

**APPROVED BOARD OF FINANCE MINUTES – BUDGET DELIBERATIONS**  
**THURSDAY, MARCH 30, 2017**

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A budget deliberations meeting of the Board of Finance was held on Thursday, March 30, 2017 in the large conference room in Town Hall at 7:30 p.m.

Members Present: David Ulmer, Chairman; Jessica Mancini, Vice Chairman; Marty Heiser; Michael Raduazzo (arrived 8:36); and Sean Connelly

Town Officials: Rudy Marconi, First Selectman; Maureen Kozlark, Selectman; Kevin Redmond, Controller; Jane-Berendsen-Hill, Tax Collector; Paul Roche, Parks & Recreation Director; Phil Kearns, , Parks & Recreation Commission; Peter Coffin and Rick Seeny, architects.

**A G E N D A**

Revenue Estimates  
Tax Collector  
Treasurer  
Controller

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

Mr. Ulmer made and Mr. Heiser seconded a motion to add "Transfers" to the Agenda.

Vote: 5-0. Motion **APPROVED**.

**REVENUE ESTIMATES**

TAX COLLECTOR: Ms. Berendsen-Hill explained the unusually large supplemental motor vehicle list and warned the BOF not to expect to see the same amount in the next fiscal year.

In response to an inquiry from Mr. Heiser, Ms. Berendsen-Hill indicated that she was comfortable with the revenue assumptions in the Selectmen's Proposed Budget for fiscal 2017-2018.

TREASURER: Ms. McGeehan sent an email prior to the meeting stating that she is comfortable with the \$150k revenue amount in the Selectmen's Proposed Budget for fiscal 2017-2018.

CONTROLLER: Mr. Redmond opined that recording fees would be higher than the \$200k in the Selectmen's Proposed Budget, and ambulance revenues might be higher than the \$200k in the Selectmen's Proposed Budget for fiscal 2017-2018 in light of the 10% rate increase allowed by the State.

Mr. Marconi informed the BOF that the State has "red tagged" the Town's fuel tanks and explained what had to be done to comply with State regulations. The Board of Selectmen met earlier in the day and approved the following transfer:

Mr. Ulmer moved and Mr. Heiser seconded a motion to transfer \$77,100.00 from the Police Department Patrol line (#10401-51001) to the Town Utilities line (#10690-53042).

Vote: 5-0. Motion **APPROVED**.

to cover the "Phase One" costs of bringing Ridgefield's fuel tanks into compliance with State regulations, e.g. pump the fuel currently in the underground fuel tanks into temporary above-ground fuel tanks and back fill the holes.

Mr. Marconi proposed increasing the 2017/2018 capital budget by \$400k to cover the cost of "Phase Two" e.g. new gas and diesel fuel tanks encased in a concrete vault, new dispensers and new piping.

Mr. Marconi stated that the only unknown at this time is the amount, if any, of contamination that might have to be remediated.

PARKS AND RECREATION: Mr. Kearns explained the behind-the-walls-water-leakage problem and the \$1.2MM estimate to fix it. The extent of the problem will not be known until the walls are taken down. Mr. Heiser opined that the estimate might be a little high and suggested decreasing it by \$100k. Ms. Mancini suggested doing the repair in phases.

The Board of Finance discussed some possible State Budget scenarios that could substantially increase the Town's expenses and cut into the General Fund, with the potential for decreasing the fund's balance below the 8/9% benchmarked by the Board of Finance.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Heiser made and Ms. Mancini seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:38 p.m.

Vote: 5-0. Motion **APPROVED**.

Respectfully submitted,  
Karen Rodgers, Recording Secretary

