

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

**MINUTES**

**Board of Finance Regular Meeting**  
**Wednesday, June 21, 2017**  
**7:30 PM**  
**New Fairfield Community Room**

***Members present:***

Wes Marsh, Chairman  
John Hodge  
Jane Landers  
Tom Edwards  
Cheryl Reedy, Alternate  
Rick Salem, Alternate  
Brian Shea, Alternate  
***Members not present:***  
Michael Cammarota  
Anthony Yorio

***Other Town Officials Present:***

Ed Sbordone, Finance Director

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

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Appointments**-Chairman Wes Marsh noted that Michael Cammarota will not be present at tonight's meeting and appointed Cheryl Reedy to serve in his place.

**Correspondence and Announcements**- None

**Public Comment**-None

**Addition to the agenda**

Wes Marsh made a motion to add agenda item #10A "Auditor's invoice" to the agenda. John Hodge seconded the motion.

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

**Approval of Minutes**

Jane Landers made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 17, 2017 regular meeting as presented. John Hodge seconded the motion.

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

## **Budget Transfers-None**

### **Status of 2017-2018 budget referendum and advisory questions**

There was a question at the last BOF meeting asking whether or not the public or the BOF could review the ballots from the budget referendum specifically the advisory questions. It was decided to check with Town Counsel to see if this was permissible. Wes Marsh read an email from Town Counsel Jack Keating noting that there is no provision that authorizes the Registrars to make the ballots available for public inspection under the circumstances presented.

### **Update on the State fiscal year 2017-2018 budget**

Wes Marsh noted that there is no new news regarding the finalization of the State Budget for fiscal year 2017-2018. There is a rumor that this will not be done until after June 30<sup>th</sup>. There was a brief discussion of the Governor's "Executive Budget".

### **Fiscal year 2017-2018 budget funding**

There was a lengthy discussion of different solutions and scenarios of what can be done in the case of a possible shortfall to the Town budget due to state cuts. It was noted that there still may be \$2 or \$3 million worth of cuts to New Fairfield. There was a suggestion of having a workshop with the Board of Education and the Board of Selectmen to discuss solutions. Members of the BOF noted that they would like to see the State budget finalized and also what the Town surplus for 2016-2017 would be before making any final decisions.

There was a discussion of the timeline and procedures for supplemental taxes if necessary. The Board also discussed where to look for further cuts and suggested Medical Reserve fund, General Fund, reduction of the BOE and BOS operating budget or imposing a supplemental tax. It was decided to contact the BOE and BOS to ask them for contingency plans.

Cheryl Reedy made a motion to authorize the chairman to contact the Board of Selectmen and Board of Education in writing to ask them to prepare contingency plans regarding the current fiscal year budget including but not limited to: what expenditures can be delayed, what expenditures can be deleted and what additional revenue can be generated. Jane Landers seconded the motion.

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

### **Auditor's Invoice**

Wes Marsh spoke of an invoice that was received by the Town from the audit firm of O'Connor Davies for help with the completion of the MD&A (Management Discussion and Analysis). This is in addition to the annual auditor's fee of \$52,000.

Wes Marsh made a motion to pay the invoice in the amount of \$465.00 from the Town Audit line to the firm of O'Connor Davies. John Hodge seconded the motion.

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

## **ONGOING UPDATES**

**Medical update**-The Board briefly reviewed the Medical Reserve fund

**Legal update**- The available balance in the legal budget is \$18,930 as of May 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Year to date expenses review**- The oil tanks will be topped off in the next week. They are looking to lock in rates while rates are low. Communications Center overtime is under control. There will be a surplus for expenditures for the 2016-2017 fiscal year.

**Current year revenue update**- Education Cost Sharing has been reduced by the State. Interest income is up. There will be a surplus for revenue for the 2016-2017 fiscal year.

**Cap & Non review**- The Board discussed the Saw Mill Bridge project and discussed if Revaluation is necessary for the next fiscal year.

### **Public Comment**

Rick Regan spoke of the advisory questions on the ballot and the Attorney's opinion.

John McCartney thanked the BOF for all their hard work and for keeping the best interests of the residents in mind when making decisions.

### **Future Agenda Items**

Chairman Wes Marsh will report back on the correspondence between the BOF and the BOE and BOS regarding the budget and will discuss the deficiencies found by the auditor.

### **Board member comments**

The Board members wished everyone a very happy summer!

### **Adjournment**

John Hodge made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:27 pm. Jane Landers seconded the motion.

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