

BOLTON BOARD OF FINANCE
REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 21, 2013

MINUTES

The Board of Finance held its Regular Meeting on February 21, 2013 at the Notch Road Municipal Center. Members present were Chairman Bob Munroe, Jim Roscoe, John Toomey, Jim Bruner, Judy Wilson and Kelly Regan. Also present were Administrative Officer Joyce Stille, Financial Director Brenda Douglas, members of the Board of Education, Bolton residents, Kristen Heckt, Superintendent of Schools and other staff members.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Bob Munroe at 7:20 P.M.

2. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Bolton resident Peter Van Dine, 81 Vernon Road, gave an update on the Friends of Bolton Lake group. He reported that they met with Pam Sawyer and she has filed a Bill to receive state funds to help with lake issues.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Jim Roscoe, seconded by Jim Bruner to approve the January 17, 2013 minutes as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

4. CORRESPONDENCE

Nothing at this time.

5. ELECTED OFFICIAL AND TOWN STAFF REPORTS

a) Tax Collection Summary

Brenda Douglas circulated an updated Tax Collection Summary as of January 31, 2013. To date the town has collected 97.56% (of 100%) of outstanding taxes.

b) Town Budget Update

Joyce Stille submitted a monthly Summary by Department as of January 31, 2013, as well as two budget transfer requests approved by the Board of Selectmen. Joyce stated that the Board of Selectmen are having another budget workshop next week and she will have a better idea of how the budget is doing at that time.

6. BOARD OF EDUCATION BUDGET UPDATE

a) Monthly Update

A monthly update was sent to Bob Munroe who forwarded it to members of the board.

b) Request for Deficiency

An email was received from the Board of Education requesting a supplemental appropriation of \$218,250 for FY 2012-2013 for unanticipated special education costs.

Bob Munroe reported that he submitted a list of questions to the Board of Education, which the superintendent Kristen Heckt responded to and the information was disseminated to the Board of Finance.

Kristen Heckt also reported that since the initial request, the number has changed to \$199,125. She explained that the area of special education is an ever changing landscape and it is hard to precisely determine the financial needs of the children.

Jim Roscoe questioned the appropriateness of a request by email rather than a formal letter, as has been done in the past. He also had questions regarding transportation costs which Kristen and Beth Goldschneider, Director of Pupil Services, addressed.

After a lengthy discussion, a motion was made by Jim Roscoe, seconded by Bob Munroe to approve a supplemental appropriation to the Board of Education for \$150,000 to be taken out of cash surplus. Motion failed with 3 nays (Wilson, Regan and Bruner) and 3 ayes (Munroe, Toomey and Roscoe).

Bob Munroe thanked Kristen Heckt and members of the Board of Education for coming to the meeting.

7. OLD BUSINESS

a) Consider and Act on Meeting Procedure Resolution

No action taken at this time.

b) Shared Services

Nothing new.

8. NEW BUSINESS

a) Discussion on State Budget

Joyce circulated an FY14 Governor's Budget wherein if passed, they will take \$100,000 from the General Fund and put it in the Town Aid Road budget. Members of the board discussed this and would like to explore a possible alternative.

b) Audit

The audit was presented to members of the Board and Bob Munroe asked that members review it and bring their comments to the next meeting.

c) Budget Calendar

A motion was made by John Toomey, seconded by Kelly Regan to set the budget calendar as follows:

3/21/13 – Regular meeting to include review of the Board of Selectmen and Board of Education budgets

3/26/13 – Special meeting to continue budget discussions.

4/2/13 – Special meeting to finalize the budget for the public hearing.

4/11/13 – Public Hearing at 7:00 P.M. (location to be determined).

4/18/13 - Regular meeting to finalize budget for referendum.

Motion passed unanimously.

9. ONGOING BUSINESS

a) Status report on High School Project

Nothing new at this time.

b) Insurance Update

Joyce reported that talks with Columbia have been initiated again.

10. Adjournment

A motion was made by Kelly Regan, seconded by Jim Bruner to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 10:16 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Sheridan
Board Clerk

PLEASE SEE THE MINUTES OF SUBSEQUENT MEETINGS FOR THE APPROVAL OF THESE MINUTES AND ANY CORRECTIONS HERETO.