

MINUTES OF MEETING

FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

December 7, 2009

The Financial Advisory Committee conducted a regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, December 7, 2009, Council Chamber, Stratford Town Hall, 2725 Main Street, Stratford, CT pursuant to notice duly posted.

I CALL TO ORDER — by Thomas G. Angelo substituting for Chairman Ed W. Rodriguez at 6:37 p.m.

Members present: Council Member Thomas W. Moore (for John Dempsey); Alternate member and Benjamin Barnes; Electorate members Eric W. Wilkins, Arthur K. Stengel, and Russell J. Hayden;

Members absent: Chairman Ed W. Rodriguez, Alternate member Justin M. Hawthorne; and Council Member Amy Wanamaker;

Others in attendance: Karen Forrest, Secretary; Jim Connor, Councilman Elect for the 8th District and Kim Meuse, Councilwoman Elect for the 7th District;

Acting Chairman Thomas G. Angelo explained the meeting format to Jim Connor, Councilman Elect for the 8th District and Kim Meuse, Councilwoman Elect for the 7th District and also extended an invitation to them to participate.

II APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Minutes of Regularly scheduled meeting of November 2, 2009. A MOTION WAS MADE BY ERIC W. WILKINS SECONDED BY RUSSELL J. HAYDEN TO APPROVE THE FOREGOING MINUTES. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

III BUSINESS

A. TOWN COUNCIL UPDATES/REPORT

Feedback from prior FAC meetings – Nothing at this time, per Council Member Thomas W. Moore.

New requests being proposed. — Nothing at this time, per Council Member Thomas W. Moore.

B. WORK GROUPS — updates from last meeting

Retirement and Pension Obligations Group. Thomas W. Angelo was able to attend last month's Pension meeting and believes there are three items that need to be considered for solving the pension situation, i.e.:

- Negotiate that all employees than Plan “A” be phased out by January 1, 2011 and only have employees be covered by Plan “B” or the 401 type employee retirement plans.
- The current finding of the pension plans and actuarial finding plan over the next 20 years cannot adequately maintain the funding necessary to satisfy the pension obligation. The earning capacity is too low because the plan is only 1/3 funded in actual dollars. The town needs to issue another pension obligation bond of between \$100 million to \$150 million.
- The Pension Board cannot adequately address pension award issues and pension fund investment issues with only one meeting a month which last about 45 minutes. The Pension Board should meet once a month to discuss pension award issues only and once a month supplemented by additional financial knowledgeable individuals to discuss pension fund investment issues.

Capital Expenditure and Improvements Group. Russell J. Hayden briefly explained to Jim Connor, Councilman Elect for the 8th District and Kim Meuse, Councilwoman Elect for the 7th District the work of this subgroup and their findings regarding the BOE / HSA issues.

Financial Transparency and Working Capital Group. Nothing at this time.

Revenue and Revenue Enhancement Group. FAC has finally received from the Town the Cash Reports, which they have been requesting for approximately two (2) years. Arthur K. Stengel explained the report to the committee members with a few comments, i.e.:

- money is finally insured;
- still need breakdown of Capital Improvement Fund of approximately \$60 million;
- Thomas G. Angelo also pointed out 20 +/- accounts that need to be clarified.

C. NEW BUSINESS/OLD BUSINESS. Mayor Elect John Harkins stopped by to thank the committee members for all their hard work and expressed his appreciation and would like to see this committee continue with their endeavors.

IV ADJOURNMENT — Hearing no additional information, Thomas G. Angelo substituting for Chairman Ed W. Rodriguez called for a motion to adjourn at 7:50 p.m. A MOTION WAS MADE BY ERIC W. WILKINS SECONDED BY ARTHUR K. STENDEL TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully submitted, Karen Forrest