to this position and is not a sustainable position for the

Library, as they had no idea that the health insurance costs would be this high. Ed Dorsett and Tracy Martin commented that they appreciate the efforts by the Library Board of Directors to try to control their spending and stay within their budget limitations. Ron Emanuel and Barbara Burch noted that this sentiment has nothing to do with the Union, nor their employees or Union members.

Motion to Adjourn: 9:15 pm by Tracy Martin. Ed Dorsett 2nd. Motion Carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tracy Martin
Board of Finance Clerk