

Thomaston Board of Finance

Regular Meeting of August 10, 2010

Present: D.Colavecchio, K. Mosimann O'Sullivan, G. Seabourne, S.Turner, M.Galbraith
F. Treglia was not present due to vacation.

Also present: E. Mone, First Selectman, Bruce Barrett, Selectman.

Finance Director S. Smith was not present due to vacation.

Also: Jaime Wilson, Fire Chief; Scott Potter, Fire Dept.; Lucille Killiany, Chair, Thomaston Opera House Commission; Matt Kamens, TOH; Ken Koval, Town Hall Building Committee; members of the public, press.

1. Call to Order

D. Colavecchio called the meeting to order at 7:00pm

2. Pledge of Allegiance

All assembled rose to recite the Pledge.

3.Minutes

i.) Minutes of the Regular Meeting July 13,2010

On a motion by K. Mosimann O'Sullivan, seconded by S. Turner, the minutes of the meeting of the Regular Meeting of July 13, 2010 were approved as presented. Vote: Unanimous

4. Communications

D. Colavecchio reported the following :

- The Ambulance Corps audit was sent to the members of the Board of Finance
- The Chairman received notice that a past library employee has filed for unemployment compensation, the cost of which (\$1700)will be absorbed in the library budget.

5. Finance Director's Report:

S. Smith reported the following items to the Chairman by email:

- The grant match for the firehouse generator will come from the Contingency Account.
- She has given the Police Chief a "budget vs actual report" on salaries for the previous year and informed him that Board of Finance wants a report on the overage.
- The July Budget Report was sent to the Finance Board members.
- She was able to reprogram the Energy Block grant to cover new energy saving capacitors at the sewer plant and cover the entire cost of retrofitting the Town Hall with thermostats and occupancy sensors. That project will begin on October 1.

6. Selectman's Report

Selectman Mone reported the following:

- The Ambulance Corps budget is currently over by \$4605.94 and has additional expenses of \$2637.69 pending payment. The EMS fund has a balance of \$5980.28. He requested that \$5980.28 of EMS funds be used to offset the Ambulance Corps deficit.
- S & S Construction was the low bidder for the project to pave Lynnrich Drive, Twin Oaks, and Trestle Lane
- The minibus repairs have cost \$3,035.98 to date. There are more repairs needed, however, the costs will not exceed the \$8,000 allocation.
- There are two applicants for the Assessor position.

On a motion by G. Seabourne, seconded by K. Mosimann O'Sullivan it was voted to move item #8. New Business: "(i.) Firehouse Generator grant" to the top of the agenda. Vote: Unanimous

8. New Business

Fire Chief Jamie Wilson and Scott Potter reported that they received a STEAP grant of \$25,000 to purchase and install a generator in the firehouse, which is one of two emergency shelters in the town (the other is the high school). The bids have come in and the lowest qualified bidder's proposal is \$28,500. They requested that unused funds in Capital Projects in the amount of \$4447.35 be reallocated to the firehouse generator project.

The projects and funds are: THS Fire Door Closure \$138; Public Act 05-228 fees, \$3834; Town Hall Fire Alarm, \$475.35.

On a motion by S. Turner, seconded by G. Seabourne, it was voted to reallocate the following funds from Capital and Nonrecurring Account: THS Fire Door Closure \$138; Public Act 05-228 fees, \$3834; Town Hall Fire Alarm, \$475.35. for the Firehouse Generator Project.

Vote: Unanimous.

On a motion by S. Turner, seconded by K. Mosimann O'Sullivan, it was voted to authorize the Fire Dept to contract with A.G.E. LLC of Southbury, CT. for the purchase and installation of a Generac Diesel Generator as described by A.G.E. in their bid proposal of 8-9-10 at a cost of \$28,500 and an additional \$1000 for the concrete for a total of \$29,500. Vote: Unanimous

On behalf of the Board, the Chairman thanked the Fire Chief and Mr. Potter for pursuing and receiving the grant.

7. Old Business

i.) Thomaston Opera House

TOH Chairman Lucille Killiany and member Matt Kamens reported that Attorney Michael Rybak met with the TOH Strategic Planning Committee to review the TOH Request for Proposal for theater entities to operate the Opera House. Attorney Rybak was highly complementary in his review of the draft . He made recommendations to the Committee regarding issues of security and maintenance which the Committee is now researching. The final draft will be sent to the Selectmen and the Board of Finance for their review and guidance.

ii.) Transfer Station Update

Sal Santa Maria reported that the contract with Allied Sanitation is now up for renewal. He reported that the Transfer Station is operating smoothly with income exceeding expenses. The Chairman thanked Mr. Santa Maria on behalf of the Board, for his good work and dedication.

9. Member Comment

M. Galbraith asked the Board to take up Mrs. LaBonte's suggestion from the previous meeting, to investigate options for garbage disposal well before the budget process begins.

The Chairman will ask Paul Pronovost to attend the next meeting.

10. Public Comment

Paul Yoos- Garbage was discussed at the last meeting and Sue Smith said she would get the total cost per household.

Sal Santa Maria- Raised a concern regarding the cost to the Recreation Commission to fertilize the fields noting that the number of applications has been reduced from 5to 3. He asked the Board not to let the fields go.

Response: D. Colavecchio noted that the Board of Finance does not cut items from the department budgets.

On a motion by S. Turner, seconded by K. Mosimann O'Sullivan, the meeting was adjourned at 8:06 pm.

Marie Galbraith, Secretary

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