

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MAY 1, 2013**

Present: First Selectman Edward G. McAnaney, Joanne Sullivan, Eileen Moncrief, Brian Fitzgerald. Selectman Timothy Reynolds was absent. Gerald Turbet, Town Engineer was also present. First Selectman McAnaney called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

Minutes: Selectman Moncrief found errors in the minutes. Selectman Moncrief made a motion to accept the April 17, 2013 minutes of the regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen as corrected. Vote 4-0 in favor. The April 17, 2013 corrected minutes have been posted to the Town's website.

Public Comments: None

Tax Rebates:

Selectman Fitzgerald made a motion to approve the tax rebates as recommended by the Tax Collector and printed on the agenda: Cherenzia, Mark and Andrea, \$3,886.34; Bogdan, Vynar and Lyubov, \$1,701.30 ; Bogdan, Vynar and Lyubov, \$93.88; Total = \$5681.52. Vote 4-0 in favor.

Motion to transfer \$12,500 from Contingency to the Tax Rebate account

Jill Schectman, the Tax Collector sent a letter stating that the budget this year for tax rebates is \$40,000. To date they have already processed over \$59,000 in refunds. One large refund was returned to Suffield Country Club in the amount of \$21,192.49 due to a refinance error. She stated that her budget for refunds has increased dramatically this year due to refinance timing issues. The Tax Collector is requesting an additional \$12,500 be transferred from the Contingency Fund for refunds that need to be processed by the end of June. The Selectmen discussed adding more to the Tax Refund budget in order to reduce the need to take money from the Contingency Fund. Selectman Sullivan made a motion to transfer \$12,500 from Contingency to the Tax Rebate account. Vote 4-0 in favor.

Approve a Resolution to make application for STP-Urban grant program funding for Thrall Avenue Pavement Rehabilitation Project

Town Engineer, Gerry Turbet was in attendance and passed out key pages of the Grant Application. He explained that not many roads in Suffield qualify for the STP-Urban Grant. Currently Thrall Ave, Warnertown Rd, Copper Hill Rd and a portion of Bridge St would qualify. There are about 3 million dollars available for about 11 towns which gives Suffield a chance of being awarded the Grant. To qualify, the roads must be part of the federal system and must be of significant regional importance. Thrall Avenue's project cost totals \$1,143,399 as there are added mandates for the grant and are funded at 80%. Suffield's share would be \$343,399. If the Town were to undertake the project on its own, it would cost approximately \$600,000.

Selectman Moncrief moved that :

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Suffield Authorize the First Selectman, Edward G.McAnaney, to apply for funding under the STP-Urban Program and to execute any documents necessary to obtain such funding.

Vote 4-0 in favor.

Approval of Town Report.

Selectman Moncrief made a motion to approve the Town Report for the year 2011-12.
Vote 4-0 in favor.

Disposition of Fire Chief's vehicle.

First Selectman McAnaney stated that the Fire Chief's 2001 Ford Expedition has been replaced. Chief Flynn submitted a memo stating that there are electrical issues and extensive corrosion along the frame and rocker panels of the old vehicle. The First Selectman added that the vehicle is unsafe and would not feel comfortable selling it. Chief Flynn suggested that the Fire Department use the vehicle in a training exercise. Selectman Sullivan made a motion to dispose of the chief's old vehicle (2001 Ford Expedition) without sale. Vote 4-0 in favor.

Approval of Town Budget and call of Town Meeting.

The First Selectman highlighted recent changes to the Budget including the Board of Finance decision to increase the initial amount moved into to the reserve fund for capital and nonrecurring expenditures from \$1.1 million to \$1.7 million. Additionally, transferring the remaining balances from completed capital projects will add another 171,000 to the new account. The policy for administration of the reserve fund needs to be completed. Selectman Moncrief suggested a workshop session to create the policy. The current estimate for reduction in Town Aid from the Governor's budget is \$1 million. There is a slight increase in the mil rate. The Board of Finance restored the \$240,000 cut to the \$600,000 increase in the Board of Education budget. The Superintendent provided documentation to the Board of Finance on the Choice students and the current year's \$500,000 grant estimate has been increased from \$625,000 to \$850,000 in next year's budget based on additional bonus money by meeting a threshold of allowing more students.

Selectman Fitzgerald read the Legal Notice for the Town Meeting :

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF ANNUAL BUDGET MEETING 2013-2014
TOWN OF SUFFIELD

Notice is hereby given that the Annual Budget Meeting of the inhabitants of the Town of Suffield, Connecticut, qualified to vote in Town Meeting, will be held at the Auditorium

in Suffield High School, 1060 Sheldon Street, Suffield, on Wednesday, May 8, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. for the following purposes to wit:

1. To consider and act upon the report and recommendations of the Board of Finance and to make such appropriations in connection therewith as may be advisable.
2. To consider and act upon a motion to create a reserve fund for capital and nonrecurring expenditures as allowed by Connecticut General Statutes, Sec. 7-360.
3. To consider and act upon a motion authorizing the Board of Finance to print and distribute explanatory texts concerning the budget, if the budget is petitioned to referendum. Such texts may not advocate approval or disapproval of the budget and must conform to the Connecticut General Statutes, Sec. 9-369b.

Dated at Suffield, Connecticut this 1st day of May, 2013.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Edward G. McAnaney, First Selectman
Timothy Reynolds, Selectman
Joanne Sullivan, Selectman
Eileen Moncrief, Selectman
Brian Fitzgerald, Selectman

Vote 4-0 in favor.

Acceptance of Grants from Hartford Foundation for Public Giving

Selectman Moncrief made a motion to accept two separate grants administered from the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving as recommended by the Amiel P. Zak Public Service Fund. The first in the amount of \$20,425 to the Town of Suffield for irrigation and speaker systems at the High School fields and the second for the amount of \$7935 to the Town of Suffield for dugouts at Suffield's Bruce Park. Vote 4-0 in favor.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, Selectman Fitzgerald moved that the meeting adjourn. Vote 4-0 in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 8:09 p.m.

The next Selectmen's Meeting will be Wednesday, May 15, 2013.

Lisa Trase
Recording Secretary