

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

MINUTES

Board of Finance Regular Meeting
Wednesday, March 29, 2017
7:30 PM
New Fairfield Community Room

Members present:

Wes Marsh, Chairman
Michael Cammarota
Tom Edwards
John Hodge
Jane Landers
Anthony Yorio
Cheryl Reedy, Alternate
Brian Shea, Alternate
Rick Salem, Alternate

Other Town Officials Present:

Ed Sbordone, Interim Finance Director
Susan Chapman, First Selectman
Kim Hanson, Selectman
Dr. Alicia Roy, Superintendent of Schools
Dr. Richard Sanzo, High School Principal
Christine Baldelli, Middle School Principal
James Mandracchia, MHHS Assistant Principal
Andrea Einhorn, Director of Pupil Personnel Services
Craig McClain, Business Manager
Steve Burfeind, BOE Chairman
Susan Starr, BOE member
Amy Tozzo, BOE member

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Appointments-None

Correspondence and Announcements-None

Public Comment

Resident John McCartney thanked the BOF and all volunteers in town and spoke in support of the BOE budget. Mr. McCartney spoke of the importance of quality schools in town.

BOE Vice Chairman Amy Tozzo spoke of possible reductions to the BOE budget and specifically stressed the importance of Math coaches, STEM coaches and paraprofessionals for the Special Friends program.

Approval of Minutes

Anthony Yorio made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 22, 2017 regular meeting as presented. Jane Landers seconded the motion. **Vote: 5-0-1 (Motion approved- Michael Cammarota abstained)**

Anthony Yorio made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 15, 2017 insurance subcommittee meeting as presented. Jane Landers seconded the motion. **Vote: 5-0-1 (Motion approved- John Hodge abstained)**

Anthony Yorio made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 22, 2017 insurance subcommittee meeting as presented. Jane Landers seconded the motion.

Vote: 5-0-1 (Motion approved- Michael Cammarota abstained)

Budget Transfers- None

Presentation of Medical plans for the 2017-2018 budget- Arthur J. Gallagher & Co.

Bob Lindberg from the firm of Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. spoke of the Medical plan for 2017-2018 for the Town of New Fairfield. Specific topics included a year-to-date picture of both the medical and pharmacy. There was a brief description of self funded vs. not self funded plans, projections and stop loss renewal. Members of the BOF asked questions of Mr. Lindberg specifically regarding aggregate stop loss vs. Individual stop loss and the cost of pharmacy benefits.

BOS and BOE requested 2017-2018 budgets

Chairman Wes Marsh spoke of the proposed budget for both the Town and the BOE and noted that there is a slight decrease in the Grand List. He also spoke of the plan for budgets in surrounding towns. The Board discussed the Medical Fund and specifically OPEB. Other topics of discussion included the BOE budget and the request for Math coaches and Special Friends paraprofessionals. There was a discussion of the needs of both the Town and the BOE. There was a discussion of the drop in enrollment in recent years and how this affects the budget.

The Board discussed the needs of both the BOE and the Town and the need to weigh it against the taxpayers' ability to pay.

John Hodge made a motion that the BOF approve a tax increase of no more than 3.99% for the fiscal year 2017-2018 with details to be determined in the final mark up. Jane Landers seconded the motion.

Vote: 4-2-0 (Motion approved- Michael Cammarota and Tom Edwards opposed)

Public Comment

John McCartney, Amy Tozzo and Jennifer Brackenwagen spoke of their disappointment in the vote to approve a tax increase of no more than 3.99% and spoke of the needs of the Town and the BOE.

Selectman Kim Hanson spoke of the State budget and how it would affect New Fairfield's budget.

Report from Insurance Consultant Subcommittee

Wes Marsh made a motion to go into Executive Session at 9:00pm to discuss the Insurance consultant and to invite Ed Sbordone into the Executive Session. Jane Landers seconded the motion.

Vote: 6-0-0 (Motion approved)

The Board came back from Executive Session at 9:29 pm

Wes Marsh made a motion to put Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. on 30-day written notice as part of their contract to terminate their agreement with the Town of New Fairfield and to select USI as the Insurance Consultant for the Town of New Fairfield subject to contract review. Anthony Yorio seconded the motion.

Vote: 6-0-0 (Motion approved)

Adjournment

John Hodge made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:38 pm. Michael Cammarota seconded the motion.

Vote: 6-0-0 (Motion approved)