

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

MINUTES
Board of Finance Regular Meeting
Wednesday, October 17, 2018
7:30 PM
New Fairfield Community Room

Members present:

Wes Marsh, Chairman
Erin Badillo
Michael Cammarota
Jane Landers
Anthony Yorio
Cheryl Reedy, Alternate
Rick Salem, Alternate

Other Town Officials Present:

Ed Sbordone, Finance Director
Pat Del Monaco, First Selectman
Khris Hall, Selectman
Dr. Pat Consentino, Superintendent of Schools
Dr. Jason McKinnon, Ass't Superintendent of Schools
Peggy Katkocin, BOE Chairman
Rick Regan, BOE member

Members not present :

Tom Edwards
Brian Shea, Alternate

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Appointments

Anthony Yorio made a motion to appoint Rick Salem as a full member for the purpose of tonight's meeting. Michael Cammarota seconded the motion.

Vote: 5-0-0 (Motion approved)

Correspondence and Announcements-None

Public Comment- None

Approval of Minutes

Jane Landers made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 12, 2018 regular meeting as presented. Michael Cammarota seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-3 (Motion approved- Wes Marsh, Jane Landers and Michael Cammarota in favor, Rick Salem, Anthony Yorio and Erin Badillo abstained)

Budget Transfers- None

School Safety and Security Committee update

Anthony Yorio gave an update for the School Safety and Security committee and noted that the audit recommended a lot of changes that have already been implemented. The costs of most of these items were absorbed by the current budget. It is possible that an appropriation may be needed for cameras and some other capital items.

Town of New Fairfield's Debt Policy

The Board discussed the town's debt policy and primary objectives that were amended as of October 1, 2018. The Town Debt limit as compared to the State Debt Limit was discussed.

Anthony Yorio made a motion to adapt the Town Debt policy with the addition to of Section C (Second bullet point) to add that "In no event shall the town short and long term debt exceed the state debt limit". Rick Salem seconded the motion.

Vote: 6-0-0 (Motion approved)

This policy will be forwarded to the Board of Selectmen for their approval.

Budget Surplus for 2017-2018

Superintendent of Schools Dr. Pat Cosentino noted that the BOE unanimously voted to ask the BOF for 100% of the unexpended funds in the amount of \$87,563.32. This is broken down to \$14,745.87 from 2016-2017 and \$72,817.52 from 2017-2018. She noted that this money would be used for enhancements to security and ADA compliance. Anthony Yorio spoke of money to be used for school security. It was noted that this money can only be used for capital items.

Wes Marsh made a motion to approve the following Additional Appropriation (Town Meeting NOT required) in the amount of \$87,563.39. Anthony Yorio seconded the motion. (Such document to be attached to the minutes of this meeting)

Vote: 6-0-0 (Motion approved)

\$	Transfer From		\$	Transfer To	
\$72,817.52	2532-001	General Fund- Unreserved (2017/2018 surplus)	\$87,563.39	306-4600-710	BOE Cap & Non
\$14,745.87	2532-001	General Fund- Unreserved (Prior year close outs)			
\$87,563.39			\$87,563.39		

BOE Goals

Superintendent of Schools Dr. Pat Cosentino spoke of the return on investment and measurable goals for the district. She noted goals as improvement of scores, enhanced curriculum and closing of the achievement gap between regular and special education students. Specific details included technology, budget, facilities and researching of the possibility of a later start time. She gave a schedule of topics of presentation for the BOE meetings throughout the year and invited BOF members to attend any of the BOE meetings. The Superintendent's budget will be presented to the BOE on Thursday, Jan. 3rd.

Assistant Superintendent of Schools Dr. Jason McKinnon spoke of the correlation between money spent on professional development and curriculum and the increase in test scores and spoke of a detailed test report and steady trend upwards specifically in English Language Arts and Math.

Members of the Board of Finance thanked the Board of Education and Administration for their due diligence and hard work.

Town Surplus

First Selectman Pat Del Monaco spoke of the BOS recommendation for the uses of the 2017-2018 surplus which included a new vehicle for Public Works and the replacement of the docks at the Town Marina. The cost for the vehicle would be approximately \$60,000 and the dock replacements would be done in pieces with a cost of approximately \$250,000 per arm.

First Selectman Del Monaco noted that the docks will be made of galvanized steel and some of the money would come from the dock replacement fund. She noted that she met with the Parks and Recreation Commission this week and they agreed to set aside a portion of the dock fees for the dock replacement fund.

Members of the BOF asked questions regarding this and specifically why there is not enough money in the dock replacement fund. It was noted that there are currently approximately 156 docks with a cost of \$1,275/each per season. Cheryl Reedy gave a background of how the dock replacement fee was set up and noted that some of the revenue should be used to fund Parks and Recreation programs. Finance Director Ed Sbordone discussed the Parks and Rec budget and how money is moved from the fund.

Anthony Yorio suggested that the town use the surplus for the dock replacements with the understanding that the money gets paid back to the general fund from dock fees. He spoke of the possibility of setting up a twenty year schedule. The BOF invited Parks and Rec Commission members to attend their meetings.

The BOF asked for a RFP for the docks to determine the actual cost. They also asked for the numbers of budget vs. actual for the Parks and Rec capital and revenue accounts.

Board of Finance article for the Town Tribune- It was decided to postpone this until next month.

ONGOING UPDATES

Medical update- The ending fund balance for fiscal year 2018 is \$2,875,233.36. There was a brief discussion of the funding of OPEB.

Legal update- The current balance in the legal budget is \$118,675

Year to date expenses review- The BOF spoke of the expenses for the SRO and it was noted that everything is on track.

Current year revenue update- Everything is on track

Cap & Non- Discussed the Ball Pond Road project and it was noted that the renovation is almost complete.

Public Comment- None

Future agenda items- The Board will discuss the Town Tribune article, the BOE surplus and the update of the docks at meetings in the near future.

Board member comments

Erin Badillo and Michael Cammarota encouraged residents to vote.

Adjournment

Anthony Yorio made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:31 pm. Jane Landers seconded the motion.

Vote: 6-0-0 (Motion approved)