

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

MINUTES
Board of Finance Regular Meeting
Wednesday, October 18, 2023
7:30 PM
via Zoom

<u>Board of Finance members present:</u> Wes Marsh, Chairman Mark Beninson Doug Jendras Thora Perkins Cheryl Reedy Claudia Willard Dave Coleman, Alternate Chris D'Esposito, Alternate Greg Williams, Alternate	<u>Other Town officials and Educators present:</u> Pat Del Monaco, First Selectman Khris Hall, Selectman Olga Melnikov, Finance Director
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Quintin Flower gave a brief overview of the rules and procedures for a virtual meeting.

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Appointments- None

Correspondence and Announcements

Thora Perkins reminded everyone that there will be a Medical Subcommittee meeting on Thursday, October 19th at 3:30 in the Town Hall Annex Conference Room.

Public Comment- None

Approval of Minutes

Thora Perkins made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 20, 2023 regular meeting as presented. Mark Beninson seconded the motion. **Vote: 6-0-0 (Motion approved)**

Cheryl Reedy made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 11, 2023 special meeting as presented. Thora Perkins seconded the motion. **Vote: 6-0-0 (Motion approved)**

Budget Transfers

Olga Melnikov gave a brief description of the reasons for Intra-Departmental transfers for the consultant line and the public works road repair line.

Update and discussion on Medical Plan Issues

Tom Kowalchik from USI spoke of the medical and pharmacy claims for the year 2022-2023. He explained the difference between Individual Stop Loss and Aggregate Stop Loss. It was noted that the past two years had very high claims. There was a brief discussion of the Anthem Claim amount and the USI Claim amount. There was a question of ISL and it was noted that it has changed from \$225,000 to \$200,000 and it only includes medical and prescription claims.

Finance Director Olga Melnikov noted that the medical rebate is included in the year-ending June 30, 2023 report. Thora Perkins noted that the Medical subcommittee will meet on Thursday, October 19th at 3:30 in the Town Hall Annex Conference Room.

Update on Planning Commission's POCD Listening Session responses from BOF

Wes Marsh noted that the Planning Commission will hold a meeting on Monday, November 27th to gather information from Boards and Commission regarding the Plan of Conservation and Development. He spoke of a list that might be included in the BOF comments to send to the Planning Commission and thanked Cheryl Reedy and Thora Perkins for their input with the POCD.

Wes Marsh reviewed the draft presentation to the Planning Commission that includes the top 3-5 things that the town should focus on in the next 10-20 years, new recommendations for the POCD, items from the 2014 POCD that should continue, and items from the 2014 POCD that should be taken out.

There was a discussion of the role of the BOF regarding the POCD. It was suggested that comments from the BOF should focus on the financial aspect of the plan and how they affect taxes. Wes Marsh asked BOF members to give a rough draft of ideas for the POCD. It was decided that this will be discussed further at the next regular BOF meeting on November 15th.

Discussion of Public Comment Policy update

Claudia Willard reviewed the Public Comment policy that was approved by the BOF at their June 21st meeting.

Claudia Willard made a motion to table the vote for the Public Comment Policy until the November 15th meeting. Thora Perkins seconded the motion. **Vote: 6-0-0 (Motion approved)**

ONGOING UPDATES

Medical update

Finance Director Olga Melnikov noted that the Medical Fund balance as of June 30, 2023 is \$214,687.00. She noted that the expenditures exceeded the revenue by over \$500,000 but the decrease in Incurred But Not Reported (IBNR) claims allowed for a positive balance.

Olga Melnikov reviewed the Medical Fund balance as of September 30, 2023 (first quarter of the fiscal year) and noted that claims are lower than anticipated. She noted that if the trend continues, it is optimistic that the year-end balance will be favorable.

Legal update

The Board reviewed legal expenses for the first three months of the year ending September 30, 2023. Olga Melnikov noted that there is a positive trend for the year so far.

Year to date expenses review

The Board reviewed the expenses for the first quarter. It was noted that the dispatch overtime line is higher than usual due to a resignation of a full-time dispatch employee. It was noted that it is too early in the year to be concerning. There was a discussion of expenses for business machines and utilities. It was noted that three union contracts are currently under negotiation.

Current year revenue update

The Board reviewed revenue for the current fiscal year.

Cap & Non

Olga Melnikov explained how the Capital and Nonrecurring projects are funded.

Public Comment- None

Future Agenda items

Medical Subcommittee report
POCD final comments
Public Comment Policy update
Initial discussions of the 2024-2025 budget

Board Member Comments

Cheryl Reedy welcomed Doug Jendras to the Board of Finance

Thora Perkins thanked everyone for a smooth meeting.

Adjournment

Doug Jendras made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:44 pm. Cheryl Reedy seconded the motion.

Vote: 6-0-0 (Motion approved)