

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

**MINUTES**

**Board of Finance Regular Meeting**  
**Wednesday, March 27, 2019**  
**7:30 PM**  
**New Fairfield Community Room**

***Members present:***

Wes Marsh, Chairman  
Erin Badillo  
Jane Landers  
Cheryl Reedy  
Anthony Yorio  
Tom Garben, Alternate

***Members not present:***

Michael Cammarota

***Other Town Officials Present:***

Ed Sbordone, Finance Director  
Pat Del Monaco, First Selectman  
Dr Pat Cosentino, Superintendent of Schools  
Dr. Rich Sanzo, Director of Business and Operations  
Peggy Katkocin, BOE Chairman  
Khris Hall, Selectman  
Kimberly LaTourette, BOE member  
Samantha Mannion, BOE member  
Rick Regan, BOE member

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

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Appointments**- Wes Marsh noted that Michael Cammarota designated Brian Shea to serve in his absence.

**Correspondence and Announcements**- None

**Public Comment**- None

**Addition to the Agenda**

Wes Marsh made a motion to add agenda item #8A "Approval of Boat Dock invoice" to the agenda. Anthony Yorio seconded the motion. **Vote: 6-0-0 (Motion approved)**

**Approval of Minutes**

Anthony Yorio made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 20, 2019 regular meeting as presented. Jane Landers seconded the motion. **Vote: 5-0-1 (Motion approved- Brian Shea abstained)**

**Budget Transfers**- None

### **Presentation of Medical Plans for 2019-2020**

Tom Kowalchik and Kim Quigley from USI Insurance Services gave a presentation of the potential medical plans for 2019-2020. They spoke of expected claims vs. net claims and noted that the claims presented were through the end of February 2019. There was a brief discussion of the optimal amount for Individual Stop Loss and Aggregate Stop Loss. USI recommended \$200,000 for ISL and 120% for ASL. There was a discussion of the Prescription Rebate plan and it was noted that the rebate was higher than expected. The Board will make a decision regarding the medical plan in the near future.

### **Boat Dock Invoice**

Wes Marsh made a motion to approve the payment of the invoice from Race Coastal Engineering for the boat docks in the amount of \$21,585.80. Anthony Yorio seconded the motion. **Vote: 6-0-0 (Motion approved)**

### **Discussion of BOS and BOE requested 2019-2020 budgets**

**State Budget-** Wes Marsh noted that he and Erin Badillo met with State Senator Julie Kushner to discuss the state budget. They plan to meet with State Representative Richard Smith and State Representative Ken Gucker in the near future. At this point, no significant changes are expected to be made to the state budget.

### **BOS/BOE recommended budget reductions**

Superintendent of Schools Dr. Pat Cosentino spoke in response to the BOF request for the BOE to give recommendations for a \$400,000 cut to their proposed 2019-2020 budget. She spoke of cuts to positions and the plan to combine two administrative positions. Her recommendations consisted of \$198,219.40 of operating expenses and \$201,780.60 of Capital and Nonrecurring expenses for a total of \$400,000.00. The operating budget reductions include cutting of positions, reducing the number of buses, eliminating the Ice Hockey team and reducing some curriculum and professional development. The Capital and Nonrecurring reductions include deferring the HVAC Unit at the Middle School cafeteria, the carpeting at the Annex building and the funding of the elevator replacement at the schools.

There was a discussion of the proposed cut to curriculum development and professional development and the amount of money put in Capital and Nonrecurring accounts. BOF member Anthony Yorio thanked Dr. McKinnon for all his work with the changes to curriculum and the impact of removing a curriculum developer from the budget. He suggested funding this through attrition or unappropriated salary. Dr. Cosentino spoke of the challenge of making the attrition numbers. There was a suggestion of the possibility of cutting from the technology budget. It was noted that there may be slight changes to these recommendations after the next BOE meeting.

### **Expenditures/Revenue**

Anthony Yorio spoke of the Medical Insurance and suggested reducing the projected claim number to \$6 million instead of \$6.1 million. He spoke of the stop loss and the prescription drug rebate. There was a brief discussion of where to put the teacher retirement expense.

### **Town Tribune article**

It was decided that Cheryl Reedy will write an article for the next issue of the Town Tribune. There was a discussion of ways to encourage residents to get involved in the budget process.

### **Public Comment**

Aline Fogle thanked the BOF for all their hard work and suggested putting a simple explanation regarding the budget in the Town Tribune. There was a brief discussion of her suggestions regarding ways to alleviate the parking concerns at Consolidated School.

Superintendent of Schools Dr. Cosentino noted that she has plans to work with Consolidated School Principal Rob Spino to come up with ways to alleviate the parking issues especially during pick up and drop off.

John McCartney noted that there is a link to the municipal budget on the town's website. He encouraged everyone to come to meetings and get involved in the process.

### **Future agenda items**

The budget mark up will be on Wednesday, April 3rd.

### **Board member comments**

Members of the BOF thanked members of the BOS and BOE as well as the administrators and Town Hall employees for all their hard work with the budget process. They encouraged members of the public to get involved and noted that emails can be sent to BOF@newfairfield.org. Chairman Wes Marsh reminded residents that the budget is what directly determines the amount of taxes paid.

### **Adjournment**

Erin Badillo made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:18 pm. Anthony Yorio seconded the motion.

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