

North Stonington Joint Board of Selectmen/Board of Finance Meeting

Meeting Minutes, Wednesday, Feb. 10, 2021

Zoom Meeting @7:00pm

North Stonington, CT

1. **Call to Order:** 7:08pm, Board of Selectmen members present- First Selectman Mike Uργο, Nita Kincaid, Bob Carlson. Board of Finance members present: Chairman Dan Spring, Vice-Chair Paul Simonds, Dan Smith, Carolyn Howell, Mike Anderson, Anne Akin Alternate Brett Mastroianni
2. **Public Comments:**
  - a) Shawn Murphy- regarding agenda item 3, could not find materials presented to boards available anywhere for the public to review. Advised board that FOI act requires materials be available to public at least 24 hours prior to meetings. Advised boards that town has already been found in violation of FOI once with respect to the exact same type documents in 2018.
  - b) Tamar Stearns- regarding item 4, how do we secure money in budget for weed abatement program. Advised by First Selectman that this item is not on the agenda tonight, and will be discussed in the BoS meeting next Tuesday.
  - c) Shawn Murphy- clarifying that the documents he is requesting for review have been determined by the FOI not to be draft documents.
3. **BOS: Budget Presentations FY2021-2022:**
  - a) Recreation Department- Tom Fabian presented. Rec Dept. is requesting approx. \$1K budget increase. Discussion followed.
  - b) NS Ambulance Association- Jim Tuttle presented. Requesting no budget increase. Saw a \$15K increase in revenue this year due to increased calls. Discussion followed.
  - c) NS Volunteer Fire Department – Chief Charlie Steinhart presented- Requesting approximately \$109K increase in budget, \$60K to fund 2<sup>nd</sup> per diem FF, \$35K for replacement radios, current radios obsolete, can't be repaired. Discussion followed.
4. **BOS/BOF Reporting Discussion-** Continued discussion of agenda item 7: BOF Members Report of 03Feb2021 joint BoF/BoS meeting. Consensus that the BoF will discuss and return with decision to the BoS.
5. **BOF Policies Review/Approval:** Budget Reconciliation Policy is the only one left to complete. Work is progressing, it should be available soon.
6. **Previous Minutes:**
  - a) Minutes from 16Dec2020-
    - i. Agenda item 1- add Carolyn Howell to attendees,
    - ii. Agenda item 2f- Margaret Leonard
    - iii. Agenda item 3- line 4 delete "at this time" condense points a-d
    - iv. Agenda item 5c- line 2 change to "template is helpful"
    - v. Agenda item 8c- change to "Chairman Dan Spring"
    - vi. Agenda item 9a- change to "concerned with use of funds for old MS/HS"

Motion by Chairman Dan Spring to approve the minutes of the 16Dec2020 BoF meeting as amended. 2<sup>nd</sup> Paul Simonds.

Vote: 5/0/1 Mike Anderson abstains as he was not present for this meeting

Motion by Mike Anderson to table remaining minutes until next meeting. 2<sup>nd</sup> Dan Smith. Vote: 6/0/0 Motion carries.

**7. Public Comment:**

- a) Shawn Murphy- inquired as to whether any information on drainage project cited by Wheeler Library presenter that received funding from the town has been found. Chairman Dan Spring has looked into it with no success, will continue to pursue it.
- b) Stephanie Mastroianni- BoE met tonight and agreed to request an extension until the 2<sup>nd</sup> week in March to prepare their presentation to the BoF.
- c) Brian Rathbun-wants to know what guidance BoF gave for budget preparation. Chairman Dan Spring stated that the BoE was given guidance to provide a budget proposal with not more than a 1.3% increase.
- d) Carolyn Howell- Suggested that next year when the budget presentation schedule is developed that it be sent out to all presenters for approval.

**8. Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn the Board of Selectmen at 9:46pm by Bob Carlson, 2<sup>nd</sup> by First Selectman Mike Uργο. Approved 3/0/0. Motion to adjourn the Board of Finance at 10:27 by Mike Anderson, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Paul Simonds. Approved 6/0/0.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Akin  
BoF Secretary