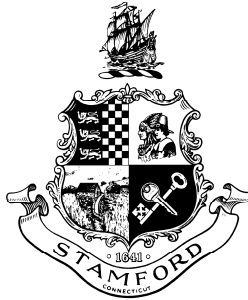


Minutes: December 12, 2013

DAVID R. MARTIN
MAYOR

JOHN J. LOUIZOS
CHAIRMAN
MARY LOU T. RINALDI
VICE CHAIR
GERALD BOSAK, JR
SAL GABRIELE
RICHARD FREEDMAN
DUDLEY WILLIAMS
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BOARD OF FINANCE

STAMFORD GOVERNMENT CENTER
888 WASHINGTON BOULEVARD
P.O. BOX 10152
STAMFORD, CONNECTICUT 06904-2152

MINUTES

Regular Meeting

Thursday, December 12, 2013: 7:00 PM
Board of Finance Meeting Room, 4th Floor

Call to Order: (Video: 00:00) Performed by Chairman John J. Louizos, noting all Members were present except Mr. Williams, who had a previous commitment. After the call, Chairman Louizos asked for a moment of silence to commemorate the Newtown tragedy of one year ago.

Pledge of Allegiance: (Video: 00:01) Led by Chairman Louizos

Approval of Minutes: (Video: 00:04) November 14, 2013: 7:00 PM: Regular Meeting	Approved
	3-0-2
	Motion by
	M. Rinaldi
New Members Richard Freedman & Sal Gabriele abstained from voting on the November meeting minutes, as they were not members at that time.	Second
	G. Bosak

Public Participation: None

Reports to the Board: None

Note: Items are Shown in Order of Consideration

DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION- Controller's Office

City CAFR as of June 30, 2013

Item 1	Review/Acceptance of City Annual Financial Report as of 6/30/13.		Discussion
	Action Requested:	CAFR Review/Acceptance	
	Amount:	\$	
	Fund/Budget:		
	Submitted by:	David Yanik, City Controller	
	Video: 00:08	Auditor Blasnik reviewed the Auditors & Management's responsibilities relating to the Audit, before turning over the presentation to Auditor Daniele. Mr. Daniele reviewed the major CAFR results which reported a surplus for FY 2012-13 of approximately \$11M, half attributable to City and half to the Board of Education. Mr. Louizos asked Mr. Blasnik to review the timing requirements, which were noted as an October 31 completion date for the CAFR by Charter & a December 31 filing date required by the State. Mr. Daniele added that they would be issuing an "unmodified" opinion, which was the highest level of opinion and that the Audit was in conformance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP). After Mr. Daniele summarized the major funds, Mr. Blasnik closed with the statement that there was a great deal of information contained within the report and they would be available to answer any questions. Chairman Louizos thanked the Auditors & Staff for their work on this. (Also, see auditor's report provided to committee, attached).	

MAYOR'S OFFICE

Additional Appropriation

Item 2	Request for Approval of Additional Appropriation in the amount of \$112,478 to cover funding for required payouts of accrued time for departing staff as well as funding for two part-time Special Assistants to the Mayor for the remainder of the fiscal year.		Approved
	Action Requested:	Additional Appropriation	4-1-0
	Amount:	\$112,478	Motion by
	Fund/Budget:	Contingency	R. Freedman
	Submitted by:	Mayor David Martin	Seconded
	Video: 00:24	Mayor Martin provided the Board with an analysis which documented his assertion that the Mayor's Office budget, inclusive of cabinet positions, was underfunded for the current fiscal year by \$94K. He explained that he reorganized the office and excepting the new position of Chief of Staff, he would be spending \$18K less to staff his office. Ms. Rinaldi asked what the special assistants would	M. Rinaldi

	<p>be doing, which was stated as Board of Education issues and communication. Chairman Louizos said that he believed it was important for governance to provide the Mayor with the resources he needed to organize his department. On a motion by Mr. Freedman which was seconded by Ms. Rinaldi, the Board acted to approve this appropriation by a vote of 4-1-0, with Mr. Bosak casting the dissenting vote.</p>	
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Additional Appropriation

Item 3	Request for Approval of Additional Appropriation in the amount of \$78,870 to cover funding for a new full time position in the Mayor’s Office of Special Assistant to the Mayor/Chief of Staff- for the period January 8, 2014 through the remainder of the fiscal year.	Approved
Action Requested:	Additional Appropriation	5-0-0
Amount:	\$78,870	Motion by
Fund/Budget:	Contingency	M. Rinaldi
Submitted by:	Mayor David Martin	Seconded
Video: 00:44	Mayor Martin asked that the Board approve this appropriation to allow him to fund a new position of Chief of Staff, which he said was a critical need that many other municipalities already benefitted from. The Board acted to approve this request by unanimous vote.	G. Bosak

ITEM HEARD UNDER SUSPENSION OF THE RULES

Discussion

Item 13	Discussion: Real Estate Negotiation	No Action Taken
Action Requested:	Discussion	
Amount:	\$	
Fund/Budget:		
Submitted by:	Mayor David R. Martin	
Video: 00:46	On a motion by Mr. Bosak, which was seconded by Mr. Gabriele, the Board agreed by unanimous vote to hear this item under suspension of the rules. On a motion by Mr. Bosak, which was seconded by Mr. Freedman, the Board also agreed by unanimous vote to hear this item in executive session due to discussion of negotiations and strategy related to this item. In addition to Board of Finance Chairman John J. Louizos, Vice Chair Mary Lou Rinaldi and Members Gerald Bosak Jr., Richard Freedman and Sal Gabriele, the following individuals took part in executive session: Mayor David Martin, Chief of Staff Michael Pollard, Mayor’s liaisons Thomas Dec & Cindy Grafstein, Board of Education President Geoff Alswanger, Superintendent Dr. Winnie Hamilton, Board of Education Member Rich Lyons, BOE Grants Director Cheryl Poltrack and Redniss & Mead Design & Consulting President Rick	

	Redniss. After approximately 1 hour, the Board exited executive session, with Chairman Louizos stating that no action was taken.	
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OFFICE OF LEGAL AFFAIRS

Law Department- Transfer

Item 4	Request for Approval of Transfer in the amount of \$4,500 from the Salaries Account to the Car Allowance Account to cover the cost of car allowance for one employee.	Approved
	Action Requested: Transfer	5-0-0
	Amount: \$4,500	Motion by
	Fund/Budget:	M. Rinaldi
	Submitted by: Kathryn Emmett, Dir. of Legal Affairs	Seconded
	Video: 01:51 Chairman Louizos stated that it was his understanding that this was a contractual liability that failed to pass at the November meeting. Mr. Hricay explained that the funds were being transferred from a salary account to the car allowance account where the funds were needed. The Board acted to approve this transfer by unanimous vote.	G. Bosak

Law Department- Preservation Restriction

Item 5	Request for Approval of Easement, Declaration of Covenants & Declaration of Preservation Restrictions on the Holly Mansion Property at Cove Island Park for Soundwaters, Inc. grant application.	Approved
	Action Requested: Approval of Deed Restriction	5-0-0
	Amount: \$	Motion by
	Fund/Budget:	R. Freedman
	Submitted by: Kathryn Emmett, Dir. of Legal Affairs	Seconded
	Video: 01:52 Ms. Emmet explained that the City was agreeing to a deed restriction in order to allow Soundwaters, Inc. who leases the Holly Mansion from the City, to file for FEMA Grant funds to raise the building. Mr. Freedman asked for assurances that the restriction related to the Holly Mansion site only as opposed to Cove Island Park in total, which were provided. Ms. Emmet also stated that Soundwaters would not receive the funds until the work was complete and that the City would not sign off on the easement until the Grant was approved. The Board approved this item by unanimous vote.	S. Gabriele

OFFICE OF PUBLIC SAFETY

Long Ridge Volunteer Fire Department

Item 6	Request for Approval of Additional Appropriation in the amount of \$117,791.67 to cover funding for January, 2014.	Approved
	Action Requested: Additional Appropriation	4-1-0
	Amount: \$117,791.67	Motion by
	Fund/Budget: Contingency	G. Bosak
	Submitted by: Ted Jankowski, Director of Public Safety/Chief Teitlebaum	Seconded

Video: 01:56	<p>Mr. Jankowski explained that they were seeking one additional month of funding for the 3 Volunteer Firehouses (also, see Items # 7 & 8) which would provide funding through January, 2014. At the invitation of Chairman Louizos to update the Board on the court proceedings, Director Jankowski stated that both sides presented their briefs to the Court and noted that the judge has 120 days from October 2 to make a decision, but added that he was hopeful that their on-going mediation efforts would achieve a resolution. Vice Chair Rinaldi commented that the City was clear in seeking a resolution and a consolidated Fire Department and expressed her frustration that, due to a lack of action on this matter, that residents were suffering. Mr. Gabriele concurred, stating that he was torn on his decision on this item, reiterating that the people voted for a single Fire Chief and one department, and instead we were incurring court costs. Mr. Freedman asked what would happen if the Board failed to approve these funds. Mr. Jankowski advised that the volunteer houses would not be able to meet their monthly expenses. Mr. Louizos stated that he was voting in favor due to public safety concerns, but added that discussions leading to a resolution should continue in earnest. New Chief Peter Brown noted that they did not want to spend any more funds on legal actions and he was meeting with all of the volunteer units to achieve resolution, noting that the Mayor also favored this end. While the Board acted to approve this funding (Motion by Mr. Bosak, Second by Mr. Freedman, with Ms. Rinaldi dissenting), Board Chairman Louizos asked that the Law Department provide a status update on this matter at the January 9, 2014 regular meeting.</p>	R. Freedman
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Turn of the River Volunteer Fire Department

Item 7	Request for Approval of Additional Appropriation in the amount of \$25,666.67 to cover funding for January, 2014.	Approved
	Action Requested:	Additional Appropriation
	Amount:	\$25,666.67
	Fund/Budget:	Contingency
	Submitted by:	Ted Jankowski, Director of Public Safety/Chief Jacobellis
	Video: 01:56	See minutes in Item # 6 above. Ms. Rinaldi cast the dissenting vote.
		R. Freedman

Springdale Volunteer Fire Department

Item 8	Request for Approval of Additional Appropriation in the amount of \$12,833.33 to cover funding for January, 2014.	Approved
	Action Requested:	Additional Appropriation
	Amount:	\$12,833.33
	Fund/Budget:	Contingency
	Submitted by:	Ted Jankowski, Director of Public Safety/Chief Fahan
	Video: 01:56	See minutes in Item # 6 above. Ms. Rinaldi cast the
		G. Bosak

	dissenting vote.	
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Bond Resolution

Item 9	Request for Approval of Resolution Amending a Resolution with respect to the issuance and Sale of \$35M of General Obligation Bonds of the City of Stamford, Issue of 2010.	Approved
	Action Requested: Bond Resolution Amendment	5-0-0
	Amount: \$	Motion by
	Fund/Budget: Capital	M. Rinaldi
	Submitted by: Jim Hricay, Director of OPM	Seconded
	Video: 02:06 Mr. Hricay explained that this amended resolution was being requested to include City projects, which according to City Engineer Casolo were shovel ready, in lieu of projects which were initially included, but not ready to commence in order to align funds that the City's already borrowed to the specific projects.	G. Bosak

WPCA

Bond Resolution

Item 10	Request for Approval of Bond Resolution related to the authorization and issuance of \$750,000 of WPCA Revenue Bonds to finance the Carriage Drive Sewer project approved at the November 14 regular meeting.	Approved
	Action Requested: Bond Resolution	4-0-0
	Amount: \$750,000	Motion by
	Fund/Budget: Capital	G. Bosak
	Submitted by: Jim Hricay, Director of OPM	Seconded
	Video: 02:09 Ms. Rinaldi left the room when the Board took up this item; refraining from participation in any discussion or action .This item was held at the November14 meeting in order to gain clarification of the \$750K resolution for a project which was funded at \$200K. Mr. Hricay explained that the additional funds were for required debt service reserves due to the fact that these are revenue bonds.	R. Freedman

ITEM HEARD UNDER SUSPENSION OF THE RULES

Bartlett Arboretum

Item 12	Request for Approval of Additional Appropriation in the amount of \$77,000 to fund operations for one more quarter of the Fiscal Year 2013-14.	Approved
	Action Requested: Additional Appropriation	5-0-0
	Amount: \$77,000	Motion by
	Fund/Budget: Contingency	R. Freedman
	Submitted by: Michael Handler, Director of Administration	Seconded
	Video: 02:12 On a motion by Mr. Bosak, which was seconded by Mr. Gabriele, the Board agreed by unanimous vote to hear this item under suspension of the rules. Ms. Rinaldi asked OPM Director Hricay, since it was the Boards stated intent to provide funding to the Bartlett Arboretum of ¼ of the requested amount during the budget process due to	G. Bosak

Minutes: Thursday, December 12, 2013

	<p>financial concerns, why someone from administration did not attend this meeting to advise the Board that these concerns were addressed. Mr. Hricay explained that they were requesting just ¼ of the funds, with the rest held in contingency, so as not to cause undue harm to the Arboretum by denying funds that they believed would be forthcoming. Paul Travaglino, the self-named volunteer director, urged the Board to approve this request, promising that he was reviewing every expenditure, that they finished in the black at the end of their last fiscal year, and were now trying to pay off old bills. The Board acted to approve this item by unanimous vote.</p>	
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DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION

Information Technology

Item 11	Discussion & Presentation: “My Stamford” Application		No Action Taken
	Action Requested:	Presentation	
	Amount:	\$	
	Fund/Budget:		
	Submitted by:	John Louizos, Member	
	Presented by:	Michael Handler, Director of Administration	
	Video: 02:22	Mr. Louizos requested this item to show his support for the use of Technology to allow Stamford residents to conduct their City business online rather than have to travel to the Government Center. Information Technology Director Pensiero advised that the “My Stamford” app was created for Stamford by a company called WEB QA, rolled out a few weeks ago, and may be downloaded in an apple store for free. The app allows one to make requests of City Departments and contact Citizen Services online. (Also, see presentation slide of this item, attached).	

Next Regular Meeting of the Board: Thursday, January 9, 2014 @ 7:00 P.M.

Adjournment: On a motion by Mr. Bosak which was seconded by Ms. Rinaldi, the Board unanimously agreed to adjourn this meeting at 9:50 PM

Lorraine C. Gilden

Lorraine C. Gilden
Clerk of the Board