

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

**MINUTES**

**Board of Finance Regular Meeting**  
**Wednesday, November 19, 2014**  
**7:30 PM**  
**New Fairfield Community Room**

***Members present:***

Wes Marsh, Chairman  
Don Blackwell  
Tom Edwards  
John Hodge  
Jane Landers  
Brian Shea, Alternate  
Cheryl Reedy, Alternate  
***Members not present:***  
Michael Cammarota  
Steve Brown, Alternate

***Other Town Officials Present:***

Mike Gill, Selectman  
Evelyn Abraham, Finance Director  
Maureen Salerno, Commission on the Aging Chairman  
Susan Starr, BOE member

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

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Appointments**

Chairman Wes Marsh noted that Mike Cammarota will not be present at tonight's meeting and has appointed Brian Shea to serve in his absence.

**Correspondence and Announcements**

Chairman Wes Marsh noted that he received an email from the Library Board Chairman Gail Lehman which will be discussed under a future agenda item.

**Public Comment**

Commission on the Aging Chairman Maureen Salerno and resident Terry Lent asked the BOF to consider an additional elderly tax relief programs in town.

The board decided to discuss this further at their December meeting and asked the interested parties to come to the December meeting with specific income limits and numbers that would be agreeable to them.

**Approval of Minutes**

John Hodge made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 15, 2014 regular meeting as presented. Jane Landers seconded the motion.

**Vote: 5-0-1 (Motion approved- Tom Edwards abstained)**

**Budget Transfers**

Wes Marsh made a motion to approve the following Inter-Department transfer in the amount of \$10,000.00 Jane Landers seconded the motion. (Such document to be attached to the minutes of this meeting)

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

\$	Transfer To		\$	Transfer From	
\$10,000.00	4150-610	Finance M&S	\$5,000.00	4160-250	Unclass. P&B- Unemployment
			\$5,000.00	4163-520	General Insurance- Property and Casualty
<b>\$10,000.00</b>			<b>\$10,000.00</b>		

**Update on Library project**

The board discussed the library project and noted that bids will go out in late December. Work will begin in late winter or early spring. There was a brief discussion of the cost of the library project. Chairman Marsh encouraged BOF members to attend the next Permanent Building Committee meeting to get more information on the library project.

**BOF 2015 Calendar of meetings**

John Hodge made a motion to approve the Board of Finance meeting calendar as presented. Jane Landers seconded the motion.

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

**Discussion of 2015/2016 budget planning**

The board discussed budget planning for the upcoming year and spoke specifically of the Medical Plan, GASB and Debt Service for both the town and the BOE. Chairman Marsh gave a chart that shows categories for previous years.

The board discussed the increase of the assessment of Candlewood Lake and it was suggested that the Town Attorney take a look at their assessment.

The board gave a rough estimate of their desired increase for 2015-2016 and the consensus was the increase should be no more than 2% tax increase.

**ONGOING UPDATES**

**Medical update-** The Medical Reserve fund is very healthy.

**Legal update-** The available balance in the legal fund is \$55,851.00 as of October 29, 2014. \$10,000 was transferred into the legal labor line.

**Year to date expenses review-** Selectman Mike Gill spoke of expenses and explained the town is down one police officer. A fourth dispatcher has been hired which hopefully will cut down on the amount of per diem expenses.

**Current year revenue update-** The unappropriated fund balance as of the end of Oct. is \$978,729.29.

**Cap & Non- Town-** John Hodge asked about the status of the roof project at the garage.

**Public Comment-** Selectman Mike Gill spoke of the amount of budget increase and asked how this affects salaries including contractual increases.

**Future Agenda Items**

The board will discuss the following items at the next meeting:

- Library renovation project
- Elderly tax relief programs
- Taxable grand list

**Board member comments**

Board members spoke briefly of the budget process and wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving!

**Adjournment**

Don Blackwell made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:57pm. John Hodge seconded the motion.

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