

Minutes of an Emergency Meeting of the Board of Finance
Nov. 7, 2011 – Town Hall – convened after the
Board of Selectmen Emergency Meeting

Members present:

Justin Donnelly, Dennis Kreps, Sam Fuller, Joseph Sangiovanni, Brian Kost, Ryan Anderson, alts. P. Boyd, T. Eccles, E. Harrington

Also present: First Selectmen Frenaye, Selectmen Fitzgerald, Director of Finance Deborah Cerrato, Secretary Bobbie C Kling

Chairman Donnelly called the Emergency Meeting of the Board of Finance at approximately 7:35 p.m, Nov. 7, 2011 to consider an emergency appropriation of \$1,066,000 (not to exceed two percent of the Annual Town Budget) from the General Fund for expenses associated with the October 29-30 snow storm and power outage (under Town Charter Section 804D) as recommended by the Board of Selectmen at their Emergency Meeting at 7 p.m. For the record, a finding that an emergency state exists in Suffield by the First Selectman as of a week ago. This consideration reflects the decision to go ahead and execute a contract for the purpose of relieving the roadsides of piles of brush, fallen trees, etc to be provided by the Town of Suffield.

Mr. Kost: Is the price a fair price?

Mr. Mark Cervione, Highway Superintendent, stated that this contract, 200 page document, was not to be given out to the municipalities until 2012, but because of the disaster the State has released it. The State DOT and FEMA feels that the contract with Ashbritt, the cleaning up company, and Becks (BDR), the monitoring company, has been examined and found to be proper. The Town will have the ability to cease the cleanup operations with this company at any time.

Town Attorney Charles Alfano Jr, stated that over the past three years, the State started negotiating with a number of companies, and the State came to a decision in 2008 and executed this contract with Ashbritt. This is a mutual agreement that the State is using to do the State roads. If we go with this company and their monitoring company, they will handle all the paperwork, the FEMA filing, all clarifications, etc. and the company has a standard rate. Mr. Donnelly is comfortable with this contract. He expects the First Selectman to bring the Board of Finance up to date at the Nov. 14 regular BoF meeting.

Mr. Kreps moved that the Board of Finance authorize the expenditure up to \$1,066,000 from the Undesignated Fund Balance, for the expenditures related to the clean up from winter storm Alfred, for the purpose of meeting a public emergency threatening lives, health and property of citizens. Mr. Sangiovanni seconded. Mr. Donnelly noted for the record, that we have the full BoF members present with the three alternates also in attendance.

First Selectman Tom Frenaye noted he had met with the Director of Finance Deborah Cerrato and agreed that it would be best to set up a separate account to handle this.

Mr. Donnelly stated that he felt this was a wise thing to do. We will review at

Monday's meeting, a timeframe of setting a spending limit. The federal government has already indicated the Town will be reimbursed for 75% of the costs to the Town during a 72 hour period, and then an additional declaration is expected to extend the reimbursement to include the debris pickup being planned.

Mr. Kost stated that expenses should be paid in the order of the actual occurrence.

First Selectmen Tom Frenaye stated that he would work with the Director of Finance on a time line of what expenses occurred in the last ten days, and work out a cash flow. He will have something for the Nov. 14 meeting.

The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Bobbie C. Kling, Secretary

BOF.EMERG. MIN.NOV.7.2011