

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

MINUTES
Board of Finance Meeting
Wednesday, April 11, 2007
7:30 PM
New Fairfield High School Library

Members present:

Joe Hart, Chairman
Bob Burke
Michael Cockburn
Lucy DiRocco
Ron Graiff
Wes Marsh
Art Azzarito (Alternate)
Bob Carbone (Alternate) (left 8:05)
Roger Wise (Alternate)

Other Town Officials Present:

John Hodge, First Selectman
Ron Oliveri, Selectman
Jay Waterman, Finance Department

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

Appointments None

Correspondence and Announcements

Ron Graiff announced his resignation from the board due to a consulting job in New Jersey.

Joe Hart made a motion to accept Ron Graiff's resignation at the end of tonight's meeting. Bob Burke seconded the motion.

Vote: 4-1-1 (Ron Graiff abstained, Wes Marsh opposed)

Public Comment Resident Rudy Bahrens spoke of declining enrollment in New Fairfield schools.

Approval of Minutes

Joe Hart made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 28, 2007 meeting as presented. Bob Burke seconded the motion.

Vote: 5-0-1 (Motion approved- Ron Graiff abstained)

Joe Hart made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 5, 2007 joint BOF/BOS meeting as presented. Bob Burke seconded the motion.

Vote: 5-0-1 (Motion approved- Mike Cockburn abstained)

Discussion and Vote on 2007/2008 recommended budget

Chairman Joe Hart thanked Jay Waterman for all his hard work with getting the budget together.

Jay Waterman spoke of changes to the grand list.

Chairman Joe Hart opened the floor to the BOF members for discussion before the vote on the budget. A discussion ensued regarding the reducing of the Medical reserve fund. Mr. Hart gave out a handout regarding the medical fund with new projections from broker Steve Rinaldi.

There was a discussion regarding the legal expenses and specifically the budget for legal contracts.

There was a discussion regarding the Board of Education budget and the projected future enrollment. There was a discussion regarding an amount to cut from the Board of Education budget.

Bob Burke made a motion to cut \$200,000 from the BOE recommended budget for 2007/2008. Wes Marsh seconded the motion.

Vote: 6-0-0 (Motion approved)

Joe Hart made a motion to reduce the BOF contingency fund from \$40,000 to \$20,000 for the 2007/2008 fiscal year. Bob Burke seconded the motion.

Vote: 6-0-0 (Motion approved)

Joe Hart made a motion to reduce the legal budget for contracts by \$15,000 and to reinstate the BOF contingency fund by \$15,000. Wes Marsh seconded the motion.

Vote: 6-0-0 (Motion approved)

Joe Hart made a motion to increase the budget by \$29,172. Wes Marsh seconded the motion.

Vote: 6-0-0 (Motion approved)

Bob Burke made a motion to take \$55,000 out of the Capital and Nonrecurring account for the Squantz Fire Department heating system. Lucy DiRocco seconded the motion.

Vote: 6-0-0 (Motion approved)

Joe Hart made a motion to reduce property tax contributions to the Medical fund in the amount of \$350,000. Bob Burke seconded the motion.

Vote: 6-0-0 (Motion approved)

Joe Hart made a motion to further reduce the property tax contributions from the Medical fund in the amount of \$100,000 and to increase the undesignated Capital and Nonrecurring fund in amount of \$100,000. Bob Burke seconded the motion.

Vote: 6-0-0 (Motion approved)

Joe Hart made a motion to take a ten minute recess at 9:30p.m. in order to configure the numbers of the mark up. Wes Marsh seconded the motion.

Vote: 6-0-0 (Motion approved)

The meeting reconvened at 9:54 p.m.

Joe Hart made a motion to recommend to a Town Meeting a Board of Finance recommended budget consisting of the following: Municipal expenditures totaling \$9,831,375 from the General fund, Municipal expenditures from the Capital and Nonrecurring fund in the amount of \$1,234,400 and \$754,491 from other governmental funds and educational expenditures from the General Fund totaling \$34,023,433 and educational expenditures from the Capital and nonrecurring fund in the amount of \$140,000 which results in a Mil rate increase of 1.32% or 19.96 Mills. Bob Burke seconded the motion.

Vote: 6-0-0 (Motion approved)

Public Comment – Resident Rudy Bahrens spoke of the enrollment in New Fairfield.

Board of Education member Vic Flagello spoke of the BOE budget

Adjournment

Joe Hart made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:02pm. Bob Burke seconded the motion.

Vote: 6-0-0 (Motion approved)