

Unapproved

SALEM BOARD OF FINANCE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES October 13, 2011

Formatted: Indent: Left: 1", First line: 0.5"

PRESENT

TJ Butcher
John Dolan (Alt)
Carole Eckart
Janet Griggs
George Householder
David Kennedy (Alt)
Roland Traylor (Alt)
Greg Preston
Bill Weinschenker

ABSENT

B. Weinschenker called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m.

Recognition of Visitors:

Seat Alternate: N/A

Communications:

Chairman Weinschenker informed the BOF members that he met with the Superintendent of the school concerning the MBR issue. This issue will be addressed by the BOE at their November meeting. The school chairman will need to address this \$77,000 endorsement to the BOS first, then to the BOF, after which a town meeting will be held before this money can

be appropriated. A letter from the State of Connecticut stated that they would like to know if Salem will be in compliance with the MBR Statue by December 31, 2011.

AGENDA

1. Approval of minutes

M/S/C (Householder/Griggs) to approve the September 8, 2011 Regular Board of Finance minutes as amended. Page 3: change the word "adding" to "improving"

Vote: (6) Butcher, Eckart, Griggs, Trailor, Householder, Weinschenker.

Abstain: (1) Preston

2. Treasurer's Report

M. Ferron discussed the following issues:

- She was having computer problems and was unable to print the Excel spreadsheet that reports the monthly activities of the special funds.
- Tax collections and total revenue are up compared to the same period last year.
- More money will be kept in the Chelsea Groton checking account. The amount will be approximately \$500,000.
- A check was written from the Tax Proceeds Account, (Reich Tang), in the amount of \$61,132.30, and deposited into the General Fund.
- G. Householder asked the Treasurer about the percentage change in the Undesignated Fund that was reported to the BOF last month. The percentage changed from 6.8% to 9.75%. This amount represents approximately \$450,000.

This is a mil rate. The impact of this understatement of funds could cost the taxpayers an unnecessary expense. Other BOF members expressed their concerns about this overlooked adjustment. J. Griggs inquired about a procedure manual listing the steps needed to complete accurate reports.

3. Public Comment: None

4. Selectman's Report

First Selectman Lyden discussed the following issues:

- A spreadsheet was presented to the BOF, listing the in-kind services provided to the school by the town. (report included with minutes) Information is needed to see if the in-kind services can be used to satisfy the MBR requirements. The First Selectman will ask the State Department of Education if an invoice from the Town can be sent to the school for these in-kind expenses and if this will change the amount in regards to the MBR.
- The pavilion was ordered and delivery is expected mid-October. The road to the pavilion is in. Lindo Construction has been awarded the contract for this project, which should be completed in November.
- Dan Killeen, an assistant assessor, working with personal property assessments for the Town of Salem, passed away this week.
- The Single Stream Recycling program is providing the Town with revenue. A check from Willimantic Waste in the amount of \$1,395.30 has been recently received. The cost of trash is \$85 per ton and the revenue from

recycling is \$26 per ton. All town residents are encouraged to recycle. It was noted that aerosol cans are recyclable. It was suggested to place a thermometer-style sign at the transfer station so residents can see the revenue that is generated from recycling. Amnesty day at the Transfer Station will occur November 2, 5, and 6.

- Peggy from Marien & Company is working with the town to complete the 2010/2011 year audit. There are still a few issues to address.
- The revaluation has been completed and written cards will be mailed to citizens with changes to their property values. Meetings with the Assessor will be scheduled by appointment for anyone that would like to discuss their values.
- Bidding packages for the sidewalk project have been prepared. The Selectman hopes this project will be completed this year.
- The town is waiting for a permit from the State to burn brush on Gadbois field.

Adjournment

M/S/C (Butcher/Griggs) motion to adjourn at 8:14 p.m.

Vote: Approved Unanimously

V. Casey

Recording Secretary