

Town of North Stonington
Board of Finance Hybrid Meeting/298 Norwich Westerly Road
17Nov2021 - 7:00 PM
Minutes

1. Call to order: Board of Finance 7:02pm
 - Introduction of New Board Members: Paul Simonds introduced all BOF Members Present: Paul Simonds, Vice-Chair, Michael Anderson, Dan Smith, Sarah Nelson, Carl Johnston, Gary Annino, Amy Friend, Winona Berdine.
 - 1st Selectman Bob Carlson also present
 2. Public Comments: None
 3. Election of Officers:
 - Paul Simonds nominated as Chair by Dan Smith, 2nd by Sarah Nelson. Nomination passed 6-0-0
 - Mike Anderson nominated as Vice-Chairman by Paul Simonds, 2nd by Dan Smith. Nomination passed 6-0-0
 - Amy Friend nominated as Secretary by Mike Anderson, 2nd by Dan Smith. Nomination passed 6-0-0
 4. Correspondence: Paper copies of draft audit report made available.
 5. Previous minutes: Minutes from 03Nov21 were reviewed and approved 4-0-2 (Paul Simonds and Gary Annino abstaining)
 6. Annual Report Update: Christine indicated that information from several boards was still outstanding and reminders will be sent. Goal for completing report is targeted for end of 2021.
 7. 2022 BOF meeting schedule: Board Meeting schedule was set as follows:
 - 1st and 3rd Wednesdays for the months of Jan, Feb, May, June, Oct, Nov and Dec
 - 3rd Wednesday for months of July, August and Sept
 - Weekly meetings for March and April
- Paul Simonds to sign meeting schedule at Town Hall
8. Future Strategies: Mike Anderson recommenced that all board members look at the POCD and familiarize themselves with document.
- Discussion on upcoming budget cycle commenced.
- A desire for departments to supply forms describing how previous budget was spent and justification for upcoming requests was discussed. Board would like to fully understand actual spend across departments vs their requests.
 - The board acknowledged that using undesignated funds to close budget gap previously would present an immediate ~0.4mil impact on new years budget.
 - The board discussed how we might guide departments and boards on spending levels this year
 - 1st Selectman Bob Carlson expressed confidence in new board, thanked Christine Dias for her hard work, indicated that a 0% may be challenging and that he plans for a series of on-site visits to various town service sites and that all are welcome.
 - Mike Anderson suggested that departments give a full accounting of their expenditures for annual report
 - Gary Annino will attend Capital Board working group meeting
 - Tax collector presentation (mid Jan) will be critical to understanding budget possibilities.
9. Adjournment: Gary Annino made a motion to adjourn the Board of Finance meeting at 8:50pm, 2nd by Dan Smith. Motion approved 6-0-0.

Respectfully Submitted,
Paul Simonds, Board of Finance Chairman

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