

TOWN OF EASTON
BOARD OF FINANCE - MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING and Budget Hearings
March 4, 2014 – 7:00 P.M.

Present: Chris Griffin-Chair, Matt Gachi, C. Lee Hanson, Fred Knopf-Clerk, Andy Kachele, Art Laske arrived at 7:06 p.m., Paul Lindoerfer, Elise Nappi arrived at 7:15 p.m. Gabriel Rossi.

Also present: Adam Dunsby-First Selectman, Robert Lessler-Board of Selectmen, Scott Centrella – Board of Selectmen, Wendy Bowditch-Treasurer, Grace Stanczyk-Comptroller.

Chris Griffin called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

Andy Kachele moved and Paul Lindoerfer seconded a motion to have Gabriel Rossi fill in for Art Laske in his absence. Motion carried unanimously.

Cathy Alfandre and Carole Brooke discussed the request for funds for an energy study at HKMS. After a lengthy discussion the Board decided to have the Clean Energy Task Force look into a more comprehensive study to include all town buildings. The Task Force will come back to the Board.

Polly Edwards, Health Official presented the Health Department 2014-2015 budget. There is an increased amount for a field inspector to cover vacations time and to assist during the busy months. She spoke about adding an additional fee for inground propane tanks and increasing all current fees.

Bill Martin, Building Official presented the 2014-2015 budget with increased amounts to cover vacations. Capital outlay reflects purchasing a new vehicle but if a vehicle is not granted the maintenance and repair budget would need to be increased by \$2,500.

Richard Dina, Tree Warden – no significant changes in the budget. The Tree Warden will be attending a Tree Warden Conference. He spoke of the funding of an 8 year project with U.I. and Ct. Light and Power that could have significant impact on Easton's Trees, details not discussed.

Ed Nagy, Public Works Director/Engineer – The Board pulled amount of \$22,200 from the maintenance and repair line (08) and placed into capital outlay as repair of a body of a truck that will give, at least, a 10 year life, so it should be a capital item. The State Aid amount should be footnoted that \$227,623 is funds received as revenue from the State.

Ed Nagy presented 660 Morehouse Road 2014-2015 budget. In the utilities budget there is a 21.5% increase for electricity but with the savings from the natural gas conversion it shows a 12% increase.

Ed Nagy presented the Recycling budget with an increase but the number is currently an education guess as we are going out the bid, and hopefully, we will have a final number before the budget vote.

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Street Lights – there was a reduction.

Wendy Bowditch, Treasurer presented the treasurer and debt service budgets. There are two new employees this year.

3. Andy Kachele moved and Fred Knopf seconded a motion for a special appropriation from the unassigned fund balance in the amount of \$19,900 to the fund 423 – 660 Morehouse Road, Town Hall, Library natural gas conversion. Motion carried unanimously. Since this is the second appropriation a town meeting is necessary.

4. Lee Hanson moved and Fred Knopf seconded a motion to recommend to a town meeting the expenditure of \$282,500 from LoCIP funds for the "Reconstruction of Morehouse Road". Motion carried unanimously.

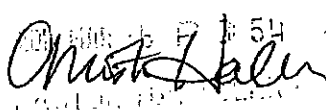
A letter will be drafted and sent to the State of Connecticut to release the funds in the amount of \$415,230 being held for a "Salt Shed". This will release funds and make it available for other town projects.

Andy Kachele moved and Paul Lindoerfer seconded a motion to accept the meeting minutes of February 4, 2014 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Paul Lindoerfer moved and Andy Kachele seconded a motion to adjourn at 9:55 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectively submitted by


Fred Knopf - Clerk *SK*

 3/7 28:40