

**TOWN OF CROMWELL
BOARD OF FINANCE
REGULAR MEETING
THURSDAY MARCH 26, 2009
CROMWELL TOWN HALL 7:30 p.m.
Room 224/225**

Minutes and Record of Vote

Present: Michael Gengler, Ed Maley Jr. (arrival at 7:41pm), John Flanders, Loraine Caruso (arrival at 8:36), Joe Corlis, Jack Henehan, Alternate Jamie Kiefer

Absent: John Flanders, Alternates Julius Neto and Dan Kelly

Also Present: Finance Director Marianne Sylvester, First Selectman Jeremy Shingleton

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Michael Gengler called the meeting to order at 7:37pm.

Chairman Gengler seated alternate Jamie Kiefer, per request of John Flanders due to his known absence.

B. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion was made by Jack Henehan, **seconded** by Jamie Kiefer, to amend and approve the agenda with the addition of F1. Update on Contract Negotiations- Executive Session. All were in Favor. *Motion Passes.*

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

1. Regular Meeting, February 26, 2008

Corrections: On Page 5, Section 2, 4th paragraph to state that Ms. Kiefer has been appointed by the Board as a liaison to implement the recommendations contained in the Town Auditor's letter.

Motion was made by Jamie Kiefer, **seconded** by Joe Corlis to approve the minutes of the February 26, 2008 Regular Meeting with corrections. All were in Favor. *Motion Passes.*

D. CITIZENS COMMENTS

Al Waters of 86 South Street inquired if the First Selectman had submitted any bills for legal representation regarding the Board of Finance and if so how much and who would be liable.

Finance Director Sylvester explained that invoices had been submitted and they had been turned over to the Town's liability insurance carrier. They are waiting for a settlement. Ms Sylvester was unsure of the amount but thought it was about \$2,800. First Selectman Shingleton stated that amount was about \$4,000.

E. REPORT OF THE FIRST SELECTMAN

First Selectman Shingleton discussed the proposed budget, which has a decrease in the general government and debt services for a general decrease of 1%. Mr.

Shingleton explained that the cuts came from reorganization, salary freezes and furloughs.

Mr. Shingleton remarked about projects that are moving forward such as Riverport Park with the tables, gazebo and restrooms. The Main Street project should begin soon and the road projects, which are going out to bid.

Chairman Gengler commented to Mr. Shingleton that he should come to the BOF if he sees something that could help maintain economic development.

Mr. Shingleton explained that 14 Alcap Ridge was continuing and that measures were going to be taking to secure the premises. They are still waiting to assess the environmental impact. They are looking at settling the taxes. The building is not worth much and they are trying to work things out.

Ed Maley Jr. joined the meeting at 7:41pm.

F1. UPDATE ON CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS-EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made by Jack Henehan, **seconded** by Joe Corlis to enter into executive session to discuss contract negotiations. All were in Favor. *Motion Passes.*

Entered into session at 7:47pm. Michael Gengler, Ed Maley, Jr., Joe Corlis, Jack Henehan, Jamie Kiefer, First Selectman Jeremy Shingleton and Finance Director Marianne Sylvester.

Session ended at 8:16pm. No action taken.

G. BUDGET REPORT

Finance Director Sylvester had provided the Board with a report. Ms Sylvester discussed the shortages in investment income and conveyance taxes. The building department revenue will help offset some of this loss.

Ms Sylvester discussed her meeting with the financial advisor regarding the school roof replacement project. It was noted that Chairman Gengler is to be Treasurer. There was some discussion of funding through fund balance.

Mr. Shingleton discussed a debt management program. Mr. Shingleton discussed the lack of state monies and that the state is going back to towns and asking for monies back if they have not used their grant monies up in the allotted time.

H. REPORT OF THE TAX COLLECTOR

The Tax Collector had provided the Board with a report. There were no comments.

I. OLD BUSINESS

Lorraine Caruso arrived at 8:36pm.

J. NEW BUSINESS

1. Approve supplemental appropriation of \$20,000 from General Fund fund balance for specialized legal services related to tax collection efforts for the property at 14 Alcap Ridge.

Ms Sylvester discussed that the Board of Selectman at their meeting approved this item and that the final figure was \$16, 630.

Motion was made by Jack Henehan, **seconded** by Joe Corlis to approve supplemental appropriation of \$16,630 from General Fund fund balance for specialized legal services related to tax collection efforts for the property at 14 Alcap Ridge. All were in Favor. *Motion Passes*

K. BOARD OF EDUCATION- LIASON REPORT

Mr. Corlis reported that the BOE has accepted Woodside School from the Building Committee. Mr. Corlis explained that the Roof & Solar Panel Committee received a presentation from DRA. Mr. Corlis stated that the Superintendent encouraged everyone to attend the Budget Hearing and express their concerns.

Chairman Gengler commented about \$100,000 left in the Woodside budget. Ms Sylvester discussed the outstanding financials. Mr. Henehan asked about the ball fields and whether the issues had been resolved. The BOS will have to clarify before final payment is made.

L. CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

Chairman Gengler commented about the balance in the Cromwell High School Account. There was some discussion about the boiler and the reorientation of monies and the procedures that would have to happen to do this.

M. VICE CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS -None

N. GOOD AND WELFARE

O. ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Ed Maley, Jr, **seconded** by Joe Corlis, to adjourn the meeting at 8:55. All were in Favor. *Motion Passes*.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennifer L. Donohue
Finance Clerk