

**BOARD OF FINANCE  
REGULAR MEETING – October 21, 2014  
MEETING ROOM B  
WILTON TOWN HALL**

**PRESENT:** Warren Serenbetz, Al Alper, Jeff Rutishauser, Richard Creeth,

**ABSENT:** Lynne Vanderslice, John Kalamarides

**ALSO PRESENT:** Sandy Dennies, Bill Brennan, Barry Bogle

**Call to Order:**

Warren Serenbetz called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

**Approval of Minutes:**

Motion to approve the September 16, 2014 Minutes as amended was made, seconded and carried.

**Lead Poisoning Prevention Financial Assistance Grant**

Health Director, Barry Bogle explained that they were applying for a \$2,893.00 grant for lead poisoning. State code determines how the grant is spent. An employee will be trained to do lead inspections and risk assessments at no cost to the Town. Motion by Mr. Alper to approve the grant, seconded by Mr. Creeth and carried unanimously.

**Chronic Disease and Self-Management Program Funding**

This is a new program that Mr. Bogle said replaced an “Unintentional Falls” program grant, which he felt would have a greater benefit to more citizens. The target populations are people with diseases such as diabetes, asthma and other chronic illnesses. The amount of the grant is \$3,090.00 and they have contracted the VNA to oversee the program directed by the Town Health Dept. There will be six sessions for those with chronic diseases which will be implemented by the VNA. Motion by Mr. Creeth to approve the grant, seconded by Mr. Alper and carried unanimously.

**Status Report**

Ms. Dennies reviewed the Status report (which is attached). Tax collections are in line. Most intergovernmental revenues don't happen until the second half of the year. They are taking in conveyance tax from home sales and expenditures show no great variation mid-year. She has no issue with the budget and the auditors are in their second week of audit.

### **Budget Guidance Discussion**

First Selectman Bill Brennan gave a brief presentation to the Board showing a Budget Survey that covered most Towns/Cities in the County. (A copy of the presentation is attached herewith). The survey shows a comparison of mill rates in Southwestern CT for FY15 as well as town budgets, school budgets and mill rate increases for the year - as well as the FY 15 budget increases year-over-year. He showed that Wilton fell right in the middle.

After lengthy discussions surrounding the FY 16 budget and the 1.75% budget guideline took place, Mr. Serenbetz made a motion that they go forward with the 1.75% guidance with the understanding that they will demonstrate the same flexibility in the fiscal year 16 budget that they have demonstrated over the past two budget processes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Alper and carried.

### **Committee Reports**

Mr. Rutishauser gave a report on the Board of Ed Planning Subcommittee saying that at the last meeting they had a substantive discussion on the different levels of budget. They understood and seemed to agree with the 1.75% guideline. They want to recommit to doing 3 year budget projections.

Mr. Creeth reported on the Comstock Building Committee. The Committee is now at the point where they are finalizing what's in and what should be eliminated from the design. The bids will be going out for construction the end of this year. Construction should start the end of the first quarter of next year.

### **Other Business**

Mr. Rutishauser said that now that the Miller Driscoll building project had passed the referendum, he hoped that the Miller Driscoll Building Committee would be cautious about design and construction costs and not choose unnecessary amenities that were costly simply for aesthetics. He gave two examples; flat roofs – which he explained the State of Connecticut would not reimburse the Town for because they were so prone to leaking and skylights which also have the same problem. Mr. Brennan reinforced Mr. Rutishauser's sentiments.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:58 PM.

Respectively submitted,

Mariana Corrado  
(from video recording)