

Town of Cromwell, CT
Board of Finance
Regular Meeting
Monday, December 19, 2016
Town Hall Room 7:00 P.M. Room 224/225

Minutes and Record of Vote

Present: Chairman John Henehan, Joseph Corlis, Allan Spotts and Amanda Drew

Not Present: Vice-Chairman Julius Neto, Bob Milardo, Alternate Dan Kelly and Alternate Jon Dzurka

Also Present: Town Manager Anthony Salvatore, Finance Director Marianne Sylvester, Board of Ed
Finance Director Eve Spencer and Town Engineer Jon Harriman

Call To Order – Chairman John Henehan called the Regular Meeting dated December 19, 2016 to order at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance – The Pledge of Allegiance was said by all.

Seat Alternates – No alternates were seated.

Approval of Agenda – A motion was made by Mr. Spotts and seconded by Mr. Corlis to approve the amended agenda dated December 19, 2016 (changed Thursday to Monday). ***All in Favor – Motion Passed***

Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings –

Regular Meeting November 17, 2016 – A motion was made by Mr. Spotts and seconded by Mr. Corlis to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting dated November 17, 2016. ***All in Favor – Motion Passed***

Citizens Report – None

Report of the Town Manager – Town Manager Anthony Salvatore reported on the update of the CRT program (meal on wheels). Still waiting for additional information to come in. Also was waiting to hear if Cromwell was the only town having issues with funding of the program. Right now Mr. Salvatore stated that they are taking a wait and see approach. Additional conversation took place expressing concerns and asked for additional information, which was not available at this time.

LED lights at Pierson Part (football field and parking lot) should be completed by the end of next week.

Mr. Salvatore plans to approach is department and asking them for a list of projects that they completed and a list of projects that were not completed as budgeted with a reason as why it did not happen. He indicated the budget is so far on target. Budgeted projects are being completed and some are being started sooner than anticipated. Town Manager listed the projects that were completed and those about to be started. Additional discussion took place. Acknowledged a job well done for all involved in getting the various projects done early and successfully.

Mr. Salvatore wants to discuss with the Board of Finance about the possibility of installing additional fencing for the football field. He mentioned that the fencing they have so far looks great but would like to see more to deter spectators from sneaking into the game after half-time. Try to generate additional revenue to the athletic program(s).

He also updated the hiring decisions for the open Director positions and updated the Board on the various labor contracts and their status.

Report of the Finance Director – Finance Director Marianne Sylvester reported more on the CRT (meals on wheels) program. She reported that the cost is \$7 to \$8 per meal with the shut-ins meals being slightly higher. Mr. Geer (acting Director of Senior services) reported to Ms. Sylvester that he did not see any difference in services offered. Ms. Sylvester mentioned that the Commission of the Aging supplements this program and tried to find out if Middlesex County was the only county in the state having funding issues but not getting any answers. Further discussion took place in regards to this matter.

Ms. Sylvester also noted that the Board of Ed is looking to have a joint meeting (a date will be decided – proposing 1/23/17 or 1/30/17). The meeting will include a tour of ECS and will talk about the Middle School. Once more information becomes available it will be passed on.

Will be putting in for a grant for the library bond proposal. Further discussion took place in regards to this matter.

Ms. Sylvester also reported that the audit is done and the books should be in sometime this week. Discussion took place in regards to any findings. She noted that there were finding with the Tax Collector's Report. It was not a concern but the auditors did recommend doing this report monthly instead of yearly to locate any problems early. Ms. Sylvester mentioned that there was a strong team effort and as a result the audit went better than expected even with her absence and the having the tax collector out.

She also mentions that they are gearing up for the year-end and the budget prep for next year. This year's budget is on target

Chairman Henahan inputted that he is hearing negative comments regarding the State but no numbers are being reported. He noted that it is like working with a blindfold. Mr. Salvatore reported that the State Budget was passed and should be able to work with the figures given. His only concern is if the State decides to reduce funds originally promised. Further discussion in regards to special needs students coming in and out town.

Report of The Tax Collector – In the absence of Tax Collector Doug Sienna Ms. Sylvester reported that the collections report included in the packet provided prior to the meeting is on target and came in as expected for the end of November. Supplemental Motor Vehicle is a little higher than last year and is coming in strong.

Old Business – None

New Business –

1. To consider and act upon a resolution making an appropriation of \$2,294,876 to be funded from borrowings to the extent not defrayed from grant receipts, for costs related to the reconstruction of Coles Road approximately from its intersection with Shunpike Road to its intersection with Route 9 and related work; and recommending to the Town Meeting the approval of such appropriation, if approved by the Board. A motion was made by Ms. Drew and seconded by Mr. Spotts to consider and act upon a resolution making an appropriation of \$2,294,876 to be funded from borrowings to the extent not defrayed from grant receipts, for costs related to the reconstruction of Coles Road approximately from its intersection with Shunpike Road to its intersection with Route 9 and related work; and recommending to the Town Meeting the approval of such appropriation, if approved by the Board. ***All in Favor – Motion Passed.***

Town Engineer presented the proposal and explained some of the details of the project and its particulars. A handout was included in the packet with details of the project and what it proposes to do. Further discussion took place and Mr. Harriman answered all questions asked of him. The cost to the Town of Cromwell is \$225, 000. The project is schedule to start in 2018. Project design to take place in 2017.

Board of Education-Liaison Report – Mr. Corlis reported that the Board of Ed met on December 13th and the Board of Ed Director Eve Spencer stated that there are no major changes to the budget. The Special Education budget has only one line item that is in a deficit on the tuition budget line. The deficit is \$103,589. Funds will be redistributed to balance the budget but no funds have been moved. This concludes his report.

Chairman's Comments – Chairman John Henehan commented on a meeting he had with Dr. Talty. He has continued concerns with the State Budget cuts to the municipalities and is waiting to see how the Town will handle these cuts. He also wished everyone Happy Holidays and Happy New Year.

Vice-Chairman's Comments – None

Good and Welfare – None

Adjournment – A motion was made by Mr. Spotts and seconded by Ms. Drew to adjourn meeting at 7:38 p.m. ***All in Favor – Motion Passed***

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Hardacker

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Recording Clerk