

**EAST LYME BOARD OF FINANCE  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
Wednesday, OCTOBER 13th, 2010**

Members In Attendance: Bob Kleinhans, Chairman  
Steve Larcen, Secretary  
Steve Harney  
Raymond Hart  
Lisa Picarazzi

Also In Attendance: Dr. James Lombardo, Superintendent of Schools  
Dave Putnam, Parks & Recreation Director  
Anna Johnson, Finance Director

Absent: Steve Kelley

**A. Call Meeting to Order**

Chairman Kleinhans called this Regular Meeting of the East Lyme Board of Finance to order at 7:02 PM.

**B. Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge was observed.

**C. Delegations**

Mr. Kleinhans called for delegations.

Robert Gadbois, 358 Boston Post Road said that he had read in the newspaper yesterday that the seniors are not getting social security raises again this coming year. He then read that Obama said that the seniors would have to 'dig a little deeper' - how much deeper does he think we can dig – there is no place to dig to. He said that he hopes that when they start the new budget year reviews and they hear what the schools want and what everyone wants that they will look at the seniors and think of what they can afford.

**D. Approval of Minutes**

◆ **Wednesday, September 8, 2010 - Regular Meeting**

Mr. Kleinhans called for a motion for approval or any changes to the Board of Finance September 8, 2010 Regular Meeting Minutes.

Mr. Larcen asked that on Page 3 where he is speaking in the middle of the page that: *'in deferred capital projects'* be inserted after \$905,000.

**\*\*MOTION (1)**

Mr. Larcen moved to approve the Board of Finance Regular Meeting Minutes of September 8, 2010 as amended.

Mr. Hart seconded the motion.

Vote: 4 – 0 – 1. Motion passed.

Abstained: Ms. Picarazzi

◆ **Wednesday, September 8, 2010 – Information Session**

Mr. Kleinhans called for a motion for approval or any changes to the Board of Finance September 8, 2010 Information Session Minutes.

**\*\*MOTION (2)**

Mr. Hart moved to approve the Board of Finance Information Session Minutes of September 8, 2010 as amended.

Mr. Larcen seconded the motion.

Vote: 4 – 0 – 1. Motion passed.

Abstained: Ms. Picarazzi

**E. Reports**

◆ **First Selectman**

Mr. Kleinhans noted that Mr. Formica had informed him that he was not able to attend this evening.

◆ **Financial Report**

Ms. Johnson said that they had received her report and the other reports in their packets and that she would answer any questions that they had.

Mr. Larcen asked what accounted for the larger variance in the expenditures year to date this year compared to last year (29% v. 22%).

Ms. Johnson said that she would have to do an analysis and report back to them at the next meeting.

Mr. Larcen asked about the projected revenues which were showing at this point a \$36,000 to the positive. He asked if building fees were the reason.

Ms. Johnson said that the building fees were a part of it but that the figure is a compilation of a variety of different departments.

◆ **Board of Education Superintendent**

Dr. Lombardo said that they could see in the reports that some of their plans as reported during the budget phase are coming up positive. The \$363,239 favorable balance is due to three (3) new SPED programs that have been brought in-house rather than sending the students out. He said that there is a continuing effort to grow programs in East Lyme. Other areas contributing to the favorable balance include consolidation of an administrative position, additional raises not given, a voluntary custodial furlough day and a reduction in the cost of heating oil.

Mr. Hart asked if the number of children going into the programs is going up or down.

Dr. Lombardo said that for the short term for this year that they show a net loss however, they know that will change.

Mr. Harney asked about the facilities committee hiring out for an in-depth study on the school buildings.

Dr. Lombardo said that they have hired a company to provide them with in-depth information by December 2010 and to identify specific projects.

Mr. Kleinhans asked what type of time frame this study would provide.

Dr. Lombardo said that it would be 10 years.

Mr. Larcen asked if this plan/study dovetails with the 20/20 vision plan that the Town is doing.

Dr. Lombardo said that he thinks that it compliments it and that it will be more on the practical side with respect to roofs, driveways, parking lots and such items that they could identify.

Mr. Larcen asked if it would show them if there was the potential for any consolidation of buildings.

Dr. Lombardo said that it could possibly do that.

Mr. Larcen asked about the \$415,000 in Federal monies that they received and what they are doing with it.

Dr. Lombardo said that \$100,000 of it has been allocated so far and that the rest has been put away as they have until September of 2012 to spend it. It is good for two years. He added that they are trying to save money where they can.

Mr. Hart asked about the current status of the new boilers at the High School and if they have been switched over.

Don Meltabarger, School Business Manager said that he expects that tomorrow morning two of them will be fired up.

## **F. New Business**

### **a. Review of Parks & Recreation Special Revenue Fund**

Mr. Kleinhans said that Dave Putnam, Parks & Recreation Director was present to report to them.

Mr. Putnam said that they had requested quarterly reports regarding this fund and that he thinks that they are doing well. He explained that the negative \$40,000 is from the previous years' playground programs and that they would make that up in May of 2011 and that is typically how these programs operate. He said that they are projecting another \$78,000 which will offset what they see as a negative now. He thanked his staff and Ms. Johnson for helping with the conversion on this.

Mr. Hart asked if they will anticipate a negative each year due to the way that the fiscal year runs.

Mr. Putnam said that they could although he expects that the figure will decrease with the additional revenues.

Mr. Larcen said that he would expect that additional revenue would have additional expense associated with it.

Mr. Putnam said that here, there is very little due to the nature of it. He noted that McCook's revenues are up significantly over the 5 year period and that they had provided a breakdown on the number of visitors, areas they were from, etc and that it provided them with an interesting view of the people that visit the Town. He attributed the 10-15% increase this year to the summer weather which started early and remained perfect beach weather throughout the season.

## **G. Old Business**

### **◆ Sub-Committee Report: Financial Policies**

It was noted that the Board of Selectmen had approved this as presented.

### **◆ Review of Open Items**

Mr. Larcen asked about the prior year encumbrance report.

Ms. Johnson said that it was included in the previous months' packet and that it was in the range of \$30,000.

Mr. Larcen suggested that they have an update on the audit and the five control deficiencies and the steps that are being taken to remedy them at their next meeting.

## **H. Public Discussion**

Mr. Kleinhans called for Public Discussion.

Mike Schulz, Lovers Lane noted that the live feed was not working again. He added that he had asked at the Board of Selectmen meeting that a sign with the date be placed on the front of the table so that the people viewing would know what they were watching – he asked that they utilize the same sign here

also. He said that the handwritten one that they had used at the Board of Selectmen meeting does not work.

Ms. Johnson said that they were in the process of getting a quote on one that they could change and that could be seen.

Mr. Harney's daughter asked that they not allow people to go past the part of the gate at McCook's park that states do not pass.

### **I. Board Comments**

Mr. Kleinhans called for Board comments.

There were none.

### **J. Adjournment**

Mr. Kleinhans called for a motion to adjourn.

#### **\*\*MOTION (3)**

Ms. Picarazzi moved to adjourn this Regular Meeting of the East Lyme Board of Finance at 7:33 PM.

Mr. Hart seconded the motion.

Vote: 5 – 0 – 0. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Zmitruk,  
Recording Secretary