



**Board of Aldermen
Shelton, Connecticut
FINANCE COMMITTEE – August 26, 2004**

Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance

Alderman Stanley Kudej, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. All those present rose and pledged allegiance to the flag.

Roll Call - Finance Committee

Alderman Stanley Kudej, Chairman, present
Aldermanic President John F. Anglace, Jr. - present
Alderman Nancy Minotti - present

Mayor Mark A. Lauretti
Alderman John Finn

Public Session

Alderman Kudej asked if any member of the public wished to address the Finance Committee. Being none, he declared the public session closed.

Add-Ons

Alderman Anglace MOVED to add to the agenda as Item 9 – Police Department Radio System Improvements; SECONDED by Alderman Minotti. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 3-0.

1. Approval of Minutes

Alderman Anglace MOVED to recommend to the full Board to waive the reading and approve the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting of July 22, 2004; SECONDED by Alderman Minotti. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 3-0.

2. Special Tax District for Condominiums

Gloria Kovac, the Assessor, explained the first thing she researched was the State Statutes in terms of anything addressing special tax districts. The Statutes leave it open and the municipality can do whatever it deems necessary – a municipal ordinance or approval of the Board of Aldermen. She cited Sections 7-324, 7-328 and 7-339 m and n. She explained that she called about a dozen municipalities and discussed their arrangements as regarding condominiums.

Alderman Anglace asked that Ms. Kovac contact the City of Stamford as well, and get back to him.

The Aldermen discussed the various City services that the condominiums have, and do not have.

Alderman Anglace noted that the three main points of a special tax district for condominiums are, what are the benefits to the City, to the Condominium Association and to the owner of the condominium. What is involved from the City's point of view, or, what are we giving up to do this?

Ms. Kovac concluded that the laws that exist are enabling legislation that allows the municipality to call its own shots.

3. August Statutory Refunds

Alderman Anglace MOVED to recommend to the full Board that the report of the Tax Collector relative to the refund of taxes for a total amount of \$13,285.44 be approved and that the Finance Director be directed to make payments in accordance with the Certified List received from the Tax Collector. Funds to come from the Statutory Refunds account #001-0000-311.13.00; SECONDED by Alderman Minotti. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 3-0.

4. Electrical Work – Echo Hose Firehouse

Alderman Anglace explained that this matter was brought to the Chairman of the Board of Fire Commissioners, and the Finance Committee hasn't received a reply from him on this. So until that occurs, we will hold it in abeyance.

Commissioner Kosowsky was present to address the Finance Committee.

Alderman Anglace explained to Commissioner Kosowsky that this was not done according to proper procedure. The Board of Aldermen paid the bill, but the Finance Committee went to the Chairman of the Board of Fire Commissioners and asked him to take it up with the Commissioners and review it and make sure they understand the proper procedure and address for the future. The Finance Committee just wanted an acknowledgement that it has been reviewed and is understood, and wanted to be sure the Board of Fire Commissioners has addressed it.

Commissioner Kosowsky assured the Committee that it has been addressed, letters have been written to each Commissioner and all are fully aware of the procedures regarding purchase orders and finance department issues.

Alderman Anglace asked that the Board of Fire Commissioners send a note to that effect to the Chairman of the Finance Committee, Alderman Stan Kudej.

5. 2004 Fence Viewer Salary

Alderman Kudej had discussion prior to the meeting with Mr. Crawford of the Board of A & T and he was satisfied at this time.

6. White Hills Firehouse – Floor Drains

Alderman Anglace MOVED to recommend to the full Board of Aldermen to approve the purchase of a 1,000 gallon concrete holding tank to store wastewater; and FURTHER, MOVED to add this to the Capital Improvements Fund with funding in the amount not-to-exceed (NTE) \$1,200 to come from LOCIP. SECONDED by Alderman Minotti.

Mayor Laretti asked if that is the price that is recommended from the City Engineer.

Alderman Anglace replied, yes. Mr. Kulacz explained that there are two tank types – one off the road that does not support truck traffic at \$655; another in the road that supports truck traffic at \$1,200.

A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 3-0.

7. State of Connecticut – East Village Road Easements – File No.126-160-8

Alderman Anglace MOVED to recommend to the full Board of Aldermen to accept the offer by the State of Connecticut of \$29,500 for the acquisition of 7,798 sq. ft. of land and all easements and rights as depicted on said maps dated January 31, 2004. SECONDED by Alderman Minotti.

The committee reviewed the maps. 7,798 sf.

Alderman Finn would like the Board to put money aside for trees that don't survive.

Mayor Lauretti stated that when the work is done, we will try to relocate the trees. He asked that Alderman Finn remind him when the time comes.

Alderman Finn also noted that a fire hydrant will need to be moved to the Lagana Lane side of the road from the French's Farm side of the road. He will follow up on both items with the City Engineer.

A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 3-0.

8. Professional Services

Alderman Anglace MOVED to recommend to the full Board of Aldermen to approve the list of Professional Services :

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|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Legal & library books | Appraisals |
| Accountants | Title services |
| Physicians | Attorneys |
| Engineers | Drug testing services |
| Architects | Consultants |
| Surveyors | Title insurance companies |
| Auditors | Training providers |
| Recruitment testing | Professional labor services |
| Municipal software providers | |

SECONDED by Alderman Minotti. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 3-0.

9. Police Department Radio System Improvements

Alderman Anglace MOVED, per the recommendation of the Finance Committee, to approve a contract with Marcus Communications and appropriate \$23,000 with funding to come from LOCIP, for the Police Department Radio System Improvements as detailed on RFP #24-05 attached; and

FURTHER, MOVED to authorize Mayor Mark A. Lauretti to sign any necessary documents and add the Police Department Radio System Improvements to the Capital Improvements Account.

SECONDED by Alderman Kudej. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 3-0.

There are four accepted locations where we have repeaters and antennas to do the transmitting for the radio system.

Alderman Finn asked if the EMS and Fire Department will be able to piggyback on this radio system.

Mayor Lauretti noted that he has discussed this with all three entities, and that it would be ridiculous to have three separate communications systems. He would like to see all of them going to the same place. They all should have something in common in terms of communications. The Police Department has received a \$500,000 grant to upgrade their entire system. We should contribute to get EMS on board on that system.

The Police Department has a higher frequency. The Fire Department and EMS are not working together on this.

Alderman Anglace recommended that the Technology Committee and the Tower Committee be included in the planning for this project. He also feels a coordinator is needed - there are other resources that can help them pull this together.

Adjournment

At approximately 7:05 p.m., Alderman Kudej MOVED to adjourn; SECONDED by Alderman Minotti. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 3-0.

AUGUST 26, 2004

BOARD OF ALDERMEN
FINANCE COMMITTEE

PAGE 6 of 6

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia M. Regan
Clerk, Board of Aldermen