

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

**MINUTES**

**Board of Finance Meeting**  
**Wednesday, June 18, 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  
Brian Shea, Alternate

***Other Town Officials Present:***

John Hodge, First Selectman  
Tom Corbett, Selectman  
Ron Oliveri, Selectman  
Ed Sbordone, Finance Department  
Dr. Joseph Castagnola, Superintendent of Schools  
Kim Hanson, BOE Chairman  
Karen Chance, BOE member  
Ralph Langham, BOE member  
Ed Siebert, BOE member  
Arnold Shimelman, Shipman and Goodman

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

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Appointments**- None

**Correspondence and Announcements**- None

**Public Comment**

Rudy Bahrens thanked the BOF for all their hard work and also spoke of AP courses at the high school.

Selectman Ron Oliveri thanked the BOF for putting the discussion of the police vehicle on tonight's agenda.

Laura Consiglio spoke of the increase in the "Early Learning Center" tuition for 2008-2009.

Ralph Langham praised the "Scholars Night" ceremony at the high school and also the "Senior Enrichment Experience" (SEE). Mr. Langham also spoke of the budget process.

Dan Blackwell spoke of the need for a four-wheel drive police vehicle for the town.

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*Attachments- 2 pages transfers*

### Approval of Minutes

Al Mardis made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 21, 2008 regular meeting as presented. Jane Landers seconded the motion.

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

Medical Update- Joe Hart spoke of the medical fund year to date.

### Medical Fund Stop-Loss

There was a discussion of options for the Medical Fund Stop-loss coverage for 2008-2009.

Joe Hart made a motion that the town stay with its current Medical Fund Stop-loss coverage of 120% with an annual premium of \$179,328. Jane Landers seconded the motion.

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

### Audit Committee Report

Al Mardis noted that an audit subcommittee meeting was held immediately before this meeting. Mr. Mardis referred to a letter sent to the auditors from a taxpayer. Mr. Mardis noted that he instructed Mr. Bassett from the audit firm of McGladrey and Pullen to forward any correspondence not related to the scope of the audit to the audit subcommittee.

### Executive Session

Joe Hart made a motion to enter into Executive Session at 7:54pm for the purpose of discussing contracts and legal opinions. Al Mardis seconded the motion.

**Vote: 5-0-1 (Motion approved- Jane Landers abstained)**

Al Mardis made a motion to amend the previous motion to invite First Selectman John Hodge, Superintendent of Schools Dr. Joseph Castagnola, Board of Education Chairman Kim Hanson, Permanent Building Committee Chairman Bob Rawlings and Arnold Shimelman from the law firm of Shipman and Goodman into the executive session. Tom Wahlig seconded the motion.

**Vote to amend motion: 5-0-1 (Motion approved-Jane Landers abstained)**

**Vote on motion as amended: 5-0-1 (Motion approved-Jane Landers abstained)**

Joe Hart made a motion to come out of executive session at 9:05pm. Jane Landers seconded the motion.

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

### Discussion of Police Vehicle

First Selectman John Hodge spoke of the need for a four wheel drive police vehicle. Mr. Hodge explained the cost of the vehicle and noted that no computer or camera will be installed in the vehicle. Mr. Hodge explained that the cost for the vehicle of \$33,276.00 can be taken from road repair (\$18,250) and State Police Overtime. (\$15,000)

Al Mardis made a motion to authorize the purchase of a four-wheel drive vehicle Expedition for a price not to exceed \$33,276.00 and to pay for it by reducing road repair by \$18,250 and state police overtime by \$15,000. Jane Landers seconded the motion.

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

### Addition to agenda

Al Mardis made a motion to add to the agenda item #13A "Discussion of Early Learning Center tuition". Wes Marsh seconded the motion.

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

**Legal Update**

Lucy DiRocco spoke of the FOI cases within the legal budget.

**Transfers**

Al Mardis made a motion to make the following Intra-Departmental Transfer. Tom Wahlig 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	
\$500.00	4193-110	ZBA Salaries	\$500.00	4193-610	ZBA Materials and Supplies
<b>\$500.00</b>			<b>\$500.00</b>		

Al Mardis made a motion to make the following Inter-Departmental Transfer. Tom Wahlig 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	
\$700.00	4121-610	Probate Materials & Supplies	\$700.00	4140-110	ROV-Salaries
<b>\$700.00</b>			<b>\$700.00</b>		

**Discussion of Early Learning Center tuition**

There was a discussion of the increase in tuition for the “Early Learning Center”. There was a discussion among the members of the Board of Finance regarding the increase in the tuition. Board of Education Chairman Kim Hanson stated that this item will be discussed at the Board of Education meeting on June 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Public Comment**

Selectman Ron Oliveri thanked the Board of Finance for approved the purchase of the four-wheel drive police vehicle.

Laura Consiglio spoke of the ELC tuition.

BOE Chairman Kim Hanson noted that he will provide the Board of Finance with a list of cuts that the Board of Education made during the budget cycle.

**Board Member Comments**

Al Mardis spoke of the “Shining Stars” ceremony held at the high school and noted that over \$70,000 of scholarships were given to New Fairfield students.

**Adjournment**

Al Mardis made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:07pm. Wes Marsh seconded the motion.

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