

Town of Cromwell, CT  
Board of Finance  
Regular Meeting  
Thursday, March 26, 2020  
Town Hall Room 7:00 P.M. – Room 224/225

**Minutes and Record of Vote**

Present: Chairman Julius Neto

Present via ZOOM: Vice-Chairman Allan Spotts, Ed Maley Jr., Steve Wygonowski, John Ireland, Dan Kelly, and Mayor Enzo Faienza

Also Present: Town Manager Anthony Salvatore and Finance Director Marianne Sylvester

- A. **Called to Order** – Chairman Julius Neto called the Regular Meeting dated March 26, 2020 to order at 7:05 p.m.

A motion was made by Allan Spotts to call the meeting to order, seconded by Dan Kelly. *All in favor; motion passed.*

- B. **Pledge of Allegiance** – The Pledge of Allegiance was said by all.

- C. **Seat Alternates** – There were none.

- D. **Approval of Agenda** – A motion was made by Allan Spotts to approve the *amended* agenda, seconded by Dan Kelly. *All in favor; motion passed.*

- E. **Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings - Regular Meeting, February 27, 2020**

A motion was made by Allan Spotts to approve the minutes of February 27, 2020, seconded by Dan Kelly. *All in favor; motion passed.*

Dan Kelly abstained.

Page 3 of 3 “Budget reports will be available at the April 23, 2020 meeting” was amended to “Budget reports will be available at the March 26, 2020 meeting”.

- F. **Citizens Comments** – There were none.

- G. **Report of the Town Manager** – Mayor Enzo Faienza was invited to speak as part of the Report of the Town Manager. The Mayor reminds us all that it is important to stick together as a community during this rough time. Under the new Executive Order by the governor regarding the budget process, Mayor Faienza will be asking the Town Council to take a vote to expedite the budget by May 5<sup>th</sup>.

Town Manager Anthony Salvatore reports that the Town Hall is closed to the public at this time. All staff members are still on board to continue providing essential services to the Town. Each day is different, as we get new pieces of information regarding the virus. Town Manager Salvatore commends all staff and all the department heads on an outstanding job at this time. There is a new emergency FMLA which is going into effect on April 1<sup>st</sup> and the Town is in the process of reviewing it and getting

information out to staff for the individuals who will qualify. The Red Lion is still closed, we are still working with the Tax Collector on that. The budget is completed, workshops will be next week. The Town is still looking into a few areas that may have recommendations to give to the Board of Finance. There are two concerns regarding our legal expenses with the Town Attorney regarding solar panels and the Rainbow Housing. Town Manager Salvatore is hopeful that we can find some relief in these two areas.

- H. **Report of the Finance Director** – Finance Director Marianne Sylvester reports that the Town Attorney fees will exceed the budget. At this time, there are sufficient funds to cover invoices that we do have on hand. We will be looking for an interdepartmental transfer in April to cover the invoices for the Town Attorney moving forward.
- I. **Report of the Tax Collector** –Tax Collector Doug Sienna was not present. Finance Director Marianne Sylvester answered the Board Members’ concerns regarding a bounced check which she reports was corrected on the March report. Town Manager Salvatore reports he has been in contact with Mr. Sienna regarding how the Town will be collecting taxes moving forward. There is a collection box out in front of the Town hall to make sewer payments or citizens can pay online with a credit card.
- J. **Old Business** – There is no Old Business.
- K. **New Business** -
  - 1. Discussion and action to approve Other Fund budgets for FY 2020-21:
    - a. Dog Fund: \$23,900
    - b. Sidewalk Fund: \$7,500

After a lengthy discussion, these items were tabled until the meeting next week on April 1, 2020.  
*All were in favor to table the above items until next week.*

- 2. Discussion and action to appropriate \$10,150 within the CNR Fund for the 2020 Distracted Driving High Visibility Grant. (100% reimbursed)  
  
A motion was made by Allan Spotts, seconded by Steve Wygonowski to approve the above item. *All in favor; motion passed.*  
There was no further discussion on this item.
- 3. Discussion and action to appropriate \$200,000 within the CNR Fund for the purchase of a payload, with accessories.  
  
A motion was made by Allan Spotts, seconded by Steve Wygonowski to approve the above item. *All in favor; motion passed.*  
There was a lengthy discussion regarding the need and timing of this request going forward. The Town Manager deemed this request to be the most important at this time. The pricing is off the CT State Bid.
- L. **Board of Education- Liaison Report** – Superintendent Dr. Enza Macri was not present, Chairman Neto reported there was a discussion regarding COVID-19 and the school closings. There were a lot of unknowns at the BOE meeting. The budget will be passed onto the Board of Finance.

- M. **Chairman's Comments** – Chairman Neto report there will be a lot of heavy lifting these next few weeks, and he asked the Board how to make the meetings more efficient using Zoom. The Board suggested that each person present in the Council Chambers have their own station with video so the public can easily differentiate who is speaking in the meetings.
- N. **Vice Chairman's Comments** – Vice-Chairman Spotts reminds everyone to help support our local businesses, especially restaurants.
- O. **Good and Welfare** – There were no comments.
- P. **Adjournment** – Allan Spotts made the motion to adjourn at 8:50 p.m., seconded by Steve Wygonowski. All in favor; motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "April Armetta". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

April Armetta  
Recording Clerk