

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

**MINUTES**  
**Board of Finance Meeting**  
**Wednesday, March 14, 2007**  
**7:30 PM**  
**New Fairfield High School Library**

***Members present:***

Joe Hart, Chairman  
Bob Burke  
Michael Cockburn  
Lucy DiRocco  
Wes Marsh  
Art Azzarito (Alternate)  
Roger Wise (Alternate)

***Other Town Officials Present:***

John Hodge, First Selectman  
Ron Oliveri, Selectman  
Peggy Katkocin, Selectman  
Ed McCue, New Fairfield Volunteer Fire Dept. Chief  
Jay Waterman, Finance Department

**Call To Order** Chairman Joe Hart called the meeting to order at 7:30pm

**Appointments** Joe Hart announced that Ron Graiff will not be able to attend tonight's meeting and has appointed Roger Wise in his place.

**Correspondence and Announcements-** None

**Approval of Minutes**

Joe Hart made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 21, 2007 regular meeting as presented. Wes Marsh seconded the motion.

**Vote: 5-0-1 (Motion approved- Bob Burke abstained)**

Joe Hart made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 3, 2007 budget meeting as presented. Bob Burke seconded the motion.

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

**Discussion and review of Board of Selectman Budget Requests 2007/2008**

Chairman Joe Hart opened the meeting to the Board of Finance members to ask questions or give comments regarding the proposed BOS budget for 2007/2008.

There was a discussion of whether or not the Board of Finance contingency fund is necessary and if so is \$40,000 is an appropriate amount.

Wes Marsh made a motion to reduce the Board of Finance contingency fund for the fiscal year 2007/2008 from \$40,000 to \$20,000. Bob Burke seconded the motion.

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

There was a discussion regarding the necessity of the Board of Finance General Counsel line item.

Wes Marsh made a motion to reduce the Board of Finance General Counsel line item amount from \$5,000 to \$1,000 for the fiscal year 2007/2008. Lucy DiRocco seconded the motion.

**Vote: 3-3-0 (Motion denied)**

**(Lucy DiRocco, Wes Marsh and Bob Burke in favor)**

**(Joe Hart, Roger Wise and Mike Cockburn opposed)**

There was a discussion of legal fees and the legal contracts. There was also a discussion regarding the Health Insurance funds and Individual Stop Loss and Aggregate Stop Loss. Joe Hart announced that Insurance Broker Steve Rinaldi from the firm of Everett James, Inc. will be at the BOF meeting of March 21, 2007 to discuss the Medical Insurance plan for the fiscal year 2007/2008. The Board of Education will also be attending the meeting of March 21<sup>st</sup>.

Joe Hart announced that the Board of Finance will meet on March 21<sup>st</sup>, March 28<sup>th</sup> and April 11<sup>th</sup> for budget discussions.

#### **Budget Transfers**

Roger Wise made a motion to make an Intra-Departmental transfer in the amount of \$5,000 **from** line item #4215-112 (Comm. Center-part time salaries) **to** line item #4215-130 (Comm. Center-overtime) also in the amount of \$5,000. (Such document entitled "Intra-Department Transfer) to be attached to the minutes of this meeting). Bob Burke seconded the motion.

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

Joe Hart made a motion to make an Additional Appropriation (**Town Meeting Not Required**) in the amount of \$7,000 **from** line item #3400-012 (Senior Center Revenue) **to** line item #4450-810 (Senior Center program expense) also in the amount of \$7,000 due to increased Senior Center Programs revenue and expense to reflect true costs and revenue. (Such document entitled "Additional Appropriation to be attached to the minutes of this meeting) Bob Burke seconded the motion.

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

#### **Discussion of Elderly Tax Credit**

First Selectman John Hodge described the current Elderly Tax Relief Ordinance in Town. There was a discussion of different options and ways to give the elderly a tax credit. Mr. Hodge passed out information regarding an Elderly Tax Freeze program. Art Azzarito spoke of the options for elderly tax relief.

Joe Hart asked Art Azzarito, Roger Wise and Bob Burke to be on a subcommittee to research the Elderly Tax Relief programs available and report back to the Board of Finance on March 28<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Public Comment**

Resident Jodi Gemmel spoke of the Additional Appropriation and Title IX regarding the Score Fund.

Resident Terry Lent spoke of tax increases and asked the Board of Finance to try to do something on behalf of the elderly residents in town.

**Adjournment**

Joe Hart made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:21pm. Bob Burke seconded the motion.

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