

**EAST LYME BOARD OF FINANCE  
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES  
Thursday, MAY 30th, 2013**

Members In Attendance: Raymond Hart, Chairman  
Steve Harney, Secretary  
Steve Carpenteri  
Lisa Picarazzi

Also In Attendance: Paul Formica, First Selectman  
Anna Johnson, Finance Director  
John McCulloch, Tax Collector

Absent: Camille Alberti, Steve Kelley

**A. Call Meeting to Order**

Chairman Hart called this Special Meeting of the East Lyme Board of Finance to order at 6:17 PM.

**B. Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge was observed.

**C. Delegations**

Mr. Hart called for delegations.  
There were none.

**D. Approval of Minutes**

▪ **Special Meeting – April 1, 2013**

Mr. Hart called for a motion for approval or any changes to the Board of Finance Special Meeting Minutes of April 1, 2013.

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

Mr. Carpenteri moved to approve the Board of Finance Special Meeting Minutes of April 1, 2013 as presented.

Ms. Picarazzi seconded the motion.

Vote: 4 – 0 – 0. Motion passed.

▪ **Regular Meeting – April 10, 2013**

Mr. Hart called for a motion for approval or any changes to the Board of Finance Regular Meeting Minutes of April 10, 2013.

Ms. Picarazzi asked that on Page 6 in the second paragraph after Motion (11) where she is speaking that the first line be corrected to read:

*Ms. Picarazzi thanked everyone for coming and for speaking and said that this is not a black or white issue.*

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

Ms. Picarazzi moved to approve the Board of Finance Regular Meeting Minutes of April 10, 2013 as amended.

Mr. Harney seconded the motion.

Vote: 4 – 0 – 0. Motion passed.

▪ **Public Hearing – April 25, 2013**

Mr. Hart called for a motion for approval or any changes to the Board of Finance Public Hearing Minutes of April 25, 2013.

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

Mr. Harney moved to approve the Board of Finance Public Hearing Minutes of April 25, 2013 as presented.

Ms. Picarazzi seconded the motion.

Vote: 4 – 0 – 0. Motion passed.

▪ **Special Meeting – April 25, 2013**

Mr. Hart called for a motion for approval or any changes to the Board of Finance Special Meeting Minutes of April 25, 2013.

**\*\*MOTION (4)**

Mr. Harney moved to approve the Board of Finance Special Meeting Minutes of April 25, 2013 as presented.

Ms. Picarazzi seconded the motion.

Vote: 4 – 0 – 0. Motion passed.

**E. Reports**

◆ **First Selectman**

Mr. Formica reported on the following:

- The Amtrak project is coming to a close. They are working on their part of the Cini Park paving and we are in the process of doing our part. On June 7, 2013 at 10 AM there will be an Opening Ceremony with ribbon cutting and people will be able to walk out on the Boardwalk then and for the afternoon. It will be open to the public starting June 8, 2013.
- He has been in Hartford many times regarding the budget with the final information to come next week.
- The insurance change to Aetna has been held up with the unions for the Board of Ed and Town employees filing grievances. The Teacher's contract carries out to September 1st before any changes can be made so they have an updated quote from Anthem if they have to go for another few months on this.
- The Regional Interconnection contracts are out and they have hired a Clerk of the Works to oversee Tighe & Bond and the contractors for/on the project. He will be paid out of the Regional Interconnection funds. This is a temporary position and will end when the work is completed.

Mr. Harney asked if the bids for the Regional Interconnection project came in under budget.

Mr. Formica explained that there are three (3) separate contracts for the project which, when combined came in approximately \$700,000 under contract which is a reflection of the times. He noted that they would also be putting in for compensation for some of Mr. Kargl's and Mr. Scheer's time spent on this project.

Ms. Picarazzi asked about Cini Park and if they have worked out how they will charge for it after it opens; and how they will monitor the entrances to the beach from the Boardwalk.

Mr. Formica said that the area will start with about 130 parking spaces and there would be no charge for parking or for walking on the Boardwalk. They will charge for the beach and see how that goes. We will start our half of the boardwalk in late August to early September and the Hole in the Wall beach area will be closed due to the heavy equipment necessary in that area to do the boardwalk.

Ms. Picarazzi asked if they plan on having Town employees at access points to the beach from the Boardwalk.

Mr. Formica said that they would use logic with how people are attired initially.

Ms. Picarazzi asked the planned duration of the repairs for our portion of the boardwalk.  
Mr. Formica said that would be dependent upon the elements however they are hoping for it to be a few months or so. They plan on going out to bid soon as they have the money from the lawsuit; storms, etc.

Ms. Picarazzi asked what 'storm year' it would be built for.

Mr. Formica said that the Amtrak portion is built for the 100 year storm and we expect that our portion will be for the 75 year storm.

Mr. Hart asked about a bathroom in Cini Park and the grant they had applied for.

Mr. Formica said that they have not decided yet on the release of those dollars for the grant however there are also some other options that can be considered.

- He lastly reported that they were elected by the State as the #1 fan favored Town in the State and as a result we will get some free advertising from the State.

#### ◆ **Finance Director**

Ms. Johnson noted that they had been sent the reports and asked if they had any questions.

Mr. Hart asked about the breakdown for the #20,100 for road construction.

Ms. Johnson said that she would have to get back to them with that information.

Ms. Johnson noted that they have received a 1.21% rate and that they have also received work from FEMA that their CAT A & B submissions have been approved for payment. The amount approved is \$263,000; \$230,000 is actually completed with the only outstanding item being the \$30,000 for the mulch pile at Vet's Field. They hope to get that back before the fiscal year end. The FEMA reimbursement is 75%.

Mr. Hart asked if that is for both storms.

Ms. Johnson said yes and added that they are just getting the blizzard submissions ready now.

## **F. New Business**

### **a. Discussion/Action Tax Collection Suspense List 1999-2011 in the amount of \$39,043.10**

John McCulloch, Tax Collector explained that this total - \$39,043.10 are bills that they have been chasing for many years and are deemed at this time as not being collectible. However; people do return to the State and these bills do get collected – the only difference is that they will not be actively pursuing them. He noted that several of them are paid each year when people do return to the State or try to register a vehicle and have an outstanding bill.

Mr. Hart asked Mr. McCulloch what the collection rate is.

Mr. McCulloch said that they are currently at 98.4%.

#### **\*\*MOTION (5)**

Mr. Harney moved to accept the Tax Collection Suspense List for 1999-2011 in the amount of \$39,043.10.

Ms. Picarazzi seconded the motion.

Vote: 4 – 0 – 0. Motion passed.

### **b. Discussion/Action – Set Mill Rate for the 2012-2013 Budget**

Mr. Hart said that they are looking at a .57 mill increase in the budget which would set the mill rate at 23.349.

Mr. Formica said that they are currently \$406,000 down in revenues from the State this year and while he hopes that they will still receive some of it, it is best to set this mill rate.

**\*\*MOTON (6)**

Mr. Carpenteri moved to set the mill rate for the 2013-2014 fiscal year at 23.349 mills.  
Ms. Picarazzi seconded the motion.

Mr. Hart called for discussion or a vote on the motion.  
Vote: 4 – 0 – 0. Motion passed.

**G. Old Business**

▪ **Corrective Action Plan – 6/30/2012 Audit**

Ms. Johnson said that she has set up an index of the policies that were listed in the audit and is working on them. So far, she said that she has four (4) outstanding departments for the policies and procedures manual and she will work on having this done for the end of this fiscal year.

Mr. Formica said that Ms. Fecteau will be working on this with Ms. Johnson.

Ms. Picarazzi asked if they could have a list of the policies and the update.  
Mr. Formica said that Ms. Johnson will provide them with that at their next meeting.

**H. Public Discussion**

Mr. Hart called for Public Discussion.  
There was none.

**I. Board Comments**

Mr. Hart called for any comments from the Board.

Mr. Hart said that he wanted to thank everyone for all of their hard work on the budget and that he thinks that the half mill increase is reasonable in light of the times.

**J. Adjournment**

Mr. Hart called for a motion to adjourn.

**\*\*MOTION (7)**

Ms. Picarazzi moved to adjourn this Special Meeting of the East Lyme Board of Finance at 6:50 PM.  
Mr. Harney seconded the motion.  
Vote: 4 – 0 – 0. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Zmitruk,  
Recording Secretary