

North Stonington Board of Finance

Meeting Minutes, Wednesday, April 21, 2021

Via Zoom @ 700pm

North Stonington, CT

<https://youtu.be/f8S9wuYHKk>

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TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE
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**Minutes Approved as Amended at August 18, 2021 Board of Finance Meeting.*

1. **Call to Order/Roll Call** – Meeting was called to order @ 701 pm by Chairman Dan Spring. **Members Present:** Chairman Dan Spring, Paul Simonds, Carolyn Howell, Dan Smith, Brett Mastroianni Seated for Ann Akin, Alternate Sarah Nelson Absent: Ann Akin– **Mike Urgo, Nita Kincaid and Christine Dias were present from Selectmen's office**
2. **Public Comments-** **Joe Gross** stated that he missed the last meeting, His main concern is to reinstall the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Selectman salary. \$330,602 was cut from the Board of Selectmen Budget by the Board of Finance – 20% changed by the Board of Finance on the Board of Selectmen Budget. Joe spoke about going to the computer when you go to the handbook and that he had spoken with someone at the State who was to call tomorrow. **Dan Hickey** stated there is detail lacking on revenue side vs. capital line item details. Would like general property broken down into tranches to show how it relates to the value assessments and what revenues do those tranches account for. Dan Spring responded that they can be broken down into zones and he will ask Darryl Del Grosso(Tax Assessor) to do this. **Brian Rathbun** stated that if any year the budget should be zeroed out it should be this year because of COVID. **Shawn Murphy** wanted to reiterate that a 6.6 average increase is too big of an ask. Need to cut the budget further on the General Government Operating side. Shawn also mentioned de-

obligated capital and excessive use of the undesignated fund balance. There was discussion.

3. **Correspondence:** The Board of Finance received emails from 6 individuals asking to reduce the budget due to the revals. For the the record they are: Barbara & Wayne Long, Peter & Dorothy Arzamarski, Michelle Shaw, Carol Holliday, Tom Marsh and Donna Selvidio(submitted by Barbara Long) There was discussion.

4. **BOF: Budget Review, Public Hearing Input(link for You Tube): <https://youtu.be/VfJqy0-Qfhg>**
There was discussion.

Brett Mastroianni made a **motion to ask the Board of Selectmen to look into tax mitigation for seniors and disabled people** in line with the state statutes. Paul Simonds 2nd. There was discussion. **6-0-0 Motion passes.**

Dan Spring polled the Board re: **Motion to take up to \$220k from the unassigned fund for 2021/2022 to cover any revenue gap.** There was discussion. Dan Smith- No, Mike Anderson – Yes, Paul Simonds – No, Brett Mastroianni – No, Carolyn Howell – Yes, Dan Spring- Yes.

3-3-0 Motion does not pass.

Dan Spring polled the Board **regarding leaving BOE Budget as is and take it off of the table.** There was discussion. Dan Smith – No, Mike Anderson- Yay, Paul Simonds – No, Brett Mastroianni- No, Carolyn Howell – No, Dan Spring - ~~Yes~~ ~~3-3-0 Motion does not pass.~~

5. **BOF Policies Review/Approvals: none**
6. **Report: BOS Profit/Loss, BOE Profit/Loss, Tax Report, Check Report-** Was provided P&L Budget vs. Actual for July 2020 through March 2021, Grand List for 2019, A/P Aging Detail w/Account as of March 3, March 11 & March 16, 2021, Draft BOE Financial Statement for the period ending 3.31.2021.

- 7. Previous Minutes** –Reviewed Draft Minutes for 3.31.2021 and 4.7.2021. Dan Spring made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Dan Smith 2nd. Approved 6-0-0. *
- 8. Public Comments:** **Nita Kincaid** stated that she was disappointed. Joe did a wonderful job. We didn't work hard enough on getting people to know about the budget. Very disappointing to see and most not involved in any way. Only people we see are people who always speak up and who are not happy. Slow down for a very small amount. Glad to help in any way that she can. **Joe Gross** commented that meetings are so long and a lot is repeated. 298 should be cut period. Should have been demoed. **Brian Rathbun**- Every tax payer in town knew about the meeting. Asked tax payers for direction. Don't know why we don't give direction. **Shawn Murphy** –Not in disagreement of assessment. Did not have comparisons to use. Larry Southwick's house sold very low. Added back things that were spoken against. People's input was ignored.
- 9. Adjournment** – Brett Mastroianni made a motion to adjourn. Paul Simonds 2nd. Approved 6-0-0 Meeting adjourned at 1112pm.

** Public Comments are the opinions of the Speaker*

Respectfully Submitted,

Carolyn A. Howell,
Board of Finance