

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

MINUTES
Board of Finance Regular Meeting
Wednesday, April 16, 2014
7:30 PM
New Fairfield Community Room

Members present:

Wes Marsh, Chairman
Don Blackwell
Michael Cammarota
Tom Edwards (arrived 7:45pm)
John Hodge
Cheryl Reedy, Alternate
Brian Shea, Alternate
Members not present:
Steve Brown, Alternate
Jane Landers

Other Town Officials Present:

Susan Chapman, First Selectman
Mike Gill, Selectman
Evelyn Abraham, Finance Director
Ernie Lehman, Planning Commission Alternate

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Appointments-Wes Marsh noted that Jane Landers will not be able to attend tonight's meeting and has appointed Cheryl Reedy to act as a full member in her place.

Correspondence and Announcements- Chairman Wes Marsh noted that each board member received an updated copy of the town audit.

Wes Marsh spoke of an email received by the board through the town's website from a resident giving suggestion to reduce power usage by installing solar panels on town buildings. It was decided to forward this to the First Selectman and the Superintendent of Schools.

Public Comment- None

Approval of Minutes

John Hodge made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 26, 2014 regular meeting as presented. Cheryl Reedy seconded the motion.

Vote: 5-0-0 (Motion approved- Tom Edwards arrived at 7:45pm and did not vote on this motion)

Budget Transfers

Wes Marsh made a motion to approve the following Inter-Departmental transfer in the amount of \$1,886.75. Don Blackwell seconded the motion.

Vote: 5-0-0 (Motion approved-Tom Edwards arrived at 7:45pm and did not vote on this motion)
Budget Transfers (con't)

\$	Transfer To		\$	Transfer From	
\$1,886.75	4220-230	Fire Co.-Length of Service	\$1,886.75	4163-520	General Ins.- Property & Casualty
\$1,886.75			\$1,886.75		

Wes Marsh made a motion to approve the following Inter-Departmental transfer in the amount of \$20, 000.00. John Hodge seconded the motion.

Vote: 5-0-0 (Motion approved-Tom Edwards arrived at 7:45pm and did not vote on this motion)

\$	Transfer To		\$	Transfer From	
\$20,000.00	4310-423	PW-Contracted Services	\$20,000.00	4163-520	General Ins.- Property & Casualty
\$20,000.00			\$20,000.00		

Discussion and feedback from the 2014-2024 Plan of Conservation and Development

Chairman Wes Marsh spoke of the Plan of Conservation and Development and discussed a letter from consultant Mike Looney from the firm of Milone and MacBroom. It was noted that the Plan of Conservation and Development must be done every ten years and must be submitted to the State by July 1, 2014. The letter from Mr. Looney referenced feedback given a few years ago from the Board of Finance.

Planning Commission Alternate Ernie Lehman spoke of the Plan of Conservation and Development and answered questions from the board. There was a discussion of the economic effects of the POCD and the desire to attract younger families to town vs. the desire to retain elderly residents. The board discussed the elderly tax relief programs and how they would retain elderly residents. Other topics discussed were the vault in the Town Clerk's office, Vaughn's Neck and a priority plan for Open Space.

There was a brief discussion of the role of the BOF in the POCD and if this should go to the policy makers first. It was suggested sending the draft of the POCD to the BOS first. It was decided to have some BOF members attend the next Planning Commission meeting on Monday, April 28th.

Discussion of Medical Plan cost scenarios

The board discussed Medical Plan cost scenarios and discussed the optimum plan. There was a discussion of the optimum amount of Individual Stop Loss and Aggregate Stop Loss. There was a suggestion of whether or not it was possible to break out the cost for prescription drugs.

ONGOING UPDATES

Medical update- The ending fund balance for Medical is \$1,580,851.00

Legal update- The amount of the Legal Labor budget is \$873.00. The entire legal fund balance is \$27,867.00.

Year to date expenses review- The board discussed police overtime expenses.

Current year revenue update- The tax collection rate is currently 99.32% which is the highest in the past three years. Interest income is below the budgeted amount.

Capital and Nonrecurring update- The unappropriated Cap & Non balance is \$981,692.58.

Public Comment- None

Future Agenda Items- Tom Edwards asked if it was possible to get a list of how many people have met their medical deductible and which ones have met 90% of their deductible, 80% and 70%.

The board will discuss the Planning Commission update at the next meeting.

Executive Session

Wes Marsh made a motion to go into Executive Session at 8:31pm to discuss the possible renewal of Steve Rinaldi's contract and to invite Finance Director Evelyn Abraham into the Executive Session. Don Blackwell seconded the motion.

Vote: 6-0-0 (Motion approved)

Wes Marsh made a motion to come out of Executive Session at 8:50pm. Mike Cammarota seconded the motion.

Vote: 6-0-0 (Motion approved)

Board member comments- Board members encouraged residents to vote on Saturday, April 26th.

Adjournment

John Hodge made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:55pm. Don Blackwell seconded the motion.

Vote: 6-0-0 (Motion approved)