

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

PUBLIC HEARING
MINUTES

Board of Finance Meeting
Saturday, March 1, 2008
9:00 AM

New Fairfield High School Library

Members present:

Joe Hart, Chairman
Lucy DiRocco
Jane Landers
Al Mardis
Wes Marsh
Tom Wahlig
Art Azzarito, Alternate
Brian Shea, Alternate
Tony Sanches, Alternate

Other Town Officials Present:

John Hodge, First Selectman
Ron Oliveri, Selectman
Jay Waterman, Finance Director
Linda Farinha, Finance Department
Ed Sbordone, Finance Department
Phil Cammarano, Town Treasurer
Dr. Joseph Castagnola, Superintendent of Schools
John Boccuzzi, Assistant Superintendent of Schools
Mike Santogatta, Director of Management Services
Phil Ross, Buildings and Grounds Director
Alicia Roy, High School Principal
Dr. Diane Hartman Chesley, Middle School Principal
Christine Baldelli, Middle School Assistant Principal
Sarah McLain, Meeting House Hill School Principal
Carrie Kilian, Meeting House Hill School Assistant Principal
Wendy Seeley, Consolidated School Principal
Lynn Fichtel, Consolidated School Assistant Principal
Aimee Turner, Elementary Special Education Supervisor
Kim Culkin, Secondary Special Education Supervisor
Karen Chance, BOE member
Vic Flagello, BOE member
Kevin Hearty, BOE member
Ralph Langham, BOE member
Ron Lyons, BOE member
Monika Thiel, BOE member

Call To Order Chairman Joe Hart called the public hearing to order at 9:00am

Pledge of Allegiance

Presentation of the Board of Education Requested Budget 2008/2009

Superintendent of Schools Dr. Joseph Castagnola presented the Board of Education requested budget for 2008/2009 and gave a power point presentation. The total BOE's requested budget for 2008/2009 equals \$35,924,983 for a 6.80% increase over the 2007/2008 budget. This percentage represents a dollar amount increase of \$2,288,550. Dr. Castagnola spoke of additions to the schools specifically a .4 Latin Teacher in the High School and a .4 Art Teacher in the High School. Dr. Castagnola thanked the Board of Finance, the Board of Education and all the administrators who worked very hard in putting this budget together.

The Board of Education will answer more questions concerning the budget at the Board of Finance meeting on Wednesday, March 12th at 7:30 in the High School library. More information about the BOE requested budget can be found at www.newfairfieldschools.org

Presentation of the Board of Selectmen Requested Budget 2008/2009

First Selectman John Hodge presented the Board of Selectmen requested budget for 2008/2009 and gave a power point presentation. The total BOS requested budget for 2008/2009 equals \$8,523,855 for a 4.80% increase over the 2007/2008 budget. This percentage represents a dollar amount increase of \$390,530. Mr. Hodge thanked the entire Finance Department as well as the members of the Board of Finance for their hard work with the budget process.

The Board of Selectmen will answer more questions concerning the budget at the Board of Finance meeting on Wednesday, March 19th at 7:30 in the High School library. More information on the BOS requested budget can be found on the town's website at www.newfairfield.org

Public Comment

Resident Rudy Bahrens spoke about the Board of Education budget.

Resident Jim McManimen spoke of the electric bills in the town buildings and the schools.

Board of Education member Ralph Langham spoke of the virtual classes being offered by the High School.

Board of Education member Vic Flagello spoke the education budget and specifically the cost per pupil.

Board of Education member Monika Thiel spoke of the education budget.

First Selectman Hodge spoke of houses prices in Connecticut and specifically the real estate market in New Fairfield.

Resident Roger Wise spoke of the budget surplus

Adjournment

Al Mardis made a motion to adjourn the public hearing at 10:20am. Jane Landers seconded the motion.

Vote: 6-0-0 (Motion approved)

