

**REVISED
BOARD OF FINANCE
MINUTES
Special Town Council and Board of Finance Meeting
July 12, 2012**

CALL TO ORDER

Town Council Chairman Carl Massaro called the Special Town Council and Board of Finance meeting to order at 6:14 p.m. at the Town Hall, Trumbull, Connecticut. Chairman Hammers noted that the Board of Finance had a quorum. All those present joined in a moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board of Finance Members present and absent were as follows:

PRESENT

Chairman, Elaine Hammers
Andrew Palo
Paul Lavoie
Dave Rutigliano
Susan LaFrance, Alternate
Cindy Penkoff, Alternate
Stephen Lupien (6:30 arrival)

ABSENT

Tom Tesoro
Vincent DeGennaro, Alternate

Also present: Maria Pires, Finance Director; Timothy M. Herbst, First Selectman; Daniel Nelson, Chief of Staff; Amy DeZenko, Administrative Assistant to First Selectman Herbst.

Town Council Members present and absent were as follows:

PRESENT

Suzanne S. Testani	Michael J. London	James F. Meisner
Debra A. Lamberti	Jeff S. Jenkins	Carl A. Massaro, Jr.
Jane Deyoe	Chadwick Ciocci	Mark LeClair
Kristy Waizenegger	Thomas Whitmoyer	Tony J. Scinto
Martha A. Jankovic-Mark	Jeffrey Donofrio	Fred Palmieri, Jr.
Ann Marie Evangelista		

ABSENT

Vicki Tesoro
James Blose
John A. DeVecchio, Jr
David R. Pia
Gregg Basbagill

Mr. Lavoie moved, seconded by Mr. Rutigliano, to transfer \$60,000 from the Fund Balance to 01080000-522205 Public Events Program Expenses for the Annual Town Concert.

First Selectman Herbst addressed the joint meeting of the Town Council and the Board of Finance, requesting an appropriation in the amount of \$60,000 to be used as seed money to set up a special agency account, along with the \$45,000 already realized, for the Town Concert. In addition, he requested that the \$12,000 in the Trumbull Day account be included.

He went on to add that they had sought out promoters to prepare costs associated with the event. He wants to be clear and candid. The costs shown here are real; he wants everyone to know where the funds are going and not wonder. There are risk factors involved, such as the weather, which we cannot control.

Rather than having Trumbull Day and the concert, he said that he wants to incorporate all the “good” stuff into one memorable event rather than spreading it out.

He went on to add the following:

- A rain date might be a possibility; some artists can do it, others cannot.
- We would need to hire ushers to handle the crowd; volunteers are a possibility, however, it may not be easy for them to handle crowds, etc.
- We would be in charge of selling the beer and wine, since the Rotary no longer wants to be involved. This is a source of income for the Town.
- He is asking the Town Council and Board of Finance to make a policy decision—should the town invest in the town.
- Set-up is not included in the costs; however, this is handled by the Parks department.
- We need seed money this year to insure that we can cover all costs. This is not to say we will need to use the funds; however, during the past administration in 2009 a loss was incurred and rather than seek an appropriation from the Board of Finance to repay a loan, the Town provided documentation allowing the donor to take it as a charitable contribution.
- He wants to plan for September; in the past, summer concerts have been subjected to bad weather—the risk seems to diminish in September.
- Maria Pires will contact a broker to see if we can have insurance coverage in case the concert must be cancelled.
- The food vendors will pay a \$350 fee.
- The fees for lawn seating are going to increase; however, the regular seat fees are not.

Mr. Palo indicated that he has philosophical issue using the General Fund for a bridge loan of \$60,000 for the concert. He feels that the funds in the Trumbull Day Special Agency account should be combined with those in the Concert Special Agency Account and then properly budget for it next year. Mr. Palo feels that we should wait until we have the funds in the account before having the concert.

Mrs. Penkoff indicated that any loss incurred by having a concert would become the responsibility of the residents, putting their tax dollars at risk. She went on to suggest that perhaps the Town should not fund the concert; that it might be better if we rent out the space and let someone else hold the concert.

First Selectman Herbst confirmed for Chairwoman Hammers that revenue could be raised with the sale of alcohol and charging a parking fee. She noted that the lawn seating ticket had been raised to \$35 and questioned why the chair price remained at \$45. First Selectman Herbst indicated that the promoters felt ticket sales might be compromised if the price were to exceed \$45.

Mr. Rutigliano recused himself from voting due to a conflict of interest. The Chairman indicated that Mrs. LaFrance would vote in his place, and Mrs. Penkoff would vote in Mr. Tesoro's place.

Vote: 0-6 motion fails

The meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Phyllis C. Collier
Board of Finance Clerk