

**Board of Selectmen  
FINANCIAL MEETING  
January 3, 2007  
7:30 PM**

Present: Susan Bransfield, Scott Adamsons, Brian Flood, Mark Finkelstein, Sharon Gibala, Kathy Richards

Absent: John Anderson

1. First Selectwoman Call Financial Meeting to Order

Mrs. Bransfield called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

2. Pledge Of Allegiance

A moment of silence was observed for Joseph Lynch, Portland resident and long time volunteer firefighter and Fire Marshal. Mrs. Bransfield also expressed her appreciation for all the time and service that Mr. Lynch gave to the town.

3. Approve Minutes NONE

4. Accept Agenda

There was a motion to accept the agenda by Kathy Richards, seconded by Scott Adamsons. The vote was unanimous, motion carried.

5. Communications / Correspondence: NONE

6. Public Comment

Fred Knous, Chairman of Economic Development Commission addressed the Selectmen, bringing to their attention the concerns of parking and public safety at the Post Office on Main Street. Currently, there are six spaces in front of the post office on Main Street. Parking and backing out of these spaces is often hazardous. Three parking spaces on Middlesex Avenue do not have line delineations. He urged the BOS to initiate discussions that will lead to both short term and long term solutions to this problem. Mrs. Bransfield noted that the short term solutions such as extending limited time parking on Middlesex Ave. and painting lines are easily addressed.

7. Appointments to Boards and Commissions (Re-appointments, vacancies, etc.: Needed  
Conservation Com: 1 alternate; Economic Development Com: 1-regular; Planning & Zoning Com: 1- alternate; Middlesex Area Regional Mental Health Board: 1-regular; Youth Services Advisory Board: 1-regular, 1-alternate; ZBA: 2-alternates)

Mark Finkelstein made a motion to appoint Michael Elliott to the Economic Development Commission, filling a vacancy created by the resignation of Scott Adamsons. The motion was seconded by Kathy Richards. Vote unanimous, motion carried.

8. RESOLUTION: Adjustment/Rebate of Water & Sewer to Pedar A. Samuelson

Rick Kelsey explained the unusual circumstances of this resolution. Changes in sewer and water billing procedures resulted in an incorrect charge to this property owner. There was a motion by

Mark Finkelstein to approve this resolution and to waive the reading of it, seconded by Scott Adamsons. Vote unanimous, motion carried. (Attachment A.)

#### 9. RESOLUTION: Water & Sewer Billing Adjustment

This item is not a resolution; it will require a public hearing. There is a recommendation from Rick Kelsey that changes be made to the way water and sewer bills are calculated. The change is as follows:

- Residential customers to be billed quarterly for the months of September through May, based on actual water usage. Billing for the quarter, including the months of June through August will be based on the three months average water usage form the previous nine month **or actual metered water usage, whichever is less.**

Mark Finkelstein made a motion to adopt this recommendation and have a public hearing to approve it, seconded by Brian Flood. Vote unanimous, motion carried.

There will be a public hearing on Wednesday, January 24, 2007 @ 7:15 pm regarding this change to Water & Sewer billing.

#### 10. RESOLUTION: Appointment of Sewer Consultant: Wright-Pierce

There was a motion by Mark Finkelstein to adopt this resolution and waive the reading of it, seconded by Kathy Richards. Vote unanimous, motion carried. (Attachment B.)

#### 11. RESOLUTION: Authorizing Participation in the OPM Grant Application & Award

This is a revised resolution as requested by the State of CT Office of Policy and Management. Mark Finkelstein made a motion to adopt this resolution and waive the reading of it, seconded by Sharon Gibala. Vote unanimous, motion carried. (Attachment C.)

#### 12. RESOLUTION to the Connecticut General Assembly Concerning Energy

Andy Bauer, chairman of Clean Energy task force summarized the resolution before the BOS. Mark Finkelstein asked for clarification on the fourth paragraph of this resolution. After discussion, the BOS concurred that this paragraph should be removed from the resolution. The word 'to' will be added in the last paragraph of this resolution. Mrs. Bransfield read into the record the revised resolution. There was a motion by Mark Finkelstein, seconded by Kathy Richards to adopt this resolution as amended. Vote unanimous, motion carried. (Attachment D.)

#### 13. CT Clean Energy Fund - Portland Site Inspection Report

Andy Bauer summarized this report for the BOS. The best site for the photovoltaic system will be on High Street at the Valley View School. Portland has now qualified for a 5 kilowatt photovoltaic system with participation from 212 residents Portland was the first town in CT to pass the 5% participation level in the state. Mr. Bauer explained that there is an opportunity to purchase an additional 5 kilowatt system at 50% savings. He will obtain prices for this system to be installed at the same time as the free panels earned by community participation and present this to the board for their consideration at a later date.

Mrs. Bransfield noted that the Town will be receiving a refund of approximately \$78,000 from CL&P for excess charges for street lights in town. She would like to see this money possibly put toward endeavors such as this one.

#### 14. Review Monthly Budget Reports

The BOS discussed with Rob Buden Finance Director, the possibility of changes in how the monthly budget reports are presented. All requests for changes in the format will be considered by Mr. Buden and will be accommodated if feasible. There is the suggestion that the BOE be included in the budget books in the future. Currently, only a summary is presented.

#### 15. Refunds:

There was a motion by Mark Finkelstein, seconded by Kathy Richards to refund Honda Lease Trust the amount of \$79.61. Vote unanimous, motion carried.

There was a motion by Mark Finkelstein, seconded by Sharon Gibala to refund Chase Man Auto Fin Corp the amount of \$80.97. Vote unanimous, motion carried.

There was a motion by Mark Finkelstein, seconded by Sharon Gibala to refund Volvo Finance NA Inc the amount of \$355.19. Vote unanimous, motion carried.

There was a motion by Mark Finkelstein, seconded by Kathy Richards to refund GELCO Corporation the amount of \$268.09. Vote unanimous, motion carried.

#### 16. Public Comment none

#### 17. Board of Selectmen General Informal Discussion

#### 18. Executive Session: Land Acquisition (Industrial Zone)

There was a motion by Scott Adamsons, seconded by Kathy Richards to enter into Executive Session at 8:45 pm. Vote unanimous, motion carried.

Finance Director Rob Buden and Public Works Director Rick Kelsey were also present. The subject discussed was Land Acquisition - Industrial Zone.

#### 19. Executive Session: Land Acquisition (Residential Zone)

The subject discussed was Land Acquisition - Residential Zone.

Motion was made by Mark Finkelstein, seconded by Sharon Gibala to exit the Executive Session and return to regular session. Vote unanimous, motion carried.

There was no decision made regarding the Land Acquisition - Industrial Zone.

The Selectmen unanimously decided to accept the Land Acquisition - Residential Zone offer and submit the information to Town Attorney Jean D'Aquila to process the appropriate paperwork.

#### 20. Adjourn Meeting

Motion was made by Sharon Gibala, seconded by Kathy Richards to adjourn. Vote unanimous, meeting adjourned at 9:12 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Laura Siena, Board Clerk