

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

**MINUTES**

**Board of Finance Meeting**

**Wednesday, April 16, 2008**

**7:30 PM**

**New Fairfield High School Library**

***Members present:***

Joe Hart, Chairman

Lucy DiRocco

Jane Landers

Al Mardis

Wes Marsh

Tom Wahlig

Art Azzarito, Alternate

Tony Sanches, Alternate

Brian Shea, Alternate (arrived 8:00)

***Other Town Officials Present:***

John Hodge, First Selectman

Ron Oliveri, Selectman

Tom Corbett, Selectman

Jay Waterman, Finance Director

Linda Fox, Library Director

Sarah Marsh, Library Board Chairman

Sharon Holm, Library Board member

Gail Lehman, Library Board member

Ed Sbordone, Library Board member

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

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Appointments**- None

**Correspondence and Announcements**

Joe Hart read an e-mail from First Selectman John Hodge regarding the purchase of a Ford Expedition for the Police Department. Finance Director Jay Waterman gave information concerning the purchase of the two police cars bought this year.

Al Mardis read an e-mail from Board of Education Chairman Kim Hanson regarding a recent e-mail from BOE member Monika Thiel. Mr. Hanson stressed that the opinions in the e-mail from Ms. Thiel do not reflect the opinions of the Board of Education.

**Public Comment**

Selectman Tom Corbett and Selectman Ron Oliveri individually spoke of the need for the Ford Expedition for the Police Department.

First Selectman John Hodge also spoke of the need for the Ford Expedition for the Police Department and the ability to move budget items around to pay for this Expedition.

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**Addition to agenda**

Al Mardis made a motion to add item #6A “Discussion of request for a police vehicle” to the agenda. Tom Wahlig seconded the motion.

**Vote: 2-3-1 (Motion failed)**  
**(Tom Wahlig and Al Mardis in favor)**  
**(Lucy DiRocco, Jane Landers and Wes Marsh opposed)**  
**(Joe Hart abstained)**

**Approval of Minutes**

*March 31, 2008-Audit subcommittee meeting*-Joe Hart made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 31, 2008 Audit subcommittee meeting as presented. Al Mardis seconded the motion.

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

*April 9, 2008- BOF meeting*-Joe Hart made a motion to approve the minutes of the Board of Finance meeting of April 9, 2008 with the following amendment: Under Discussion of 2008/2009 Budget recommendations “There was a discussion regarding whether or not money needs to be put in the 2008-2009 budget for services from the architect and construction managers for the potential school projects.” add that the Superintendent of Schools and the First Selectman both stated that there was no need to add any money to next year’s budget for this item.

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

**Discussion of library renovations**

Library Board Chairman Sarah Marsh spoke of the need for a feasibility/conceptual design plan for the public library. Mrs. Marsh noted that the cost for this design plan is \$25,000. The library board is willing to pay half of the amount if the town is willing to pay the other half. A presentation was given and a picture of the renovations was shown. There was a discussion of possible grants for the project.

Lucy DiRocco made a motion to recommend to a Town Meeting the following Additional Appropriation. Jane Landers seconded the motion. (Such document to be attached to the minutes of this meeting)

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

\$'s	Transfer to:		\$'s	Transfer from	Reason
\$12,500	4161-334	Prof. services Consulting	\$12,500	Unappropriated Capital & Nonrecurring	For feasibility/conceptual Design plans for the library
<b>\$12,500</b>			<b>\$12,500</b>		

**Discussion of contract for school building projects**

Lucy DiRocco spoke of the contract for building projects. There was a discussion of the process for school building projects. There was a discussion of the liability for architect fees if the referendum fails.

**Discussion of bathrooms and concession stand at Rebel Field**

First Selectman John Hodge spoke of a petition that was presented in regard to building bathrooms and a concession stand at Rebel Turf field. The petition was deemed to be illegal by Town Counsel since it was on the wrong form

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Joe Hart made a motion to add to the agenda item #9A “Discussion of bathroom and concession stand at Rebel Field” to the agenda. Al Mardis seconded the motion.

**Vote: 4-2-0 (Motion approved)**  
**(Joe Hart, Al Mardis, Tom Wahlig and Wes Marsh approved)**  
**(Lucy DiRocco and Jane Landers opposed)**

Parks and Recreation Commission Chairman Ray Lubus and Parks and Recreation Director Steve Merullo spoke of the need for bathrooms and cost estimates for this project. A lengthy discussion ensued among the BOF members regarding the process of this petition adding this as a separate referendum.

**Recommend and appoint auditors for fiscal year 2008-2009**

Al Mardis made a motion that the Board of Finance on behalf of the Town of New Fairfield engage the audit firm of McGladrey & Pullen for the years ending June 30, 2008, 2009 and 2010. Joe Hart seconded the motion.

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

Joe Hart thanked Al Mardis, Tom Wahlig and Tony Sanches for serving on the subcommittee. Mr. Hart further thanked Finance Director Jay Waterman and the entire Finance Department for all their help with the selection of auditors.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Legal Update**

Jay Waterman spoke of the legal fees through the month of February

**Medical Update**

Jay Waterman announced that the fund balance has been status quo through the year. Mr. Waterman noted that there have been eleven catastrophic claims this year compared to five each in the last two years.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Budget Transfers**

Al Mardis made a motion to make the following Inter-Departmental transfer. Joe Hart seconded the motion. (Such document to be attached to the minutes of this meeting.)

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

\$'s	Transfer to:		\$'s	Transfer from	
\$1,000.00	4195-622	Utilities-Street Lights	\$1,000.00	4160-260	Workers Compensation
<b>\$1,000</b>			<b>\$1,000</b>		

Al Mardis made a motion to make a motion to transfer \$2,000 to Utilities-TP-Fuel Oil from BOF Contingency. Jane Landers seconded the motion.

Lucy DiRocco made a motion to amend the motion to take the transfer from Snow materials and supplies instead of BOF Contingency. Tom Wahlig seconded the motion. (Such document to be attached to the minutes of this meeting)

**Vote to amend motion: 6-0-0 (Motion approved)**  
**Vote on original motion as amended: 6-0-0 (Motion approved)**

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\$'s	Transfer to		\$'s	Transfer from	
\$15,000.00	4195-620-5	Utilities-TP Fuel Oil	\$ 2,000.00 \$13,000.00	4310-610-3 4160-260	Snow materials and supplies Workers Compensation
<b>\$15,000</b>			<b>\$15,000</b>		

Lucy DiRocco made a motion to make the following Inter-Departmental transfer. Wes Marsh seconded the motion. (Such document to be attached to the minutes of this meeting.)

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

\$'s	Transfer to		\$'s	Transfer from	
\$24,000.00	4195-626	Utilities-Gas & Diesel	\$24,000.00	4310-610-3	Snow materials and supplies
<b>\$24,000.00</b>			<b>\$24,000.00</b>		

**Year to date financial review-** None

**Public Comment-** None

**Board Member Comments-** None

**Adjournment**

Al Mardis made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:30pm. Jane Landers seconded the motion.

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