

The Board of Finance held a regular meeting on **October 15, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.** in the **Bellingham Auditorium at Town Hall, 979 Main Street, Willimantic, CT 06226**

Members Attending: Lynne Ide, Anita Sebestyen, Thomas White, Tyler Griffin, and Nectalis Martinez

1. Call to Order

Chairman Lynne Ide called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

2. Public Comment

A taxpayer commented he is in favor of the \$10,000 appropriation to help homeless people.

Henry Crane commented on the appropriation of \$10,000 and supports it for the specific purpose of helping people who are going to be homeless or who are already homeless.

Upon a motion by Thomas White seconded by Tyler Griffin to move agenda items 7 and 9.

The motion passes unanimously.

3. Board of Finance Comment

Anita Sebestyen commented on the Charter questions that will be on the November ballot. She would like the Town Manager and Mayor to get something published in the Chronicle to let people know about the questions on the ballot.

4. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Upon a motion by Tyler Griffin, seconded by Nectalis Martinez to approve the minutes from September 17, 2014

The motion passed unanimously.

Upon a motion by Tyler Griffin, seconded by Nectalis Martinez to approve the minutes from September 23, 2014.

The motion passed with Anita Sebestyen abstaining.

5. Chair's Report

There was no Chair's Report

6. Presentation and Special Reports

There were no presentations or special reports.

7. Discussion and possible action to approve an appropriation of \$400,000 of State and Federal CDBG grant funds to rehabilitate substandard private housing in Windham as recommended by the Town Council for a Town Meeting on October 21, 2014

Upon a motion by Tyler Griffin, seconded by Anita Sebestyen

RE: Small Cities Grant #SC1416301 Appropriation in the amount of \$400,000.00 for Housing Rehabilitation Program 5

RESOLVED, that the Board of Finance of the Town of Windham (the “Town”), on recommendation from the Town Council, approves and recommends to the electors and all others entitled to vote at town meetings of the Town that the sum of \$400,000.00 be appropriated for the 2014 Small Cities grant for Housing Rehabilitation for the cost to rehab homes that are in need of repairs such as life safety hazards, exterior integrity, roof/siding, structural, interior plumbing, electrical and heating systems.

The motion passed unanimously.

8. Controller’s Report

Tom Pesce presented the Controller’s report.

Tax bills will be going out in November with a January 1, 2015 due date.

An employee from the finance department retired this week.

The status of the audit is they have been in for their initial testing and are scheduled to come back on November 1, 2014.

Year to date budget reports for the Town and Willimantic Service District were presented to the Board.

Finance Director Christian Johnson will be attending the next meeting to give the Board and update on the audit and pensions.

9. Discussion and possible action on any General Government 2013-2014 transfer requests

Upon a motion by Thomas White, seconded by Anita Sebestyen to transfer \$10,000.00 from 10598000-59980 Town Contingency to 10544010-58605 General Assistance to fund Diversion Homelessness and the Board of Finance will get a report on the program before the next budget.

The motion passed unanimously.

Mary Demarco commented Diversion Homelessness to address people and/or families that are on the verge of being homeless. The idea is to keep Windham residents away from shelters and in a more permanent home.

Thomas White questioned if there is a 90 day resident requirement and will people from other Towns be receiving this funding.

The funds are only for Windham residents. Depending on what a person’s needs are, there are other resources to help people who are and who are not a Windham resident.

As of September 15, 2014, homeless persons and or families have to go through the 211 system and are assigned a case worker to assist in completing paperwork.

Lynne Ide questioned how this is different from the homeless intervention fund. The Homeless Intervention fund is for people that already have an apartment and there is a \$250.00 max. Diversion has a \$500.00 max and is to help keep people out of shelters.

10. Discussion and possible action on any Willimantic Service District 2013-2014 transfer requests

There were no transfer requests.

11. Old business

There was no old business.

12. New business

Upon a motion by Anita Sebestyen, seconded by Tyler Griffin, the Board of Finance strongly suggest the Town Manager, Mayor, and Town Council work with the Chronicle to get the word out about Town Charter questions on the November ballot.

The motion passed unanimously.

13. Future agenda items

Pension Plans
Health Insurance Plan

14. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

15. Adjournment

Upon a motion by Tyler Griffin, seconded by Anita Sebestyen the meeting was adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

Attest: _____
Thomas Pesce