

**APPROVED BOARD OF FINANCE MINUTES – BUDGET DELIBERATIONS
MONDAY, APRIL 3, 2017**

A budget deliberations meeting of the Board of Finance was held on Monday, April 3, 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; and Sean Connelly

Town Officials: Rudy Marconi, First Selectman; Maureen Kozlark, Selectman; Kevin Redmond, Controller;

Board of Education Dr. Karen Baldwin, Supt. Of Schools; Dr. Robert Miller, Dr. Kim Hapken Fran Walton, Chairman Board of Education; David Cordisco; Doug Silver; Mike Taylor; Margaret Stamatis

AGENDA

- Budget Deliberations – Board of Education Follow-Up
- General Budget Discussion
- Possible Vote on Revenue and Capital

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

Board of Education Follow-Up

Citing the Board of Finance's guidelines to keep the capital budget within a certain amount, Ms. Mancini asked the BOE to recap the need for the phone system update and anticipate what would happen if it were not done in fiscal 2017/2018. Dr. Miller re-iterated the health and safety issues associated with a down telephone system and added that history says the system goes down frequently.

Pre-school revenues, which currently are being used to offset the costs of the paraprofessionals who work in the pre-school program instead of to the Town, were discussed. Mr. Ulmer noted that there is not a written policy concerning this revenue, but that tuition line, which also includes out of district tuition, is being counted in both the BOE's budget and the BOS's budget and that the BOE could not unilaterally assume it as revenue in their budget.

Ms. Mancini asked about the efficacy of the math coaches. Dr. Baldwin said the BOE saw measurable benefits from them.

Ms. Mancini questioned the need for the Elementary (school) Supervisors. Dr. Baldwin opined that those positions were non-negotiable.

There was some back and forth about the effects of cutting the BOE's budget and the voters rejecting the BOE's budget at the polls. Mr. Raduazzo expressed some frustration with the number of unanswered questions and the value of the answers.

General Budget Discussion

Mr. Heiser made and Mr. Mancini seconded a motion to set the tax collection rate at 98.7%.

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

Mr. Heiser made and Ms. Mancini seconded a motion to increase revenues as follows:

- Supplemental motor vehicle to \$900k
- Conveyance Taxes to \$825k
- Police Special Services to \$200k
- Ambulance Service to \$825k
- Investment Income to \$165k

With total revenue @ \$12,800,727.00 without the inclusion of general property taxes and use of fund balance.

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

The Board of Finance discussed the comparative merits of various capital requests and the amount of money from the General Fund that should be used to augment other revenue.

Mr. Raduazzo reminded the Board of Finance that the BOE goes budget-to-budget each year, not budget to forecast.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Heiser made and Ms. Mancini seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:53 p.m.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Rodgers, Recording Secretary