

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

**MINUTES**

**Board of Finance Regular Meeting**  
**Wednesday, March 5, 2014**  
**7:30 PM**  
**New Fairfield Community Room**

***Members present:***

Wes Marsh, Chairman  
Don Blackwell  
Michael Cammarota  
Tom Edwards  
John Hodge  
Jane Landers  
Cheryl Reedy, Alternate  
Brian Shea, Alternate  
***Members not present:***  
Steve Brown, Alternate

***Other Town Officials Present:***

Susan Chapman, First Selectman  
Mike Gill, Selectman  
Evelyn Abraham, Finance Director  
Ed Sbordone, Accounting Manager  
Dr. Alicia Roy, Superintendent of Schools  
Barbara Mechler, Assistant Superintendent of Schools  
Mariana Coelho, High School Principal  
Christine Baldelli, Middle School Principal  
Sarah McLain, Meeting House Hill School Principal  
Aimee Turner, Director of Pupil Personnel Services  
Craig McClain, Business Manager  
Lynn Fichtel, Consolidated School Assistant Principal  
Scott Akam, BOE Chairman  
Steve Burfeind, BOE Member  
Sean Loughran, BOE Member  
Linda Norris, BOE Member  
Susan Starr, BOE Member  
Jay Voss, BOE Member

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

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Appointments**-None

**Correspondence and Announcements**- Wes Marsh noted that he received a letter addressed to the BOF from a resident with questions about the town audit.

**Public Comment**- None

**Approval of Minutes**

Don Blackwell made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 1, 2014 Budget Hearing as presented. John Hodge seconded the motion.

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

*BOF-Minutes*

*03/05/14*

*Page 1 of 3*

*Attachment- 1 page transfer sheet*

**Budget Transfers**

First Selectman Susan Chapman noted that this was for consulting fees for Milone and MacBroom for the Water System project. This money should be reimbursed by the state once the project is completed.

Wes Marsh made a motion to approve the following Inter-Departmental transfer in the amount of \$6,000.00. John Hodge seconded the motion. (Such document to be attached to the minutes of this meeting)

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

\$	Transfer To		\$	Transfer From	
\$6,000.00	4161-334	Prof. Services- Consulting	\$6,000.00	4153-339	Assessor-Revaluation
<b>\$6,000.00</b>			<b>\$6,000.00</b>		

**Discussion of the Board of Selectmen Requested budget for 2014/2015**

The board discussed the requested BOS budget for 2014-2015 and received answers to questions from the March 1<sup>st</sup> budget hearings. It was noted that utility prices have not been locked in at this time.

There was a discussion of the salaries for Police officers as well as the price of the benefits they receive.

First Selectman Susan Chapman spoke of the Saw Mill Bridge project that was budgeted for \$180,000. First Selectman Chapman spoke with Director of Public Works Bob Rzasa and it was noted that this project could be split into two years. As a result, First Selectman Chapman asked that \$80,000 be kept in the budget for this project, but the remaining \$100,000 be put back into the road repair budget.

It was requested that a firm number be given for the cost of road repair for this year before the budget mark up.

**Discussion of the Board of Education Requested budget for 2014/2015**

Wes Marsh spoke of a grant that was received in the amount of \$157,000 for security for the schools. In order to avoid having to take this to a Town Meeting, it was decided to record this as revenue source and an addition to the BOE Capital and Nonrecurring account. The net budget amount stays the same.

There was a discussion of what type of security would be purchased with this grant. It was noted that the BOF needs to be fiscally prudent as to what is spent without compromising the scope of this security. BOE Chairman Scott Akam announced that security will be discussed at the March 6<sup>th</sup> BOE meeting.

Director of Pupil Personnel Services Aimee Turner spoke of enrollment figures of special education students and noted that there was an increase in high need students in recent years and the outplacement numbers are significantly lower than other districts.

Other BOE topics discussed included the process of BOE transfers, the decline in the GASB 45 contributions and transportation budget.

Chairman Wes Marsh spoke of the requested budgets and noted that if no other changes are made to either budget, the Mil Rate increase would be 1.99%.

**Public Comment**- Resident Ellen Waltmyer thanked the BOF for all their hard work and requested that they support both the BOS and the BOE budgets as presented.

**Future Agenda Items**

The board decided to cancel the budget meeting scheduled for March 12<sup>th</sup>.

The next regular meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 19<sup>th</sup>. Medical consultant Steve Rinaldi from the firm of Everett James, Inc. will be invited to attend.

**Board member comments**

Board members thanked both the BOS and the BOE for all their hard work and cooperation with the budgets.

**Adjournment**

John Hodge made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 pm. Michael Cammarota seconded the motion.

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