



Town of Ridgefield
Board of Finance
Approved Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, October 16, 2018

I. Call to order

D. Ulmer called to order the meeting of the Board of Finance at 7:30 PM on October 16th, 2018, Ridgefield Town Hall, 400 Main Street, Ridgefield, CT (Large Conference Room). Board Members (D. Ulmer, D. Moccia, Connelly, and A. Freidenrich) were in attendance. (J. Mancini arrived later in the meeting)

Tax Collector: Jane Hill

Additional Officials in attendance include: Kevin Redmond (Controller)

II. Public Comment

No comments.

III. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Special Meeting | April 13th, 2018

S. Connelly moved and A. Freidenrich seconded the motion to approve the Special Meeting Minutes from April 13th, 2018. Motion carried 4-0.

Special Meeting | September 18th, 2018

Correct the spelling of A. Freidenrich's name on the meeting minutes. Additionally, correct the statement to reflect that Ed Tyrell published in the Ridgefield Press.

D Moccia abstains. S. Connelly moved and A. Freidenrich seconds the motion to approve the September 18th, 2018 meeting minutes pending revision. D. Moccia abstains. Motion carried 3-0.

IV. Tax Collector

- Jane Hill approaches the table to discuss delinquent taxes and states that October has been favorable thus far. Jane explains that she determines whether or not to take action on a delinquent tax account. She typically waits two years before acting and sets the criterion for such. Jane anticipated favorable results and the recent demands that were sent have been paid. D. Moccia has requested a list of delinquent taxpayers, which is equivalent to less than two-dozen residents. Jane explains that she is over 52% of her budget over the prior year.

V. BOE Financial Report

- Three teacher positions to be filled.
- The Budget and Financial Committee have asked to see the numbers in a different format. Per D. Norton, the old format was easier for them to project forward, whereas the committee wants to see MOM and YOY. The report presented was a trial to the committee to see if it was suitable for them.
- The \$95M budget (Aug 2019) \$12.9M spent YTD and last year was at \$10M. There is currently \$82M not currently spent. The new report needs to work on projections. Ideally, the BOE would like a combo of the new and old report for a more comprehensive analysis. A. Freidenrich recommended a notes section on the new format of the BOE budget book, which might include detail within will be much more informative.

VI. Controller's Report – September 2018

- Per K. Redmond, the anomalies are due in large to the early retirement program, which is paying nine employee salaries in this fiscal year; however, this will provide a significant savings for next year.
- A. Freidenrich questions transfers, as the BOE building utilities and fuel came in early. Per K. Redmond, ideally those items should have come in in July.
- Per K. Redmond, there were a couple large sales in September which drove a higher conveyance.

FY2019 Revenues and Expenses

- K. Redmond shares that the golf course is having a difficult month in terms of revenue. A. Freidenrich asks if concerns are warranted secondary to tariffs. K. Redmond states that it could impact the sewer project but not the other capital.
- D. Moccia asked about the line item \$32k for First Selectman dues and memberships. K. Redmond explained that its primarily CCM. And a majority of the line item are town costs and not to a specific department.
- Finance – There is a reduction in salary within the Finance Department as one position has been eliminated secondary to outsourcing payroll to ADP. The golf course, ambulance, CAG and recreation center revenue will be an issue for the FY, as they are not doing as well as we had thought.

VII. General

Old Business

- Sewer Treatment Plant – D. Moccia is concerned that the item was done as an add-on and may not be compliant with FOI. The Board of Finance voted to put on the referendum. D. Moccia states that he has problems with the proposal that's on the ballot, as seniors will not get tax relief from the state, which is extremely impactful to those on a fixed income. He feels all residents shouldn't pick up the burden for someone else. Ridgefield is on the list of towns and we are pre-approved; however, we must be shovel ready by July 1, 2019. The job/upgrade is overdue and mandated by the State of Connecticut. D. Moccia wants the rates to be known and doesn't feel the entire town should be responsible for the costs if you don't utilize the sewer system. Town absorbing the \$8M cost of the sewer treatment plant upgrades. The Board of Finance discussed the potential rate structure of the upgrades.

New Business

- Teachers negotiations are currently ongoing.

Communications & Correspondence

- No communications or correspondence.

VIII. Adjournment

D. Moccia moves and J. Mancini seconded the motion to adjourn at 8:34 PM.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Shannon Freda