

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

**MINUTES**

**Board of Finance Meeting**

**Saturday, March 7, 2009**

**10:00 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:***

**Morning Session**

Dr. Joseph Castagnola, Superintendent of Schools  
Alicia Roy, Assistant Superintendent of Schools  
Jay Waterman, Finance Director  
Ed Sbordone, Finance Department  
Phil Cammarano, Town Treasurer  
Craig McClain, Director of Management Services  
Mariana Coelho, High School Principal  
Scott Rohwedder, Assistant High School Principal  
Phil Ross, Buildings and Grounds Director  
Jay Greenberg, Athletic Director  
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  
Tom Corbett, Selectman  
Kim Hanson, BOE Chairman  
Karen Chance, BOE member  
Vic Flagello, BOE member

**Afternoon Session**

John Hodge, First Selectman  
Tom Corbett, Selectman  
Jay Waterman, Finance Director  
Ed Sbordone, Accounting Manager  
Phil Cammarano, Town Treasurer  
Linda Farinha, Finance Department  
Ed McCue, Fire Chief  
Karen Chance, BOE member

**Call To Order** Chairman Joe Hart called the meeting to order at 9:55am

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Appointments** None

**Discussion of Board of Education requested budget 2009/2010**

Members of the Board of Finance asked questions of Dr. Castagnola, Craig McClain and various administrators regarding the proposed budget for 2009/2010. Specific topics discussed included enrollment data, Health Insurance and money spent on Special Education. There was a discussion of the state and federal stimulus package. Dr. Castagnola noted that he has been in contact with Congressman Chris Murphy's office and will report back any information he receives regarding the status of the stimulus package. It was decided that BOF member Jane Landers will collect any e-mails/questions from the BOF members and forward them to Dr. Castagnola to be answered at the Board of Finance meeting on Wednesday, March 25<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm in the High School library. The members of the BOF asked that the BOE come to the meeting on March 25<sup>th</sup> with scenarios for the impact of cuts for \$300,000, \$600,000 and \$900,000.

There will be special BOS meeting on Wednesday, March 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm immediately preceding the BOF meeting regarding the proposed school building projects.

**Public Comment on the Board of Education request budget 2009/2010**

Board of Education Chairman Kim Hanson spoke of the proposed BOE budget

Board of Education member Karen Chance spoke of the teacher's contracts.

Resident Paul Bruno spoke of unemployment rates in New Fairfield and the status of the economy.

**Recess**

Joe Hart made a motion to recess the meeting at 12:05pm. Wes Marsh seconded the motion.

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

Joe Hart made a motion to come back from recess at 1:15pm. Al Mardis seconded the motion.

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

**Budget Transfers**

Al Mardis made a motion to make an Inter-Departmental transfer of \$20,000 to Public Works for Snow Materials and Supplies. Joe Hart seconded the motion.

Joe Hart made a motion to amend the transfer to take an additional \$38.00 from account #4161-333 (Professional Services- Town Engineer) instead of taking it from the BOF Contingency account. Al Mardis 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)**

\$'s	To Account #		\$'s	From Account #	
\$20,000.00	4310-610-3	PW-Snow Mat & Supp.	\$ 100.00	4120-341	Town Clerk-Vital Statistics
			\$ 72.00	4121-610	Probate-Materials & Supplies
			\$ 50.00	4152-610	Treasurer-Materials & Supplies
			\$ 1,785.00	4153-339	Assessor-Revaluation
			\$ 1,054.00	4154-331	Tax Coll. Delq. Tax Coll.
			\$ 607.00	4160-130	Unclass-P&B OT Conting.
			\$ 6,038.00	4161-333	Prof. Services-Town Engineer
			\$ 2,500.00	4161-334	Prof. Services-Consulting
			\$ 275.00	4162-312	Intergov. Agency-CCS Towns
			\$ 200.00	4191-610	Planning Comm. Mat & Supplies
			\$ 1,793.00	4192-610	Zoning Comm. Mat. & Supplies
			\$ 252.00	4193-610	ZBA-Materials & Supplies
			\$ 120.00	4196-110	PBC-Salaries
			\$ 49.00	4196-610	PBC-Materials & Supplies
			\$ 275.00	4197-610	Gen. Land Use- Mat. & Supplies
			\$ 129.00	4199-610	Comm of Youth
			\$ 150.00	4225-610	Fire Marshall-Mat & Supplies
			\$ 270.00	4290-610	Emergency Plan-Mat & Supplies
			\$ 220.00	4420-610	Inland Wetlands-Mat & Supplies
			\$ 60.00	4430-610	WPCA-Materials & Supplies
			\$ 750.00	4440-350-10	Social Services-WeCAHR
			\$ 116.00	4440-610	Social Services-Mat & Supplies
			\$ 156.00	4460-110	BPAC-Salaries
			\$ 125.00	4470-610	Comm. On Aging-Mat. & Supp.
			\$ 979.00	4550-640	Library-Books & Materials
			\$ 1,875.00	4151-336	BOF-Town Audit
<b>\$20,000.00</b>			<b>\$20,000.00</b>		

### **Discussion of Board of Selectmen Requested Budget 2009/2010**

First Selectman John Hodge presented the Board of Selectmen's requested budget for 2009/2010 and gave a power point presentation. The total BOS's requested budget for 2009/2010 equals \$9,886,848 for a .38% decrease over the 2008/2009 budget. This percentage represents a dollar amount decrease of \$37,822. A copy of this power point presentation is available at [www.newfairfield.org](http://www.newfairfield.org) First Selectman Hodge noted that he is still waiting for information regarding the governor's budget and the stimulus package.

Members of the Board of Finance asked questions of First Selectman John Hodge and Finance Director Jay Waterman regarding the 2009/2010 proposed Board of Selectmen's budget. Main topics discussed were paving of roads and the Emergency Building Fund. There was a discussion of the Parks and Recreation salaries and bonuses given to the Public Works department. There was a discussion of when the budget referendum should be held. Mr. Hodge will ask the Tax Collector for a time line about getting the tax bills out. There was a discussion of grants received in town. BOF alternate Tony Sanches complimented the town on securing such grants. There was also a discussion of money that is returned to the General Fund. It was decided that all questions from BOF members will be sent to BOF member Jane Landers who will forward to the Finance Department.

First Selectman Hodge thanked Jay Waterman, Ed Sbordone, Linda Fahrina and the entire Finance Department for all their hard work with the budget.

The Board of Finance decided to change their next regularly scheduled meeting of Wednesday, March 11<sup>th</sup> to Tuesday, March 10, 2009 at 7:30 in the High School library.

**Public Comment on the BOS requested budget 2009/2010**

Board of Education member thanked everyone involved with the budget for bringing such a reasonable budget to the Board of Finance.

Fire Chief Ed McCue spoke of electricity fees for the firehouse.

**Adjournment**

Al Mardis made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:00pm. Joe Hart seconded the motion.

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