

**Board of Finance Meeting**  
**Wednesday, December 6, 2017**  
**700pm, New Town Hall**  
**North Stonington, CT**

1. **Call to Order:** Roll Call - Members Present - Chairman Dan Spring, Vice Chair Paul Simonds, Carolyn Howell, Mustapha Ratib, Alternate Candis Banks Seated – Alternate Chris Hundt - arrived at 725pm Absent: Tim Main & Mike Anderson
2. **Public Comments- Nita Kincaid** - In order to get North Stonington Quarterly out on time in January, Dan will receive an email tomorrow and should respond by the deadline in a week. **Dan Spring** suggested using the reports in the quarterly report to compile and use in the Town Report. **Shawn Murphy** commented about the budget. Dan Spring responded There was discussion.
3. **Correspondence-** Invoice from Sandra Welwood - auditing services from last year - not quite a 50 / 50 split - Shawn asked if the numbers match the budgeted items - Total \$6850.00 - contracted for \$28k total for last year. Split between town and board of Ed - \$3700.00 town - \$3150 for Board of Ed. There was discussion.-  
-- **Also from Sandra Welwood** - asked for letter - Sandra - kept rate from last year - and would keep same if extended out to 2020 - Have obligation to advise state who accountant is no time for RFP - Dan made a motion - to continue with Sandra Welwood - Mustapha - 2nd – Chris Hundt - suggest to put out RFP - to see what other people are getting – There was discussion- approved 4-0-0 – Dan Spring clarified that we have a quorum and both Candis and Chris are not needed to be seated.
4. **BOS: Update** – Dan Spring - Board of Ed will present to Selectmen but want BOF to participate. Board of Ed to make case. Shawn Murphy asked- are you going to update revenue numbers to reflect what we are now getting from the State- last we met 28 mil would cover expenses – Dan Spring responded. There was discussion.
5. **BOF: 2017/2018 Budget;** public meeting
6. **Tax Report** -Demonstrates 100% collections - uncollected taxes of \$150,808 - Board of Finance had agreed to build budget at a 98% vs. 97% in prior year- Last year grand list was 522,068,114 -2017 Grand List reported by Daryl Delgrosso \$527,332,506. There was small growth in the grand list of about 1%. The Town has effectively managed debt and built fiscal strength of town from where we were in 2010. There was discussion. Dan - look at this as a strategic plan - maintaining public safety, education and economic development. People look for good outcomes - direct correlation between education and economic development. Can do all while maintaining our agricultural land. **Mustapha** - need to reach out to farmers and find out what we can do to develop their farms - Dan - need to develop better relationship with department of agriculture in the state- no reason why active farms in town can't come together and leverage - No reason why farmers can't make a "cheese maker" - Greenhouse- aqua culture - very active - many sites in No Sto could capitalize on this – Used Terra Firma as example of - using education and high quality food.
7. **Future Strategies and Objectives- Dan** - would like to see Board of Finance bring forward a policy book - had brought one forward from the State of Vermont

- should discuss what are some criteria that we think are important to the stewardship in town.
8. **Approval of Previous Minutes** - regarding minutes of November 1, 2017 - Mustapha moved to accept minutes as is - Carolyn 2nd - approved 4-0-0
  9. **Public Comments** - Discussed sharing phone numbers for contact. Chris - was seated in past for someone - Chris would like to have Pledge brought back to agenda - agreed to add.
  10. **Adjournment** – Paul Simonds made a motion to adjourn. Mustapha 2<sup>nd</sup>. Approved 4-0-0 @ 855pm.

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Carolyn Howell**

**Secretary, Board of Finance**