

**Board of Finance Meeting  
October 24, 2006**

A regular meeting of the Board of Finance was held on Tuesday, October 24, 2006 at 6:30 p.m. in the City Hall, Council Chambers, 1<sup>st</sup> floor. The following Commissioners were in attendance: Chairman Richard Miecznikowski, Mayor William T. Stortz, Vice Chairman Roald Erling, Commissioners Robert J. Dunlap, Ronald Messier, John Smith, and Delores Capers, Donald Soucy and Mark Peterson.

October 17, 2006

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The regular Board of Finance Meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 24, 2006 at 6:30 pm in City Council Chambers.

Agenda

1. Chairman Miecznikowski to call the meeting to order.
2. Public Participation:
3. Consent Agenda:
  - a. Approval of the minutes from the Regular Board of Finance Meeting- September 26, 2006
  - b. Police Department:  
Transfer of \$6,500 within the Police Department's Operating Budget
  - c. Department of Aging:  
Additional appropriation totaling \$1,000 funded by a donation
  - d. Board of Education:
    1. Appropriations totaling \$25,000 within the Special Grants & Donations Fund funded by a donations
    2. Appropriations totaling \$2,113,975 within the Special Educational Grant Fund funded by grant revenue
4. Committee Reports:  
Insurance Committee- September 22, 2006
5. Public Works:
  - a. Additional appropriation of \$3,917 funded by contributions and reprogram remaining appropriation of \$69,343
  - b. Transfer from the General Fund Contingency of \$380,000 to the Capital Non Recurring Fund to repair damages at the Bristol landfill
6. New Business:
7. Old Business:
  - a. Update on Local Bidding Preference
  - b. Monthly Update on General Fund
  - c. Monthly Update on Centre Mall
8. Any other matter to come before said meeting.
9. Adjournment.

October 24, 2006

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**PER ORDER OF THE CHAIRMAN**

**Richard Miecznikowski**

**Glenn S. Klocko**

**Board of Finance Clerk**

1. **Chairman Miecznikowski to call the meeting to order.**

Chairman Miecznikowski called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

2. **Public Participation:**

Trish Weber of Pinehurst Road received a flyer from the Robert's Property urging her to attend this meeting and she wanted to know where the Board of Finance stood on the development of the Robert's Property. Chairman Miecznikowski stated at this point the project is not favored and will be discussed in the next budget season starting in January. Ms. Weber questioned if the project will not be moving forward because it has not received City funding. Chairman Miecznikowski stated unless the Committee came up with funding from other sources and received approval from this Board it would not be moving forward. Ms. Weber stated the people in the Chippens Hill neighborhood were not aware of the size of the facility proposed for the area and requested more communication from the City regarding the development. Councilwoman Zoppo explained extensive community outreach has been done about the property and will continue. The delay of funding has allowed additional time for the Robert's Property Committee to meet with the various groups involved in the project including the neighbors. Over the past five - six years a list has been compiled of approximately 120 names who have contributed or requested information.

Ralph Milano of 320 Perkins Streets voiced his opinion opposing the project. He stated he did not feel this was appropriate for the neighborhood. Anyone who attended the Bristol Central versus Southington football game a few weeks ago, knows the traffic and noise that goes along with these activities. It is not right for the neighborhood. It seems the Board of Finance, well some of them, are the only people looking out for the tax dollars, with the amount of spending going on in Bristol this is definitely not right.

Chairman Miecznikowski thanked the public for coming and sharing their concerns. Personally he feels the Board would like to see the committee meet with the neighbors and resolve any issues and then turn the project over to the Parks Department and let them decide where to focus the funds, either Rockwell Park, Page Park or any other park.

3. **Consent Agenda:**

- a. **Approval of the minutes from the Regular Board of Finance Meeting-  
September 26, 2006**
- b. **Police Department:  
Transfer of \$6,500 within the Police Department's Operating Budget**
- c. **Department of Aging:**

**Additional appropriation totaling \$1,000 funded by a donation**

**d. Board of Education:**

- 1. Appropriations totaling \$25,000 within the Special Grants & Donations Fund funded by a donations**
- 2. Appropriations totaling \$2,113,975 within the Special Educational Grant Fund funded by grant revenue**

Commissioner Smith made a motion seconded by Mayor Stortz.

“To approve the consent agenda and to recommend approval of this action to a Joint Meeting of the City Council and Board of Finance.”

Following a voice vote in which there was no opposition, the Chairman declared the motion carried.

**4. Committee Reports:**

**Insurance Committee- September 22, 2006**

Commissioner Messier made a motion seconded by Commissioner Erling.

“To accept the Insurance Committee report as presented by Chairman John Smith from the September 22nd meeting and place it on file.”

Following a voice vote in which there was no opposition, the Chairman declared the motion carried.

Insurance Committee Chairman John Smith summarized the meeting for the Board. On September 22<sup>nd</sup> the committee discussed the Workers Compensation program, liability insurance and voluntary benefits.

**5. Public Works:**

- a. Additional appropriation of \$3,917 funded by contributions and reprogram remaining appropriation of \$69,343**

Commissioner Capers made a motion seconded by Commissioner Dunlap.

“To make an additional appropriation of \$3,917 within the Equipment Building and Sinking Fund funded by a contribution and reprogram the remaining appropriation of \$69,343 to purchase barrels and to recommend approval of this action to a Joint Meeting of the City Council and Board of Finance.”

Following a voice vote in which there was no opposition, the Chairman declared the motion carried.

- b. Transfer from the General Fund Contingency of \$380,000 to the Capital Non Recurring Fund to repair damages at the Bristol landfill**

Mayor Stortz made a motion seconded by Commissioner Messier.

“To transfer \$380,000 to Capital Non Recurring Fund from the General Fund Contingency Account to repair damages to the landfill and to recommend approval of this action to a Joint Meeting of the City Council and Board of Finance.”

Public Works Director Walter Veselka explained the repairs are to the slope of the landfill damaged in the October rains last year. The project has been accepted by FEMA as a project. Late Spring a rough estimate was done on the repairs needed by FEMA, which has since gone up. The City has submitted for additional reimbursement based on the new estimate. This type of project normally requires the City to do the work and then submit for reimbursement, but in this case the City will be receiving approximately \$153,753 based on the first estimate of damages within the next few weeks. This is at a rate of 75% grant monies and 25% City match. The total appropriation of \$380,000 is needed which a portion will be reimbursed by FEMA. Commissioners expressed their concerns because the landfill was built specifically to DEP standards and has failed due to the weather. There is no guarantee this won't happen again. Commissioner Dunlap requested when we are reimbursed from FEMA the money is used to replenish the Contingency Account.

Following a voice vote in which there was no opposition, the Chairman declared the motion carried.

**6. New Business:**

None.

**7. Old Business:**

**a. Update on Local Bidding Preference**

Commissioner Erling made a motion seconded by Commissioner Dunlap.

“To accept the update of the Local Bidding Preference for the quarter ended September 30, 2006 as presented by the Purchasing Agent and place on file.”

Commissioner Smith questioned Roger Rousseau if the process seems to be working. Roger stated it does, and local businesses are aware, he feels it's a success.

Following a voice vote in which there was no opposition, the Chairman declared the motion carried.

**b. Monthly Update on General Fund**

**c. Monthly Update on Centre Mall**

**8. Any other matter to come before said meeting.**

Comptroller Glenn Klocko informed the Board that the City is pursuing bonding of approximately \$25 million. In the second week of November the City will be presenting to the rating agencies. The sale will take place the third week of November.

Commissioner Messier made a motion to discuss the proposal for the ordinance change to create a development corporation to handle the Centre Mall (for discussion purposes only) seconded by Commissioner Smith.

Commissioner Messier expressed his concerns to the Board about ordinance change proposed at the City Council meeting last week allowing a special development corporation to be in charge of the mall. Commissioner Messier is concerned with the role of the corporation and the Board of Finance staying in the information loop. Commissioner Messier asked if Scully & Wolf should be engaged in the development of the corporation and make sure there are check and balances in place. Commissioner Messier also questioned where the attorney fees are being paid out of and who authorized this. Mayor Stortz stated the attorneys involved in the process are the same ones hired in the beginning; they are operating under the same terms when they were hired over a year ago to address the issues with the mall. Mayor Stortz stated he would have to ask Corporation Counsel what account the money to pay the attorneys was coming out of.

The Board discussed the professional fees for the mall and the management. The Mayor stated the City will no longer be paying the management fee now that all the tenants are out besides Job Lot.

Comptroller Glenn Klocko stated the Comptroller's Office has not been in the loop to answer the questions the Board is asking of them. The Mayor's Office and Corporation Counsel have handled the Mall project. The checks are written through the office, but is it paid accordingly to what Corporation Counsel says. Commissioner Messier feels the attorneys were not hired to write ordinance changes. Mayor Stortz clarified the ordinance states the corporation will start out with no funding, in order to obtain any funding the appropriate channels will have to be followed.

Commissioner Smith explained the Chamber Economic Development Committee had a long discussion on this topic at their meeting last week. The way Commissioner Smith reads the ordinance the Board of Finance and City Council will be more involved in the spending process. The corporation will not be able to spend a dime without the Board's approval. The Board discussed the idea of the corporation, ordinance change and the Board of Finance's role going forward.

Commissioner Dunlap questioned the role of the Maguire Group working with the City. Mayor Stortz stated he is meeting with upper level management at Maguire Group to resolve issues but their contract has not officially ended nor have they done any work for the City in the past four to five months.

Commissioner Soucy asked if item number two on the agenda was new. Comptroller Klocko explained that it was, and it was added because the Mayor brought up the fact the public has the right to attend and participate at any City meeting per the Charter.

Mayor Stortz brought up an area of interest to inform the Board, because of the recent vandalism in the City a resident has come forward to offer a reward of \$500. The Mayor is hesitant to accept the money because if no one is apprehended and the money is not used, how will it be refunded and so on. The vandalism was discussed by the Board and the options of removing it.

The Mayor invited the Board to attend the November 1 Public Hearing in regards to the ordinance change regarding the Centre Mall.

#### 9. Adjournment.

Mayor Stortz made a motion seconded by Commissioner Smith.

"to adjourn at 7:25p.m."

Following a voice vote in which there was no opposition, the Chairman declared the motion carried.

Attest:



Glenn S. Klocko  
Board of Finance Clerk