

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

**MINUTES**  
**Board of Finance Regular Meeting**  
**Wednesday, April 19, 2017**  
**7:30 PM**  
**New Fairfield Community Room**

***Members present:***

Wes Marsh, Chairman  
Michael Cammarota  
John Hodge  
Jane Landers  
Anthony Yorio

Brian Shea, Alternate

***Members not present:***

Tom Edwards  
Cheryl Reedy, Alternate  
Rick Salem, Alternate

***Other Town Officials Present:***

Ed Sbordone, Interim Finance Director  
Susan Chapman, First Selectman  
Mike Gill, Selectman  
Kim Hanson, Selectman  
Dr. Alicia Roy, Superintendent of Schools  
Sarah McLain, MHHS Principal  
Steve Burfeind, BOE Chairman  
Samantha Mannion, BOE member

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

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Appointments**-None

**Correspondence and Announcements**- Chairman Wes Marsh noted that he received an email from Superintendent of Schools Dr. Alicia Roy regarding the Board of Education budget. This will be addressed during the budget section of the meeting.

**Change in Agenda**

John Hodge made a motion to move agenda item #11 "Discuss and possibly vote on including non binding advisory questions on the 2017-2018 budget referendum ballot to agenda item #7A. Jane Landers seconded the motion. **Vote: 5-0-0 (Motion approved)**

**Public Comment**

Resident John McCartney spoke of the budget and asked the BOF to consider recommending a higher budget in order to support both the schools and the town.

Selectman Kim Hanson spoke of the possibility of an advisory question on the ballot and asked the BOF to consider how this will affect the budget vote.

**Approval of Minutes**

Jane Landers made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 29, 2017 regular meeting as presented. Michael Cammarota seconded the motion. **Vote: 5-0-0 (Motion approved)**

**Approval of Minutes (con't)**

Jane Landers made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 29, 2017 insurance subcommittee meeting as presented. John Hodge seconded the motion. **Vote: 5-0-0 (Motion approved)**

**Budget Transfers**

Wes Marsh made a motion to approve the following Inter-Departmental transfer in the amount of \$1,000.00. John Hodge seconded the motion. (Such document to be attached to the minutes of this meeting)

**Vote: 5-0-0 (Motion approved)**

\$	Transfer From		\$	Transfer To	
\$1,000.00	4190-345	Human Resources-Bus. Services	\$1,000.00	4163-520	General Insurance Property and Casualty (Increased Billings and Additions)
<b>\$1,000.00</b>			<b>\$1,000.00</b>		

**Advisory questions to the referendum**

Wes Marsh made a motion to add two non binding questions to the 2017-2018 budget referendum ballot with the following answers (too high, too low, just right). Jane Landers seconded the motion.

Jane Landers made a motion to amend the motion to eliminate the “just right” option if there is room for only two possible answers. John Hodge seconded the motion.

**Vote to amend: 5-0-0 (Motion approved)**

**Vote on original motion as amended: 5-0-0 (Motion approved)**

**Presentation by USI Insurance Services**

Kimberly Quigley and Thomas Kowalchik from USI Insurance Services gave a presentation regarding medical insurance services for the Town of New Fairfield which includes both the Town and the Board of Education. This report covered a discussion of medical claims, prescriptions and dental claims. There was a graph of month to month claims. There was a brief discussion of large claims and a breakdown of Town and Board of Education claims. The Board discussed Aggregate Stop Loss vs. Individual Stop Loss and how the Medical plan affects the overall budget.

**Vote on final mark up of Board of Finance recommended 2017-2018 budget**

Chairman Wes Marsh spoke of the budget process and particularly the challenge of making up the hole created by cuts from the State budget. In order to make up some of these deficits, GASB 45 will be funded out the Medical Reserve fund, money will be saved from the BOE debt service budget due to refinancing and medical costs have been reduced for the 2017-2018 budget.

Chairman Marsh read an email from Superintendent of Schools Dr. Alicia Roy in response to the request from the BOF to prioritize their requests for a total amount of \$330,381. The BOE voted to request the following positions to be restored to the budget in no particular order: Math teacher at Consolidated School- \$72,955, STEM Coach at the Middle School/High School \$60,240, Technology teacher at Consolidated School- \$63,262, District Transition teacher for \$52,631 Special Friends paraprofessional for \$17,293 and School Safety Advocate for \$64,000. Wes Marsh spoke of his disappointment that this list is not prioritized. The BOF had a discussion of what if anything, should be added back to the budget.

Wes Marsh made a motion for a final mark up of the Town budget to add \$75,891 for Resident State Trooper costs, subtracting \$5,000 of GASB 45 and \$33,210.00 from Medical. John Hodge seconded the motion.

**Vote: 5-0-0 (Motion approved)**

Wes Marsh made a motion to make the following changes to the Board of Education budget: subtract \$714,152 from operating, subtract \$252,035 from GASB 45, subtract \$183,132 from Medical subtract \$159,600 from debt service and \$339,000 from Capital and Nonrecurring. John Hodge seconded the motion.

**Vote: 4-1-0 (Motion approved-Michael Cammarota opposed)**

### **Board of Finance recommended 2017-2018 budget to a Town Meeting**

Wes Marsh made a motion to recommend to a Town Meeting a Board of Finance recommended budget consisting of the following: municipal expenditures totaling \$10,911,346 from the General Fund and \$510,085 from the Capital and Nonrecurring fund and \$828,051 from other Governmental funds for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2017 and ending June 30, 2018 and education expenditures totaling \$40,905,128 from the General Fund and \$148,000 from the Capital and Nonrecurring fund for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2017 and ending June 30, 2018. John Hodge seconded the motion.

**Vote: 5-0-0 (Motion approved)**

### **Public Comment**

John McCartney thanked the BOF members for all their hard work with the budget process.

Meeting House Hill School Principal Sarah McLain thanked the BOF members for their hard work and noted that the list was prioritized.

Scott March spoke in support of the budget and encouraged everyone to get the information out to taxpayers.

### **Future Agenda Items**

The Board will approve the Mil Rate at the next meeting and will also discuss Health Insurance including Individual Stop Loss and Aggregate Stop Loss.

### **Board member comments**

Members of the BOF thanked members of the BOS, BOE and everyone involved in the budget process.

Members of the BOF thanked Chairman Wes Marsh for all his hard work with the budget.

Members of the BOF wished Meeting House Hill School Principal Sarah McLain good luck in her retirement.

### **Adjournment**

John Hodge made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:12 pm. Anthony Yorio seconded the motion.

**Vote: 5-0-0 (Motion approved)**