**Board of Finance**

**Special Meeting Agenda**

**Wednesday April 25, 2012**

**7pm Clifford B. Green Memorial center**

**Present:** Rick Ives, Gene Michael Deary, Kim Conroy, David Fuss, Carla Demers

**Also Present:** Austin Tanner, Bob Kelleher, Drew Dionne, Bucky Lohbusch, Mike Gaudreau, Bill Lucchesi Members of Fire Department; Tim Brown, Jim Warren, Spencer Bauch

1. **Call to Order:** Mr. Ives called the meeting to order at 7:00pm
2. **Approve Meeting Minutes:** Gene Michael Deary made a motion to approve the previous meeting minutes from April 18, 2012 as presented. David Fuss seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.
3. **Public Comment**
* Mr. Luchessi feels the Finance Director is crucial for the Town as it grows and will steer the Town in the right direction. It is in the best interest of the Town, taxpayers and community to have everyone working together for the good of Brooklyn.
1. **2012-2013 Budget Action:**
* **Parks & Recreation:** Mr. Fuss inquired if disc golf would bring in revenue. Mr. Lohbusch states there is potential for revenue if tournaments are held. The grant that is available is not contingent on the capital request being funded. If funded, this would build the entire eighteen hole golf course. Mr. Lohbusch is meeting with Killingly to see what equipment we may be able to borrow for the Halloween event he is proposing.
* **Fire Commissioners:** No questions for the board.
* **Board of Education:** The board received a packet with revised numbers for the board of education budget. The Killingly capital for the high school in the amount of $205,000 has been removed and computers in the amount of $25,000. The medical insurance was decreased as well. The current budget has an overage of approximately $30,000-$32,000.
* **Capital:** Discussion held on the dump truck that was requested and if it was an emergency. The condition of the fire truck the capital request would be replacing was considered. Mr. Fuss states it does not suit the needs of the Town and is not serving the Town properly. Discussion held on the drive of the capital committee and if they should have made their own request for the fire commissioners. Mr. Deary suggests requesting from the Selectmen they find where the funds could come out of for the Killingly capital funds.
* **General Government:** Mr. Tanner states the Probate Court is looking to move and if they move back to Brooklyn, renovations will be needed. Mr. Deary suggests asking for the tenant to pay for the renovations. Mr. Tanner states there should be approximately $100,000 coming back from the current budget to the general fund. $50,000 is estimated from fringe benefits, $40,000 from highway, $15,000 in municipal insurance. There is still $20,000 in contingency and $114,000 in debt which Ms. Soucy asks the board if they want to pay the debt down more. $66,000 was earmarked for the school wall project and $47,000 was earmarked to go against short term interest for what would have been interest if the BAN was rolled over. Mr. Deary suggests spending the $47,000 against the existing BAN. Mr. Ives suggesting voting on this at the next meeting. Mr. Ives moves to public comment and will continue the budget discussion afterwards.
1. **Public Comment:**
* Spencer Bauch believes consolidation of the fire departments is a good idea for the Town. He feels the fire truck requested is a necessity for safety and will only be beneficial if the departments are consolidated.
* Tim Brown states the board of fire commissioners supported the requested fire truck unanimously and is willing to answer any questions to board of finance to better understand the need of the truck because he is concerned it was taken out from capital.

Budget discussion continued. Mr. Tanner questions the recreation secretary’s hours increasing, if this is a charge of the Board of Finance or Board of Selectmen.

Money added to short term debt for financing of capital items. Revenue discussed from the State. Money will have to be moved for the school, labor attorney and the Probate Court. Mr. Tanner states the court moving may happen in this year’s budget.

Without making any cuts and all the current numbers, the mill rate would increase 1.4 mills. Mr. Deary would suggest to the Selectmen to find $40,000 or $50,000 and the Board of Education $100,000, possibly using some money in reserves if necessary.

Mr. Ives comments on the last meeting minutes under executive session. He would like a line break because it looks as if the comments were from executive session. David Fuss made a motion to amend the meeting minutes of April 18, 2012 to include a line break in item #5 after executive session was exited. Carla Demers seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

Items discussed from capital that could be cut are disc golf, truck study and school study. $30,000 will be needed for the school shortage and funds will be needed for labor counsel. Mr. Ives discusses the $66,000 that was not spent and would like to know what is made up in this number. With the Town returning $120,000, it could be suggested to ask the Town for $30,000 and the Board of Education $70,000. Mr. Fuss suggests cutting the disc golf making it a $20,000 cut. Gene Michael Deary made a motion that the Board of Finance make a proposal to the Board of Education and the Board of Selectmen to collectively come back to the Board of Finance for the next meeting with a number close to $100,000 in reductions to the budget proposals, suggested at 70/30, Board of Ed, Board of Selectmen; Board of Finance can evaluate at the next meeting. Mr. Ives questions if the Fire Commissioners and Recreation should be included. Mr. Deary amends his motion to include all departments. Mr. Deary withdraws his motion.

Mr. Ives would like to meet one more time and keep the hearing date on May 14th. Mr. Deary suggests changing the finance director amount from $100,000 to $75,000. No motions made, next meeting May 2nd.

1. **Adjourn:** Gene Michael Deary made a motion to adjourn at 11:27pm. David Fuss seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted;

Melissa J. Bradley

Recording Secretary