

**Litchfield Board of Finance  
Meeting Minutes  
November 10, 2014**

**Call to Order:** Chairman David Geiger called the meeting to order in the LIS Art Room at 7:12pm with Brenda Barnes, Ed Gadomski and Mitchell Fishman present. David Wilson arrived at 7:45pm.

Absent: Anne Dranginis, Sky Post (Alt.) and Ed Weik (Alt.)

Also present: Rose Bouchard, David T. Wilson, Jack Healy, Leo Paul

**Approval of Minutes:**

**Motion:** Mitchell Fishman moved to approve the 10-20-14 special meeting minutes. Ed Gadomski seconded the motion. All voted aye with Brenda Barnes abstaining and the motion carried.

**Public Comment:**

There was no public comment.

**Change of Agenda Items Order:**

**Motion:** Mitchell Fishman moved to switch Agenda item #6 New Business with Agenda item #7 Committee Reports for smoother flow. Brenda Barnes seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

**Director of Finance's Monthly Report:**

As of October 30, the Town has collected 51.5% of revenue (compared to 52.6% same time last year) and has spent 30.4% of the BOS Budget (compared to 32.1% last year) 33% through the fiscal year. The Town is also 53.1% committed (compared to 46.8% committed same time last year.)

Rose Bouchard said the current year property taxes collected are 54.6%. vs. 55.1% same time last year but Nancy has actually collected \$300,290 more. She explained the line item of Miscellaneous Revenue contains \$7,613 for items sold at auction and a \$10,506 MIRMA refund.

**Consider Capital Expenditure Items for future Fund Balance spending:**

Chairman Geiger said he spoke to Leo Paul who said the BOF could address this issue at next month's meeting as well. The Pay as you Go recommended use of the fund balance from Leo Paul and Rose Bouchard totals \$922,514. David T. Wilson said he is comfortable with a \$1Mil figure in this column. He said the BOF has done a good job on this and the town is in good shape with this number. The town is expecting a total of \$839,762 in grant funding and he is suggesting to the BOF to use the Fund Balance for the difference.

There was extensive discussion on various items including the Northfield fire engine 2 tanker, replacement police cruiser and several Public Works items that Jack Healy expanded upon. He said culvert sleeving and repair is ongoing – Mike Road is scheduled this year and either March

Road or Headquarters Road will be done next year. He explained the \$500,000 to replace oil tanks represents the necessity to remove and replace five underground tanks that have a 30-year lifespan by July 1 or the town will lose insurance coverage for this. He is recommending replacing them all with above-ground tanks for longer life and safety.

David T. Wilson said he and Leo Paul would like the BOF to approve their pay as you go recommendations at tonight's meeting. Mitchell Fishman noted the proposed specific items and total of \$922,514 was an arbitrary number. Chairman Geiger said Board members agree that the \$922,514 is an acceptable amount but the BOF would like more choices on the list.

Leo Paul arrived at 8:20pm and answered questions about the purchase of the Northfield fire truck, which has already been approved by the Fire Commissioner and the BOS. He said the \$500,000 for replacing oil tanks is in Public Works' capital budget and does not require a town meeting. He said if it goes through the bonding process, the timeframe of a July 1 deadline would be difficult to meet.

David Wilson announced his resignation from the BOF and left the meeting.

In reply to Mitchell Fishman's question about a special town meeting, Leo Paul said the process takes about a month and a half and Jack Healy cannot move forward on the project until he receives approval so it would be best to receive that BOF approval by the end of December. Chairman Geiger said he wanted to have the full BOF Committee at the December meeting to make this decision.

#### **New Business:**

- a. **Financial Transfers:** There were no financial transfers.
- b. **Correspondence:** There was no correspondence.
- c. **Payment of Bills:** There were no bills for payment.
- d. **Proposed BOF 2015 Regular Meeting Schedule:** There was discussion on whether to change the October regular meeting date from October 5 to October 19 and it was agreed to make this change. It was also noted that May 13 incorrectly preceded May 11 on the schedule.  
**Motion:** Mitchell Fishman moved to accept the regular meeting schedule with these two changes. Brenda Barnes seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.
- e. **Proposed BOF 2015 Budgeting Schedule:**  
**Motion:** Mitchell Fishman moved to accept the proposed budgeting schedule. Brenda Barnes seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

#### **Committee Reports:**

**Motion:** Mitchell Fishman moved that the Agenda item "Pension: Hooker & Holcombe (3) Actuarial Valuation Reports" be moved to the December 14 BOF meeting due to lateness of the hour. Brenda Barnes seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried. David T. Wilson said he could attend this meeting.

**Points of Order:**

- a. Ed Gadomski noted that if the school regionalization plan does not go through, the town hall would not have a school to move into and this should be a future agenda BOF item.
- b. There was discussion about David Wilson's resignation.
- c. Mitchell Fishman requested that the First Selectman's Report be added to future agendas.

**Adjournment:**

**Motion:** Ed Gadomski moved to adjourn at 9:17pm and Mitchell Fishman seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Jo Ann Jaacks  
Recording Secretary