

TOWN OF EASTON
BOARD OF FINANCE - MINUTES
SPECIAL BUDGET HEARING MEETING
March 11, 2014 - 7:00 P.M.

Present: Chris Griffin-Chair Matt Gachi, Andy Kachele, Fred Knopf-Clerk, Art Laske arrived a 7:20 p.m., Paul Lindoerfer, Gabriel Rossi.

Absent: C. Lee Hanson, Elise Nappi,

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

Chris Griffin called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

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

Chief Candee and Raymond Martin - Vice Chair of the Police presented the following:

Communications - Commission presented the budget and the Board requested the wage line be reviewed as an over 5% increase is reflected. The item of replacing cameras in the amount of \$3,200 should be moved from maintenance and repair to material and supplies.

Animal Control (ACO) (Dog Fund) was also reviewed. This budget reflected a Capital item for a purchase of a new Van and the Chief stated he can deferred this for another year. Instructed to remove at this time. The wages for the Dog Warden not determined as the police contract expires June 30, 2014.

Police Budget - Chief stated that he is looking to a "proactive enforcement" and additional manpower is necessary. A written narrative was provided with the budget. All was reviewed and discussed in detailed.

The Board review Emergency Management.

Commission for the Aging was reviewed with the new Municipal Agent, Alician Witherbee and the Chair of the Commission, Joel Peskay. The Municipal Agent position is 25 hours and therefore, benefits were eliminated.

Senior Center budget was reviewed with Val Buckley, Senior Center Director and the Senior Advisory Board Chair, Sharon Cregeen. The AT&T amount of \$56 per month should be in the communications budget (05) and removed from the services & fees (02). Grace will go over the amounts with Val in the maintenance and repair and the transportation budget as there are two grants that can be reimbursable to the town and get back to the Board.

Planning and Zoning Commission was reviewed with Rob Maquat, Chair of the P&Z Commission and John Hayes. The Capital amount for the Town Plan of Conservation

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and Development is LoCIP reimbursement. The Board is considering increasing the CPF to \$12,000 and applying for this grant.

Alan Goldbecker, Chair of the Pension and Employee Benefits presented the budget with a reduction in total expenditures. Alan to provide the Board with the share class that is in the portfolio. He stated that there are no management fees but there are account and fund level fees. The Board asked for details on how what the \$11,400 consists and this will be provided.

Alan Goldbecker reviewed the Fringe Benefit budget with the Board stating the insurance consultant presented there commission upcoming cost that may be associated with "Affordable Care Act". Adam Dunsby informed the Board that we have gone out to bid.

FICA budget was reviewed and it will be later finalized as the Board did not decide on the general wage increase.

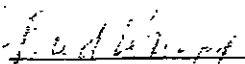
Town Hall budget was reviewed with Adam Dunsby, First Selectman

First Selectmen budget was reviewed and under services and fees the question was -why are we part of the Bridgeport Region and not the Housatonic Region as Redding is associated with that Region. We are receiving a massive benefit for mapping from the Bridgeport Region.

The issue of benefits for the First Selectman was discussed in great detail and the Board requested that HRAC actively do research on the wages and benefits of the First Selectman position. The Board to revisit this issue.

Andy Kachele moved and Fred Knopf seconded a motion to adjourn at 10.05 p.m.
Motion carried unanimously.

Respectively submitted by


Fred Knopf - Clerk *gt*

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John Kelly
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