

**APPROVED/BOARD OF FINANCE MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2016**

A regular meeting of the Board of Finance was held on Tuesday February 19, 2016 in the large conference room in Town Hall at 7:30 a.m.

Members Present: David Ulmer, Chairman; Marty Heiser; and Jessica Mancini

Members Absent: Paul Sutherland, Vice Chairman

Town Officials: Jane Berendsen Hill, Tax Collector;

BOF Candidates: Edward Tyrrell; Mike Raduazza

A G E N D A

Comments From the Public

Interview and review of candidates interested in Board of Finance

Approval of Minutes – Regular Meeting of January 19, 2016

Tax Collectors Report

January 2016

Treasurer's Report

January 2016

BOE Financial Report

Controller's Report

Fiscal 2016 YTD Revenues and Expenses

Old Business

New Business

Communications & Correspondence

Adjournment

Mr. Ulmer called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

None

INTERVIEW AND REVIEW OF CANDIDATES INTERESTED IN BOARD OF FINANCE

The candidates had the choice between having their interviews conducted in executive or open session. Both candidates chose open.

Mr. Heiser expressed the BOF's sentiments when he thanked both men for coming forward for the position and said: "I have a very high opinion of both of you and all you have meant to the Town."

After the interviews each Board of Finance member said it was a very hard decision to make between two such well-qualified people who have already contributed so much to the Town.

Ms. Mancini and Mr. Ulmer voted for Mr. Raduazzo, with Mr. Heiser voting for Mr. Tyrell. Mr. Raduazzo was appointed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Heiser made and Ms. Mancini seconded a motion to approve the January 19, 2016 Board of Finance meeting minutes.

Vote: 3-0. **MOTION APPROVED**

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT

Tax Collector's Report

Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2016

(in millions)	Budget	Q1	October	Nov.	Dec.	YTD	% Cltd	Prior YTD % of Actual	2013-14	2012-13	2011-12	2010-11
Current Taxes	119.4	37.7	22.1	3.9	6.1	69.8	58.45	57.09	56.85	55.69	56.07	55.98
Supplemental MV	0.8	-	-	-	0.4	0.4	45.85	35.64	14.88	2.57	31.89	31.89
Prior Year Collections	0.9	0.6	0.2	0.1	0.2	1.1	119.78	77.33	82.97	79.06	53.10	53.10
Interest & Lien Fees	0.5	0.2	-	-	0.1	0.3	62.68	56.30	58.72	64.91	39.63	39.63
As of Jan. 31, 2016	121.5	38.5	22.3	4.0	6.6	71.5	58.83	57.27	57.15	56.07	55.98	55.98

Ms. Berendsen-Hill said she expects supplemental motor vehicle collections to exceed budget by a little and prior-year collections to exceed budget by a lot. "I have had people I did not expect from prior years." The fiscal-year-end surplus forecast for tax collections has been increased from \$200k to \$250k.

In response to an inquiry from Mr. Heiser, Ms. Berendsen-Hill opined that real estate activity has been very quiet, very slow..we can hope that activity in terms of property transfers picks up.

TREASURER'S REPORT

	Balance		Month int/div	Monthly Rate	YTD Interest
Fairfield County Bank					
Money Market (...134)	\$8,113,933.00		\$1,081.00	0.23%	
NOW (...0142)			\$951.00	0.23%	
Subtotal	\$8,113,933.00		\$2,032.00		\$16,031.00
STIF	\$5,572,588.00		\$1,608.00	0.38%	\$6,242.00
(CT - Short Term Investment Fund)					
Union Savings Bank					
Investment (...0501)	\$12,560,095.00	*	\$4,009.00	0.36%	
Tax Collector (...26720)	\$10,084,418.00				
Analyzed CKG (...2525)	\$1,026,099.00	**			
Repurchase (...2525)	\$6,215,257.00		\$1,526.00	0.36%	
Subtotal	\$29,885,868.00		\$5,535.00		\$18,409.00
TOTAL	\$43,572,390.00		\$91,715.00		\$40,682.00

*This account includes a \$5K non-interest bearing balance to cover USB fees due to an "Earnings Credit" agreement.

On 1/11/2016, this balance was reduced to \$1K so an additional \$4K can be "swept" daily in accordance with our Repo agreement.

**This account maintains a \$1.7MM non-interest bearing balance to cover USB fees due to an "Earning Credit" agreement. On 1/11/2016 this balance was reduced to \$1MM so an additional \$700K can be "swept" daily in accordance with our Repo agreement.

Mr. Heiser noted the \$43.5k balance and wondered if some of that could be invested in longer-term instruments that would yield a higher return. Mr. Redmond reminded him that \pm \$10MM of that was unexpended funds from the December bond issue. Mr. Redmond said the Treasurer is “definitely looking at it (ways to earn more interest), stating: “She’s being very active.”

BOE FINANCIAL REPORT

Reporting: budget overrun in salaries because of turnover and enrollment distribution; down pretty well in transportation thanks to lower gas prices; some energy savings because of the price of heating oil.

Bases on results to date, BOE Business Manager, Paul Henrickson, is projecting an under-budget position of a little over \$200,000.00 at year end.

CONTROLLER'S REPORT –

Mr. Redmond reported: “not a lot of change, still trending where we were last month.”

Revenue: Small surplus, \$200k in taxes offset by ECS and State Owned property. Parks & Recreation shows \pm \$100k surplus (anticipate it will come in higher on a net basis)

Ms. Mancini stated that she is “not happy” with the competition Parks & Recreation poses to many small private businesses in Town. She opined that perhaps the BOF drove that a little bit by pushing P & R to generate more revenue. “Maybe we have pushed them too far.”

Mr. Heiser: “I am just glad they are not in the house-painting business.”

Expenses: Mr. Redmond noted that the snow budget has been pretty good and there are only four more weeks left of prime-time snow. Workmen’s compensation is currently \$200k under on expense side.

The BOF discussed the State legislation scheduled to go into effect in 2018 that will cap municipal spending increases at 2.5% annually (includes school and town budgets, excludes debt service and special education costs). Towns that exceed the cap will be penalized.

Mr. Redmond observed that the cap would encourage towns to move items from the operating budget to the capital budget.

Mr. Radauzzo noted that the recently-negotiated teachers contracts exceed that cap, totaling 9.75% over three years.

Mr. Ulmer noted the irony of attempting to impose discipline on the towns when there is no discipline on the State.

OLD BUSINESS -

NEW BUSINESS

The Board discussed its scheduled meetings and decided to move the March meeting from March 8, 2016 to March 15, 2016 where it was originally.

Mr. Ulmer said he would send the Town Clerk a letter regarding Mr. Radauzzo’s selection to serve out Ms. Bornstein’s term on the BOF.

COMMUNICATIONS & CORRESPONDENCE

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Heiser and seconded by Mr. Ulmer to adjourn the meeting at 9:05 p.m.

Vote 3-0. **Motion APPROVED**.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Rodgers,
Recording Secretary