Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance

Aldermanic President John Anglace called the budget workshop of the Board of Aldermen to order at 7:30 p.m. All those present rose and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

Board of Aldermen:
- Alderman John F. Anglace, Jr., President – present
- Alderman Lynne Farrell – present
- Alderman John “Jack” Finn – present
- Alderman Stanley Kudej – present
- Alderman Noreen McGorty – present
- Alderman Eric McPherson – present
- Alderman Anthony Simonetti – present
- Alderman John P. Papa -- present

Also in attendance:

- Paul Hiller, Finance Director
- Judson Crawford, Board of A&T Member
- Carlos Chang, Captain of Pine Rock Fire Company, No. 4
- Justin Sabatino, Commissioner of Pine Rock Fire Company, No. 4
- Bob Araujo, President of Fire Company 5
- Bruce Kosowsky, Member of White Hills Fire Company, No. 5

This Board of Aldermen Budget Workshop was a continuation of what was discussed in the prior workshop. Before the members of the fire companies gave their presentations on their company allowances, Alderman Anglace made a brief introduction to identify the remarks on the ordinance for Fire Company Allowance. He mentioned the letter that was composed from the Board of Fire Commissioners on January 10, 2013 to the Board of Aldermen, requesting the ordinance of the Fire Company Allowance be raised to $10,000. In the review, they have found the following: 2012/2013 budget backup data showed a request of $10,000, per fire company; $40,000 for the line item. It is supported by the following statement: “the annual payment to all companies per City Ordinance to supplement fire company operations $10,000 each company, including insurance costs for all fire companies.” There is a need to make an amendment to this ordinance because, due to the lack of proof and justification of monies spent. Aldermen
Anglace continued to mention that the Board has been told many times that the allowance is used in a large part as supplemental compensation for fire service volunteers who suffer injury and loss from their regular employment, and have been assured that they are getting a good deal on this insurance; but the Board of Aldermen appear to now be spending substantial taxpayer money, and the fiduciary role of the Board of Aldermen is required to look at the details of what is being purchased. Aldermen Anglace made a suggestion for the Board of Finance Committee to meet with the Board of Fire Commissioners to discuss the request in this memo, in order to be in a better position to understand the needs, and to act on their request. In addition, in order for the Board of Aldermen to change the current ordinance for the Fire Company Allowance, fire companies shall provide written documentation and explanation of what they are using the money for. Representatives from the respective fire companies, Pine Rock Fire Company and the White Hills, each made a presentation of their budget breakdowns. (Company Allowance Reports from Pine Rock and White Hills Fire Companies are attached below.)

Also, the Board of Aldermen reviewed the recommended changes to the Mayor’s Budget from the Board of Apportionment and Taxation. There were some changes to the following spreadsheet that was provided to the board members. In the Fire Marshal Department, in the Part Time Account, the Board of Aldermen agreed to increase of $5,814; Fire Department, in the Part Time Account, the Board of Aldermen agreed to decrease of $$2,600; Fire Department, Physical Exams Account, a decrease of $9,000; Police Department Accounts: Non-Sworn Officers: an increase of $20,000; Library Part Account: a decrease of $6,867; Miscellaneous Accounts: Youth Programs: an increase of $24,189; Fireworks Display: an increase of $500; Open Space Ordinance: an increase of $8,366; Outside Services Accounts: The Umbrella: a decrease of $5,000; Christian Counseling: an increase of $1,000; Administrative Office Department, Public Communications Account: an increase of $10,000; Legislative, Netbook Training Account: an increase of $2,000.
SHELTON VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY NO. 4

Dear Board of Aldermen:

Enclosed you will find the 2012 tax return, 2012 expenditures and 2013 proposed budget for Fire Company 4 in order to assist the Board’s efforts in the budgeting process for the overall Fire Company’s allowance (reference Ordinance Sec. 4-29). In addition, we are respectfully requesting the Board revise Ordinance Sec. 4-29 to reflect the 2012-2013 approved Fire Company allowance. The Fire Company would like to point out that the financial provision provided by the City supports Company 4’s ability to provide the residents and businesses in Shelton with an invaluable service of protecting life and property they both expect and require.

Company 4’s historical expenditures demonstrate that 100% of the provision is utilized to support the City’s mission of providing superior fire protection. Please reference the enclosures for a detailed list of our current and historical expenses.

Company 4 is dedicated to utilizing the allowance in the most effective manner. Below I have highlighted a few significant improvements/efforts Company 4 has made:

- Purchased two marine units (required to protect the Sunnyside Boat Ramp and the lower Housatonic River traffic)
- Purchased and erected a storage building (to support the City’s mission of placing aerial devices at each fire company)
- Purchase awards to recognize outstanding firefighting and encourage continued volunteer efforts.
- Purchase indemnification instruments to protect the volunteer firefighters of Company 4 against losses not covered by the City of Shelton (e.g., bodily injury, loss of income, loss of life and property and litigation expenses).
- Purchase necessary rescue equipment (Hurst tool “jaws of life”, rescue jacks and various hand tools).
- Purchase uniforms required for firefighting and public appearances.

In closing, Company 4 appreciates the countless hours that the Board of Aldermen provides to the City of Shelton. As residents and public servants, we are aware of the fiscal constraints placed upon the City. Similarly, our volunteer firefighters dedicate countless hours to serve the public in addition to personal expenditures related to use of our personal vehicles and other incidental expenses associated with our fire protection efforts. Company 4 has appointed Commissioner, Justin Sabatino, as the point of contact to should the Board have any questions or comments concerning this request. We respectfully ask that you give careful consideration to this matter.

Sincerely,

Captain Chang
WHITE HILLS VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY 5

COMPANY ALLOWANCE REPORT

DATED: 5/14/13

DEPOSITED: 8/20/2010  CHECKING ACCOUNT  $ 8000.00

DEPOSITED: 10/08/2011  CHECKING ACCOUNT  $ 8000.00

DEPOSITED: 9/15/2012  CHECKING ACCOUNT  $ 8000.00

EXPENSES:

DATED: 8/21/2010

COMPANY INSURANCE CUSTOMER # C36377, INVOICE # 977208, CHECK NUMBER 4315  $ 6063.00

DATED: 9/17/2011

COMPANY INSURANCE CUSTOMER # C36377, INVOICE # 105939, CHECK NUMBER 4380  $ 6062.00

DATED: 9/15/2012

COMPANY INSURANCE CUSTOMER # C36377, INVOICE # PB 15356, CHECK NUMBER 4451  $ 6064.00
EXPENSES:

COMPANY EQUIPMENT:

DATED: 10/02/2010

PORTABLE RADIOS FOR OFFICERS QUANTITY THREE (3)
CHECK # 4319 $ 3,120.09

STRAPS FOR PORTABLE RADIOS $ 90.46
DATED: 1/1/2012

175 HYDRANT MARKERS
CHECK # 4401 $ 2923.75
DATED: 2/2/2013

ARGUS THERMAL IMAGE CAMERA
CHECK # 4467 $ 6925.00

SUMMARY:

CITY ALLOWANCE TOTAL THREE BUDGET YEARS
$24000.00

COMPANY PAID OUT INSURANCE
$18189.00

COMPANY PAID OUT EQUIPMENT
$13059.30

TOTAL PAID OUT: $31248.30

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A tape is on file in the Town Clerk’s Office.

The meeting adjourned at 9:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brittany Gannon,
Board of Aldermen

DATE APPROVED: ______________
BY:_________________________________________

Mark A. Lauretti
Mayor, City of Shelton