

Town of East Haddam  
Board of Finance  
September 10, 2007  
Regular Meeting

**1. Call to Order**

The Regular Meeting of the East Haddam Board of Finance was called to order on Monday, September 10, 2007 at 7:00p.m., at the River House, by Chairman Matthew Budzik.

In attendance were Matthew Budzik, George Giesey (arrived 7:20 pm), David Meade, Tony Shetensky, Mark Fortier (arrived 7:15 pm) and Bob Bennett. Also in attendance were First Selectman Brad Parker, Stephanie Tatro – Finance Director (arrived 7:25 pm), Toni McCabe – Youth and Family Services Director, Loreta Zdanys – Town Assessor and Susan Link.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**2. Approval of minutes**

**a. Regular Meeting of July 9, 2007**

**Motion by Bob Bennett to approve the regular meeting minutes of July 9, 2007 as presented. Second by Dave Meade and unanimously passed.**

**b. Regular Meeting of August 6, 2007**

**Motion by Bob Bennett to approve the regular meeting minutes of August 6, 2007 as presented. Second by Dave Meade and unanimously passed.**

**10. New Business**

**c. Assessor Report on Revaluation Process**

All properties will be visited by the end of October. There are currently three data collectors, and the company will be adding two more. The company has finished the call backs (over 200) in the lake area this past weekend. The company will also send out more call back letters the first week of October. Data mailers will be sent to properties already inspected the second weeks of October and November. Jim Ramos is doing field review and sales analysis as the properties are getting inspected. Next week Jim and Loreta will be reviewing and setting neighborhoods.

Loreta left at 7:20 pm.

**10. New Business**

**b. Youth and Family Services Report**

Toni McCabe handed out a package of information regarding a study done which shows a decrease in substance abuse. Historically, the money provided by the Town in the annual budget has funded in part the drug and alcohol counselor. The question was asked regarding the impact on crime related to the study, and Toni replied she was not sure, but there probably is a connection. The question was asked does Toni see the budget changing as the Town grows, to which Toni replied maybe –depends on several factors, including moving YFS into the Middle School when it is renovated for Town offices. Most of the YFS programs are funded through grants. There is a significant grant that Toni wants to apply for, but needs help with. The First Selectman and Finance Director offered to assist with this significant grant proposal. Other discussion was held regarding soliciting funds.

Toni left at 7:45 pm. Brief discussion regarding the surveys followed.

**3. Correspondence**

Chairman Budzik reviewed the letter from the Board of Education requesting a return of some of the funds they have turned back in to the Town. The Board of Education will present at the October Board of Finance meeting for the exact dollar amount of the request.

**4. Chairman's Report**

Nothing to report.

**5. First Selectman's Report**

The First Selectman briefly reviewed the America the Beautiful Grant received by the Town in the amount of \$7,000.00

The First Selectman announced the map copier was delivered today. It is set up to copy only at this point, but will be networked to print next week. The budget for this item was \$17,950, and the Town was able to purchase the copier for \$11,900 through the state bid.

The First Selectman discussed the success of the summer concert series, and discussion was held regarding the Town funding a portion of the cost of the series for next summer. The Town could budget funds to use to secure acts for next summer's series, and donations could be used to repay the Town for funds advanced.

The First Selectman confirmed that the Elderly Tax Relief notice will go in the quarterly newsletter regarding an October Town Meeting.

## **6. Finance Director's Report**

### **a. GASB 34**

The auditors were pleased that we were able to get all of the roads and infrastructure items in place for this year's audit, and only need to wrap up the bridges to complete the project.

### **b. YTD Budget Status**

A copy of the YTD budget vs actual was distributed, and a brief discussion was held regarding some lines that all already significantly consumed. All lines are currently meeting expectations for usage, and no issues were noted.

## **7. Liaison Reports**

Nothing to report.

## **8. Guest and Audience Comments**

None noted.

## **9. Old Business**

### **a. Middle School – status of reimbursements**

The State has not yet passed the bonding authorization to reimburse the Town for the monies previously expended, but it is anticipated the legislature will meet in September to pass the bonding measure quickly. The Town has not received its August reimbursement yet, but will hopefully receive the funds in September. The Finance Director will speak to an individual at the State regarding reimbursement for lost interest income.

### **b. Middle School – status of construction**

Construction is on schedule; the soccer fields are being seeded now, and the softball fields will be seeded in the spring. The thieves that stole the copper pipe in August have been caught, and are sitting in jail, unable to post bail. They were caught calling in a bomb threat to court the day they were scheduled to appear on other charges. The cost to replace the stolen copper pipe is covered by insurance.

## **10. New Business**

### **a. Transfer of Funds**

Discussion was held regarding the need for the transfer. It was noted that this transfer is in accordance with Public Act 228, and is the Town Clerk revenue and expense item discussed at budget time.

**Motion by Tony Shetensky to transfer \$14,640 from Undesignated Fund Balance to the Reserve for Capital Projects. Seconded by Dave Meade.**

**Vote: all in favor, motion passes.**

## **11. Other**

Discussion was held that at the next meeting there should be an agenda item to fund 80% of the cost of the summer concert series.

## **5. Adjournment**

**Motion by Tony Shetensky at 8:24 p.m. to adjourn. Second by Mr. Bennett and unanimously passed.**

Respectfully submitted,  
David Meade  
Secretary