

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

**MINUTES**

**Board of Finance Regular Meeting**  
**Wednesday, November 14, 2012**  
**7:30 PM**  
**New Fairfield Community Room**

***Members present:***

Wes Marsh, Chairman  
Don Blackwell  
Tom Edwards  
Keith Landa  
Jane Landers  
Tom Quigley  
Cheryl Reedy, Alternate

Brian Shea, Alternate

***Members not present:***

Michael Cammarota, Alternate

***Other Town Officials Present:***

John Hodge, First Selectman  
Susan Chapman, Selectman  
Jay Waterman, Finance Director  
Ed Sbordone, Accounting Manager

**Call To Order** Chairman Wes Marsh called the meeting to order at 7:30pm

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Appointments**- Chairman Wes Marsh noted that Cheryl Reedy has been appointed by the BOS to serve as an alternate on the BOF. Mr. Marsh welcomed Ms. Reedy to the board.

**Correspondence and Announcements**- None

**Public Comment**- None

**Approval of Minutes**

Don Blackwell made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 17, 2012 regular meeting as presented. Tom Quigley seconded the motion.

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

**Addition to Agenda**

Wes Marsh made a motion to add agenda item #6A "Approval of October 17, 2012 special meeting minutes". Jane Landers seconded the motion.

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

### **Approval of October 17, 2012 special meeting minutes**

Tom Quigley made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 17, 2012 special meeting as presented. Don Blackwell seconded the motion.

**Vote: 5-0-1 (Motion approved-Tom Edwards abstained)**

### **Update on the FEMA reimbursement to the town due to storms**

Finance Director Jay Waterman noted that the FEMA reimbursement to date for Hurricane Irene (August 2011) and Winter Storm Alfred (October 2011) is \$152,249.80. A commitment letter has been received for Hurricane Irene in the amount of \$26,411.25 and for Winter Storm Alfred in the amount of \$194,541.35. Once the final payment is received the total will be \$373,202.40. No information regarding Hurricane Sandy has been received yet.

Chairman Wes Marsh thanked Director of Emergency Management Jean Flynn for all her hard work in getting more reimbursement money than anticipated.

### **Budget Transfers**

There were no budget transfers at this time but Chairman Marsh asked a question regarding a transfer from Communications Center salaries to Communication Center overtime. Don Blackwell explained that this was due to part-time employees leaving and full-time employees having to fill in. There was a brief discussion on how to get part-time employees to stay.

### **Status of Library renovation project**

At the October BOF meeting, Michael Cammarota volunteered to follow up with the Library Board regarding the status of the library renovation project. He sent an e-mail and received a response from Library Board Chairman Gail Lehman explaining fundraising opportunities that are already in place and what will be available in the future. Tom Edwards noted that the bid package for this project was very well done.

### **Status of teacher contract negotiations meetings**

Keith Landa noted that a tentative agreement was reached and was ratified by the teachers but still needs to go before the Board of Education for ratification. This is a three year contract.

### **Discussion of fiscal year 2013-2014 budget planning**

Chairman Wes Marsh spoke of the planning for the 2013-2014 budget and spoke of the Mill Rate increase over the past three years. There was a discussion among the board regarding how much of an increase the taxpayers are willing to pay and how to get more input from taxpayers from all age groups. There was a discussion about goals in town and programs or investments that may not be considered due to budget constraints. Tom Edwards asked if it was possible to have a spreadsheet made that covers information in the budget books. Jay Waterman will check into this.

### **ONGOING UPDATES**

**Medical update-** Jay Waterman noted that the full report will be sent to the board via e-mail. Claims are approximately \$600,000 more than what they were at this time last year.

**Legal update**- Jay Waterman noted that approximately 67% of the budget has been spent so far this year but noted that most of that was encumbered.

**Year to date expenses review**- Jay Waterman spoke of expenditures for the first 4 months of the year. There was a brief discussion about brush pick up from Hurricane Sandy. First Selectman Hodge noted that the drop off center had extended hours for brush but the town will not be picking up brush like they did last year.

**Current year revenue update**- Jay Waterman noted that interest income of this year is down significantly. Additional Sherman students have come into the system thus generating more revenue. Town clerk receipts are currently over budget.

**Cap & Non update**

Musket Ridge Bridge has been completed. The unappropriated fund balance for Cap & Non to date is \$582,724.57.

**Public Comment**

First Selectman John Hodge spoke of the capital projects that have been done in town of the last few years.

**Future agenda items**

Agenda items for future meetings include budget planning for fiscal year 2013-2014, teacher contracts and a report of Town buildings.

**Board member comments**

Board members welcomed Cheryl Reedy to the Board of Finance.

Tom Edwards noted that he attended a PBC meeting last night and the Meeting House Hill School project is scheduled to be completed by January 22<sup>nd</sup> with money left over.

**Adjournment**

Don Blackwell made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:02 pm. Jane Landers seconded the motion.

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