

**TOWN OF CROMWELL - BOARD OF FINANCE
SPECIAL MEETING
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2008
CROMWELL TOWN HALL
DINING ROOM
7:30 p.m.**

MINUTES AND RECORD OF VOTE

Present: Ed Maley, John Flanders, Loraine Caruso, Joe Corlis, Jack Henehan, Alternate Julius Neto

Absent: Michael Gengler

Also Present: Marianne Sylvester, Finance Director; Rich Peck, Sewer Administrator

A. CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chairman Ed Maley called the meeting to order at 7:35 pm.

B. SEAT ALTERNATES

Motion was made by John Flanders, seconded by Loraine Caruso, to seat Julius Neto. All were in favor. Motion passes.

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion was made by John Flanders, seconded by Joe Corlis, to approve the agenda. All were in favor. Motion passes.

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

1. Regular Meeting, July 24, 2008

Motion was made by John Flanders, seconded by Jack Henehan, to approve the minutes of the July 24, 2008 regular meeting. All were in favor. Motion passes.

2. Regular Meeting, August 28, 2008 – cancelled

No action necessary.

E. CITIZENS COMMENTS – None.

F. BUDGET REPORT

Marianne Sylvester presented the budget report. Nothing significant to report for the current fiscal year (2008-09). Prior fiscal year (2007-08) expenditures were lower than anticipated, primarily in insurance premiums and legal expenses.

There were also surpluses in some of the Public Works budget areas. Board of Education ended the fiscal year with a surplus of \$9,472. No action necessary.

G. REPORT OF THE TAX COLLECTOR

Tax Collector Sharon Ramsay provided the Board with a report for July 2008 collections. Ed Maley stated we need to keep an eye on the collections due to the economy.

H. OLD BUSINESS - None

I. NEW BUSINESS

1. Update on status of prior year CNR appropriations.

Marianne Sylvester provided the Board a report of active projects and identified those projects that can be closed out. A balance of \$43,998 will be unappropriated and returned to the CNR Fund Balance. Ed Maley asked about the CNR Fund Balance at this time. Marianne Sylvester stated it was at approximately \$120,000.

2. Approve increase of \$7,500 to the current appropriation of \$40,000, for the Update of Zoning Regulations, from Capital/Non-Recurring Fund fund balance.

A discussion was initiated on what the scope of services would be with or without this additional appropriation. John Flanders referred to the discussion at the Board of Selectmen meeting on August 13, 2008. Julius Neto stated that he felt they should have the funds to get the job done.

Motion was made by Julius Neto to increase the CNR account for the Update of Zoning Regulations by \$7,500. Loraine Caruso seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion passed.

3. Approve the appropriation of \$38,000 within the Sewer CNR Fund for the purchase of a Pick-up Truck with Plow.

Motion was made by John Flanders to approve the appropriation of \$38,000 within the Sewer CNR Fund for the purchase of a Pick-up Truck with Plow. Loraine Caruso seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion passed.

4. Approve 2007-08 interdepartmental transfers.

Motion was made by John Flanders to approve the 2007-08 interdepartmental transfers. Julius Neto seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion passed.

J. BOARD OF EDUCATION- LIASON REPORT

Joe Corlis reported on a discussion at the Board of Education meeting regarding the Choice Program. Some towns are not participating in this program any

longer, although Cromwell still does. The State Department of Education is not pleased that participation is reduced and is thinking of telling towns how many Choice students they have to take. Presently, towns report the number of students they can take on to the State.

Mr. Corlis also responded to a question asked at the July Board of Finance meeting regarding the stipend the Superintendent was receiving for work associated with the position of Acting Director of Special Education. The Superintendent received \$400 per day for two weeks. The Assistant Superintendent, Dr. Talty, received \$400 per day for one week.

K. CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS (Michael Gengler absent.)

L. VICE CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

Ed Maley referenced the e-mail that was sent to the Board of Finance members by Marianne Sylvester in response to questions asked at the July 24, 2008 meeting (copy on file with minutes).

All Board of Finance members present received a copy of the Town Guide, Calendar, and Annual Report. A Town Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 10, 2008 at 6:30 pm to approve the Annual Report.

The First Selectman scheduled a joint meeting with the Board of Selectmen, Board of Finance, and the Economic Development Committee for Monday, September 8, 2008 for 7:30 pm. Several members of the Board of Finance would not be able to attend, due to a conflicting schedule. Mr. Maley requested the meeting be changed to Tuesday, September 9th at 6:30 pm. The purpose of the joint meeting is to discuss a tax sale of property at 14 Alcap Ridge. A discussion regarding the status of this property followed.

M. GOOD AND WELFARE – None.

N. ADJOURNMENT – Motion made by John Flanders, and seconded by Julius Neto, to adjourn meeting at 8:20 pm. All were in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marianne Sylvester