

***Town of New Fairfield  
Board of Finance  
4 Brush Hill Road  
New Fairfield, CT 06812***

**MINUTES**

**Board of Finance Regular Meeting  
Wednesday, March 17, 2021  
7:30 PM  
Virtual meeting via Zoom**

***Members present via Zoom***

Wes Marsh, Chairman  
Michael Cammarota  
Tom Garben  
Jane Landers  
Cheryl Reedy  
Anthony Yorio  
Terry Friedman, Alternate  
Mark Werner, Alternate  
***Members not present***  
Greg Williams, Alternate

***Other Town Officials Present via Zoom***

Ed Sbordone, Finance Director and Town Treasurer  
Pat Del Monaco, First Selectman  
Kim Hanson, Selectman  
Khris Hall, Selectman  
Dr. Pat Cosentino, Superintendent of Schools  
Dr. Rich Sanzo, BOE Director of Business and Operations  
Julie Luby, Assistant Superintendent of Schools  
James D'Amico, High School Principal  
James Mandracchia, Meeting House Hill School Principal  
Allyson Story, Meeting House Hill School Assistant Principal  
Peggy Katkocin, BOE Chairman  
Kim LaTourette, BOE member  
Rick Regan, BOE member

**Call To Order** Chairman Wes Marsh called the meeting to order at 7:30pm.

Paul Gouveia gave a brief overview of the rules and procedures for having a virtual meeting.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Appointments**- None

**Addition to Agenda**

Wes Marsh made a motion to add agenda item #6A "Approval of minutes of the March 10, 2021 special meeting and the March 10, 2021 regular meeting." Cheryl Reedy seconded the motion.

**Vote: 6-0-0 (Motion approved)**

**Correspondence and Announcements**

Wes Marsh noted that the BOF received an email from Selectman Kim Hanson in response to Anthony Yorio's question at the March 10<sup>th</sup> meeting about payroll increases. This will be discussed later in the meeting.

Cheryl Reedy announced that former BOF member Don Blackwell passed away yesterday. The BOF offered condolences to Mr. Blackwell's family.

**Public Comment-** None

**Approval of Minutes**

Jane Landers made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 6, 2021 regular meeting as presented. Michael Cammarota seconded the motion. **Vote: 6-0-0 (Motion approved)**

Michael Cammarota made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 10, 2021 special meeting as presented. Jane Landers seconded the motion. **Vote: 6-0-0 (Motion approved)**

Michael Cammarota made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 10, 2021 regular meeting as presented. Tom Garben seconded the motion. **Vote: 6-0-0 (Motion approved)**

**Budget Transfers-** None

**Boat Dock Invoice**

First Selectman Pat Del Monaco gave a brief description of this invoice.

Wes Marsh made a motion to approve the Boat Dock invoice from Race Engineering in the amount of \$1270. Michael Cammarota seconded the motion.

**Vote: 6-0-0 (Motion approved)**

**Fraud Policy Status**

There will be a workshop between the BOF and BOS in the near future regarding the proposed fraud policy. First Selectman Pat Del Monaco will let the Board know when this can be scheduled.

**Fiscal year 2021/2022 Budget planning**

The Board discussed the following topics regarding the 2021/2022 budget:

- Increases in payroll and salaries for Town employees based on email from Selectman Kim Hanson specifically the hours for the Office of Emergency Management (OEM) Director.
- There was a discussion of the salary and a possible raise for the Tax Collector to bring this position in line with surrounding towns.
- Medical- Wes Marsh spoke of projections and claims for medical. He spoke of the possibility of increased elective surgeries that were delayed from 2020 due to COVID.
- Funding of capital and nonrecurring projects and how surpluses from last year will be used.
- How revenue was affected by COVID.
- Possibility of delaying the town referendum for the budget in order to know what federal funds will be received to the town.
- Bonding for the school projects.

- Ten year projected tax increases for New Fairfield and long term planning for the budget.

### **ONGOING UPDATES**

Michael Cammarota made a motion to table the ongoing updates. Jane Landers seconded the motion.

**Vote: 6-0-0 (Motion approved)**

### **Public Comment**

Selectman Kim Hanson spoke of his concerns regarding the dangerous conditions on Bigelow Road and that this project should not be delayed. He spoke of the possibility of the BOF determining a policy as to what would be the minimum amount for a project to make it worth bonding. He further spoke of his concerns regarding sewers in town and noted that they were not a good idea. Finally, he spoke of potential tax increases and bonding for the school projects.

BOE Chairman Peggy Katkocin spoke of the impact of the tax increases due to the school projects and noted that taxpayers were made aware of this before the referendum. She spoke of the consequences of not redoing the schools and how it could affect education.

### **Future Agenda items**

- Ongoing updates
- Status of federal funds
- Presentation by Tom Kowalchik regarding the medical plan.

### **Board Member Comments**

Members of the BOF spoke of memories of former BOF member Don Blackwell that passed away yesterday.

Tom Garben thanked everyone for all their effort with the vaccination center.

Terry Friedman thanked everyone for welcoming her to the BOF and appreciated the budget discussion.

### **Adjournment**

Michael Cammarota made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:36 pm. Jane Landers seconded the motion. **Vote: 6-0-0 (Motion approved)**

**Received by email on 3/22/2021 @ 12:51 p.m.  
By: Holly Z Smith, Asst. Town Clerk, New Fairfield**