

**TOWN OF CROMWELL
BOARD OF FINANCE
REGULAR MEETING
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2010
CROMWELL TOWN HALL 7:30 P.M.
ROOM 224/225**

MINUTES

PRESENT: Ed Maley, Michael Gengler, Jack Henehan, Loraine Caruso, Joe Corlis, Julius Neto.

ALSO PRESENT: First Selectman John Flanders, Finance Director Marianne Sylvester.

ABSENT: Alternate Dan Kelly, and Alternate Jaime Keifer

A. CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Ed Maley called the meeting to order at 7:45 p.m.

B. SEAT ALTERNATES: None.

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

A **motion** was made by Loraine Caruso, **seconded** by Jack Henehan and it was **unanimously approved** to approve the amended agenda. *Motion passed.*

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

1. Regular Meeting, January 21, 2010 –Tabled.

E. CITIZENS COMMENTS:

Jason LeBlanc – 3 Cedar Drive- he would like current information to be updated on the website.

Glen Macko – 16 Glenwood Drive – concerns with why the town has to have enough bonded debt. He also feels that the questions to be voted on should be split up. Question #1 The police communication and the road infrastructure are important issues and should be voted upon separately,

Steve Baily – 22 Chestnut Court – concerns with the Board of Finance having the ability to change the form of the items being presented before you to be voted upon.

F. REPORT OF THE FIRST SELECTMAN

2

The First Selectman – reported the dates of the Board of Selectmen Workshop meeting dates to be held in room 224/5 @ 7:00 P.M. on Monday, March 1, 2010 and Thursday, March 4, 2010.

G. BUDGET REPORT –

Marianne Sylvester- Finance Director – reported that the labor Attorney fees were exceeding the budget line, legal fees are over-expended by \$13,000.00, and she reported that the snow removal overtime fees current cost is at \$56,000. 00 up to date, last year’s total expenditures for this item was at \$76,000.00, we are within our public works overtime. The Town is awaiting resolution and will be receiving \$123,000 in grant money for the roads, the grant is usually received in November and we are still awaiting approval from the State.

H. OLD BUSINESS**I. NEW BUSINESS****1. Set Public Hearing and deliberation dates for 2010-2011 Budget.**

A **motion** was made by Michael Gengler, **seconded** by Loraine Caruso and it was **unanimously approved** to hear the following hearings on April 5th 2010 Town Budget and Board of Education hearing at 7:00 p.m., April 13th, 2010 Town Budget and Board of Education hearing at 7:00 p.m., April 19, 2010 Town Budget and Board of Education hearing at 7:00 p.m. *Motion passed.*

2. To consider and take action on making a recommendation to a special Town Meeting concerning:

- a) **An appropriation and borrowing authorization for costs related to improvements to various Town infrastructures, including road and storm drainage improvements and police communications system infrastructure improvements.**

Item #1- Road, Drainage and Police Communications System Infrastructure Improvements Project.

RESOLVED, that the Board of Selectmen recommends that the Town of Cromwell appropriate \$4,270,000, and authorize the issue bonds or notes and temporary notes in the same amount to finance the appropriation, for costs related to improvements to various Town infrastructure, contemplated to include, but not limited to: (1) road and storm drainage improvements in the Iron Gate Estates area and on New Lane, consistent with the Town’s 2004 Pavement Management Study, (2) police communications system infrastructure improvements, including but not limited to acquisition and installation of fixed equipment, wireless broadband, software, field units and console

and dispatch center equipment, and (3) to the extent of a available appropriation after completion of the road and storm drainage improvements and police communications system infrastructure Improvements described in (1) and (2) preceding, design and/or construction and installation of such other road and drainage improvements as the Director of Public Works and the Town Engineer jointly may select following consultation with the Board of Selectmen, consistent with the Town's 2004 Pavement Management Study. The appropriation may be spent for design, construction and installation costs, equipment, furnishings, materials, land and easement acquisition, site improvements, consultants, engineering fees, legal fees, net interest on borrowings and other financing costs, and other expenses related to the project. The Director of Public Works and the Town Engineer jointly shall be authorized, following consultation with the Board of Selectmen to determine from time-to-time the scope and particulars of the road and storm drainage improvements described in (1) and (3) preceding, to delete in their entirety components of the project, and to reduce or modify the scope of the project. The Board of Selectmen, following consultation with the Cromwell Chief of Police, shall be authorized to determine from time-to-time the scope and particulars of the police communications systems infrastructure improvements described in (2) preceding , to delete in their entirety components of the project, and to reduce or modify the scope of the project. The entire appropriation may be spent on the project as so reduced or modified.

*Lorraine Caruso made a motion, seconded by Julius Neto, to recommend to Town Meeting the resolution regarding the appropriation of \$4,270,000 and authorizing the issuing of bonds or notes and temporary notes in the same amount to finance the appropriation, **for costs related to improvements to various Town infrastructures, including road and storm drainage improvements and police communications system infrastructure improvements.** Lorraine Caruso, Edwin Maley Jr, Michael Gengler, Joe Corlis, John Henehan, and Julius Neto were in favor. **Motion Passed.***

(b) An appropriation and borrowing authorization for costs related to new construction, of Town facilities, including construction of a new senior center.

Eric Hood – Public Works Director – commented on the additional manpower that it would take to run the Senior/Community Center they would definitely need one full time position and one part time to maintain the Center. The Senior / Community Center can access two small cities grants.

Item #1 – New Senior And/ Or Community Center Construction Project

RESOLVED, That the Board of Selectmen recommends that the Town of Cromwell appropriate \$4,650,000 and authorize the issue bonds or notes and temporary notes in the same amount to finance the appropriation, for costs related to construction of an estimated 14,841 square foot new senior and / or community center to be located in Watrous Park and contemplated to be completed substantially as set out in preliminary plans entitled "A Feasibility Study for a New Senior Center for the Town of Cromwell" prepared by Quisenberry Arcara Architects, LLC and dated September 14, 2009. The Town anticipates applying for a Small Cities Block Grant to defray in part of the appropriation. The amount of bonds or notes authorized for the project shall be reduced by the amount of grants received for the project and applied to defray the project appropriation. The appropriation may be spent for design, construction and installation costs, equipment, furnishings, furniture,

materials, site improvements, relocation costs, consultants, engineering fees, legal fees, net interest on borrowings and other financing costs, and other expenses related to the project. The Board of Selectmen, or any building committee created by the Board of Selectmen from time-to-time with respect to the project, shall be authorized to determine from time-to-time the scope and particulars of the project, and to reduce or modify the scope of the project; and the entire appropriation may be sent on the project as so reduced or modified.

*Michael Gengler made a motion, seconded by Loraine Caruso, to recommend to Town Meeting the resolution regarding the appropriation of \$4,650 and authorizing the issuing of bonds or notes and temporary notes in the same amount to finance the appropriation, **for costs related to the construction of a new senior center/community center.** Loraine Caruso, Edwin Maley Jr., Michael Gengler, Joe Corlis, John Henehan, and Julius Neto were in favor. Motion Passed.*

C.) An appropriation and borrowing authorization for costs related to new construction, expansion, renovations and improvements of Town facilities, including renovations, improvements and construction of additions to the Cromwell Belden Public Library.

Item # 2 – Library Expansion Project

RESOLVED, That the Board of Selectmen recommends that the Town of Cromwell appropriate \$3,850,000 and authorize the issue bonds or notes and temporary notes in the same amount to finance the appropriation, for costs related to renovations, improvements and construction of an estimated 7,529 square feet of additions to the Cromwell Belden Public Library contemplated to be completed substantially as set out in preliminary plans entitled “Cromwell Belden Library Renovation, Cromwell, CT” prepared by Schoenhardt Architecture + Interior Design and dated October 22, 2008. The Town anticipates receiving State grants in the approximate amount of \$1,000.00 to defray in part of the appropriation. The amount of bonds or notes authorized for the project shall be reduced by the amount of grants received for the project appropriation. The appropriation may be spent for design, construction and installation costs, equipment, furnishings, furniture, materials, site improvements, relocation costs, consultants, engineering fees, legal fees, net interest on borrowings and other financing costs, and other expenses related to the project. The Board of Selectmen, or any building committee created by the Board of Selectmen from time-to-time with respect to the project, shall be authorized to determine from time-to-time the scope and particulars of the project, and to reduce or modify the scope of the project; and the entire appropriation may be spent on the project as so reduced or modified.

*Loraine Caruso made a motion, seconded by Jack Henehan, to recommend to Town Meeting the resolution regarding the appropriation of \$3,850 and authorizing the issuing of bonds or notes and temporary notes in the same amount to finance the appropriation, **for costs related to new construction, expansion, renovations and improvements of Town facilities, including renovations, improvements and construction of additions to the Cromwell Belden Public Library,** Loraine Caruso, Edwin Maley, Jr., Michael Gengler, Joe Corlis, John Henehan, and Julius Neto were in favor. Motion Passed.*

J. BOARD OF EDUCATION-LIASON REPORT

Joe Corlis reported that he was at the Board of Education meeting on February 23, 2010, about a dozen people spoke about the cost reduction and they came in with 3% for the budget.

K. CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS: None.

L. VICE CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS: None.

M. GOOD AND WELFARE: None.

N. ADJOURNMENT:

A **motion** was made by Loraine Caruso, **seconded** by Jack Henehan and it was **unanimously approved** to adjourn at 8:40 p.m. *Motion passed.*

Respectfully Submitted,

Michelle Milardo
Recording Secretary
February 25, 2010