



STATE OF CONNECTICUT – COUNTY OF TOLLAND
INCORPORATED 1786

TOWN OF ELLINGTON

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BOARD OF FINANCE

JOHN P. RACHEK
Chairman

PEGGY BUSSE
DOUGLAS B. HARDING
DAVID J. OLENDER
BARRY C. PINTO
MICHAEL D. VARNEY

REGULAR MEETING JUNE 4, 2019 MINUTES

Members Present: John Rachek-Chmn, Peg Busse, Douglas Harding, David Olender, Barry Pinto

Members Absent: Michael Varney

Others Present: Lori Spielman-First Selectman, Dr. Scott Nicol-Superintendent of Schools, Tracey Kiff-Judson-BOE Chair, Aaron Foster, Tom Palshaw

Call to Order

Chairman John Rachek called the meeting to order at 8:00 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance

Citizen's Forum – None

Approval of Minutes

MOVED (PINTO) SECONDED (HARDING) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF MARCH 5, 2019 AS WRITTEN.

MOVED (HARDING) SECONDED (OLENDER) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE BUDGET HEARING OF MARCH 19, 2019 AS WRITTEN.

MOVED (OLENDER) SECONDED (HARDING) AND PASSED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE BUDGET HEARING OF MARCH 26, 2019 WITH THE CORRECT TO LOIS TIMMS-FERRARA'S NAME AS NOTED.

MOVED (HARDING) SECONDED (BUSSE) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEARING OF APRIL 9, 2019 AS WRITTEN.

MOVED (HARDING) SECONDED (OLENDER) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE BUDGET DELIBERATIONS OF APRIL 11, 2019 AS WRITTEN.

MOVED (OLENDER) SECONDED (HARDING) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE BUDGET DELIBERATIONS OF APRIL 16, 2019 AS WRITTEN.

MOVED (PINTO) SECONDED (HARDING) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF MAY 28, 2019 AS WRITTEN.

Additional Appropriations - None

Financial Statements

Felicia LaPlante had passed out the financial statements before the meeting. So noted.

New Business

Supt. Dr. Scott Nicol – Endorsement of Seeds of Civility Document

Dr. Nicol told the Board that this document is the result of a civility initiative and that a variety of people from the community were instrumental in the development of this document. He thanked the following people for being on this committee: Fred Bird, Jennifer Brown, Melinda Ferry, Tracey Kiff-Judson, Katherine Heminway, Don Judson, Michael Nash, Kris Picard-Wambolt, Nancy Nicolescu, Samantha Peterson, Sarah Robinson and Lori Spielman. He also acknowledged teacher Kim Reilly and EHS Juniors Jaime Delpiano and Nicholas Sivo for their participation in working with the State Dept. of Education. The State Department of Education is developing a civility task force for next year and has appointed this teacher and two students from Ellington to it. The committee felt that the formal endorsement by the Boards of Education, Finance and Selectmen was important. The Board of Education adopted it on May 22, 2019, the Board of Selectmen have it on their agenda for June 11, 2019 and the Superintendent is asking for the Board of Finance to formally endorse the document tonight.

Once this is formalized, it will be displayed in town buildings, schools, etc. to be seen by people; he is sure where it will go from there.

The Board of Education Policy Committee is looking at formulating a civility policy. At their June 12 meeting they will be moving the draft forward to the first read. He stated that this is about being good people.

He asked for comments from the Board. Peg Busse stated that she agrees with the document, however the quote by John F. Kennedy at the bottom of the page jumped out at her as being limiting by the word "both". She stated that today's society is not binary.

John Rachek stated that the Board of Finance is not and never will be a 2-sided Board and that all members' ideas are considered. He felt that this document applies to this Board and that we have and will continue to work in this fashion.

MOVED (OLENDER) SECONDED (BUSSE) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY THAT THE BOARD OF FINANCE ENDORSES THE SEEDS OF CIVILITY DOCUMENT.

Suspense List

A memo requesting that the Board of Finance approve the transfer of 206 accounts to suspense in the amount of \$34,775.28 was received from the Tax Collector.

MOVED (PINTO) SECONDED (HARDING) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ACCEPT THE TRANSFERS TO SUSPENSE OF 206 ACCOUNTS TOTALING \$34,775.28 AS REQUESTED BY THE TAX AND REVENUE COLLECTOR, ANN MARIE CONTI, SUBMITTED IN MEMO DATED MAY 23, 2019.

Election of Vice Chairman

Mr. Rachek stated that he had this put on the agenda so that the Board can create the position and elect a Vice Chairman in the event that he cannot make a meeting for whatever reason. Peg Busse stated that this position would be illegal and is against State Statute. The Statute states that any two members can call and hold a meeting and that the only positions in the Statute are the chairman and the clerk.

Lori Spielman stated that the State Statute does not say the Board of Finance cannot have a vice chairman and listed numerous towns in CT that have them. The State Statute outlines the required positions.

MOVED (RACHEK) SECONDED (OLENDER) AND PASSED (AYES-RACHEK, PINTO, HARDING, OLENDER) (NAY-BUSSE) TO CREATE A VICE CHAIRMAN POSITION FOR THE BOARD OF FINANCE.

MOVED (RACHEK) TO NOMINATE DOUGLAS HARDING AS VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF FINANCE. PINTO SECONDED. VOTE-RACHEK, PINTO, HARDING, OLENDER-AYE; BUSSE-NAY) MOTION PASSED

Both Chairman and Vice Chairman will be reelected after the election in November.

Old Business – None

Liaison Reports

Peg Busse stated that the Parks & Recreation committee has had a lot of conversation lately regarding items that are up in the air, such as Brookside Trail, Jacob Poulin Project, etc. They also spoke about having to do a separate brochure for their programs because the Ellington Connection does not allow for that much space.

Adjournment

MOVED (HARDING) SECONDED (OLENDER) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted:



Lori Smith, Recording Secretary