

Thomaston Board of Finance  
Regular Meeting  
May 12, 2009

Present: Present: J. Scheppard, K. Mosimann O'Sullivan, E. Mone, G. Seabourne, D. Colavecchio, M. Galbraith.

Also: Transfer Station Committee representatives, Sal Santa Maria, Ben Bereza

Also: Members of the public,press

1. Call to Order

J. Scheppard called the meeting to order at 7:00pm

On a motion by E. Mone seconded by G. Seabourne, it was voted to move

New Business i. Transfer Station Committee to the top of the agenda. Vote: Unanimous

Sal Santa Maria and Ben Bereza gave an overview of the work of the committee which also includes Paul Pronovost, Head of Public Works and Dennis David. The committee proposes the following:

1. Purchase a magnetic card reader for Town Hall and Transfer Station: \$850
2. Purchase a load scale to weigh vehicles loaded with construction materials:\$23,000
3. Rent two containers ( instead of five):\$11,000
4. Pay for one attendant: \$12,000.

Proposed income to offset cost:

1. Charge \$25 for annual permit fee x 1000 permits=\$25,000.
2. Increase disposal fees for household and industrial items such as metals.
3. Require all recyclables to be collected through curbside pickup
4. Stricter control on non-resident use

The Board of Finance thanked the Mr. Santa Maria and Mr. Bereza and asked them to try to establish the actual cost of operating the Transfer Station.

2. Minutes

04/14/09: On a motion by K. Mosimann O'Sullivan, seconded by E. Mone the minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 14, 2009 were accepted as presented. Vote: Unanimous

04/29/09: On a motion by K.Mosimann O'Sullivan, seconded by G. Seabourne, the minutes of the Special Meeting of 4/29/09 were accepted as presented. Vote: Unanimous

5/5/09: On a motion by K. Mosimann O'Sullivan, seconded by E. Mone, the minutes of the Special Meeting of 5/5/09 were accepted as presented. Vote: Unanimous

3. Communications

J. Scheppard read the following correspondence:

- A letter from Michael A. Zemaitis, CPA who would like the opportunity to submit a proposal to conduct the next Town Audit.

- A letter from David Donofrio asking why the Board of Finance maintained curbside pickup at the expense of the Education Budget, stating, "Education is a right, curbside pickup is not."
- A letter from Kimberley Elinson stating that the Town "cannot afford to cut education," asking the Board to "please reinstate a portion of the \$230,000."

4. Financial Director's Report

No report. J. Scheppard noted that the Monthly Financial Reports had been distributed.

5. Selectman's Report

No report. J. Scheppard mentioned that he had met with the First Selectman and the Opera House has resubmitted a budget with no increase.

6. Old Business: Town-wide Sick Pay Accrual

J. Scheppard noted that a decision needs to be made prior to July 1, 2009 on whether to transfer funds to the Board of Education to pay for the a portion of unused sick pay payouts for retiring teachers.

On a motion by D. Colavecchio, seconded by K. Mosimann O'Sullivan, it was voted to transfer \$97,688 to the Board of Education for the purpose of funding unused sick pay to teachers upon their retirement. Vote: Unanimous

7. New Business

ii) Pension Assets

K. Mosimann O'Sullivan reviewed the report from Webster that, as of April 30, 2009, the Pension Assets were valued at \$7.1m. The Webster advisors advised that trends indicate unemployment will be flat by the end of the year.

Ms. Mosimann O'Sullivan reported that to protect itself from liability, the Town should hire fiduciary advisors for the pension funds at a proposed cost of \$30,000 per year.

8. Public Comment

T. Durso asked if there would be more public hearings on the budget. Answer, J.S.: No

D. LaBonte urged that the town make a greater effort to recycle which could save the town money.

9. Adjournment

On a motion by E. Mone, seconded by D. Colavecchio, the meeting was adjourned at 9:05pm.

Marie Galbraith, Secretary  
Thomaston Board of Finance