

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

**MINUTES**

**Board of Finance Special Meeting**  
**Wednesday, May 12, 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  
Greg Williams, Alternate  
***Members not present***  
Mark Werner, Alternate

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

Ed Sbordone, Finance Director and Town Treasurer  
Pat Del Monaco, First Selectman  
Kim Hanson, Selectman  
Dr. Pat Cosentino, Superintendent of Schools  
Dr. Rich Sanzo, Director of Business and Operations  
Peggy Katkocin, BOE Chairman  
Kim LaTourette, BOE member  
Rick Regan, BOE member  
James Mandracchia, MHHS Principal

**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**

**Correspondence and Announcements**

Wes Marsh

**Public Comment**

New Fairfield teachers Michelle Brown and Jeff Guiliano spoke in support of the budget and asked that no further cuts be made.

BOE members Peggy Katkocin, Greg Flanagan and Kim LaTourette all spoke in favor of the budget and ask that there be no more cuts to the Education budget.

**Approval of Minutes**

Jane Landers made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 5, 2021 special meeting as presented. Michael Cammarota seconded the motion. **Vote: 6-0-0 (Motion approved)**

### **Discussion of final mark up for the 2021-2022 budget**

Wes Marsh reminded everyone that the BOF postponed the final budget mark up until today pending further guidance from the State about revenue that may be received from the American Cares Act. First Selectman Pat Del Monaco spoke of the American Cares Act and noted that it is primarily for future expenses occurring after March 2021. She read information regarding the act that spoke of the specific designation for the funds. It was noted that revenue loss does not apply to New Fairfield. She noted that many of the expenses included in these grants have already been covered by FEMA.

Wes Marsh spoke of the five pieces of the budget that include payroll, non-payroll, capital, medical and debt service. He noted that the biggest increase to the 2021-2022 is for debt service for the building of the two new schools. This debt service accounts for 2.81% of the 3.66% proposed increase. There was a discussion among the Board members as to what is the optimal percentage increase to send to the taxpayers. The Board discussed the best way to adjust the budget so that the increase will be under 3%.

Wes Marsh made a motion to approve the following for a final markup of the municipal budget: deduct \$20,000 from Workers' Compensation; deduct \$40,000 from State Police; deduct \$10,000 from Salary Adjustment; deduct \$80,000 from Road Repair; deduct \$62,985 from the Fire Dept. Capital and Nonrecurring; deduct \$54,000 from various other Capital and Nonrecurring \$10,814 from Medical; and add \$141,380 to Debt Service. Jane Landers seconded the motion.

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

Wes Marsh made a motion to amend the above motion to NOT deduct \$54,000 from various other Capital and Nonrecurring funds for the Town. Michael Cammarota seconded the motion.

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

Wes Marsh made a motion to approve the following for a final markup of the education budget: deduct \$644,000 from the operating expenditures; deduct \$386,384 from Debt Service; and deduct \$68,386 from Medical. Michael Cammarota seconded the motion.

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

Wes Marsh made a motion to approve the following for a final markup of revenue: add \$15,649 to Pilot Revenue; add \$66,000 to Building Permits; add \$100,000 to Real Estate Conveyance; add \$151,000 to SPED-Excess Cost; add \$200,000 to Interest Income; and deduct \$188,512 from Education ECS. Michael Cammarota seconded the motion.

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

Wes Marsh made a motion to recommend to a Town meeting a BOF recommended budget consisting of Town governmental expenditures totaling \$12,860,682 from the General Fund and \$770,213 from the Capital and Nonrecurring fund and \$914,231 from other governmental funds for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2022 be approved. Michael Cammarota seconded the motion. **Vote: 6-0-0 (Motion approved)**

Wes Marsh made a motion to recommend to a Town meeting a BOF recommended budget consisting of Education expenditures totaling \$45,311,219 from the General Fund and \$93,389 from the capital and nonrecurring fund for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2022 be approved. Michael Cammarota seconded the motion.

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

Wes Marsh noted that this recommended budget yields a 2.98% tax increase.

**Public Comment**- None

**Future Agenda items**- The Fraud policy will be discussed in the near future.

**Cancellation of meeting**

Anthony Yorio made a motion to cancel the May 19<sup>th</sup> BOF regular meeting. Michael Cammarota seconded the motion. **Vote: 6-0-0 (Motion approved)**

**Board Member Comments**

Members of the Board of Finance thanked everyone for a respectable budget process. They encouraged everyone to vote at the referendum.

**Adjournment**

Michael Cammarota made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 pm. Jane Landers seconded the motion. **Vote: 6-0-0 (Motion approved)**

Received by Email on 5/17/2021 @ 10:43 am  
by Holly Z Smith, Asst. Town Clerk, New Fairfield