

Town of Ridgefield

Board of Finance

Approved Meeting Minutes

Tuesday June 18, 2019

I. Call to order

D. Ulmer called to order the regular meeting of the Board of Finance at 7:30 PM on June 18, 2019 at Ridgefield Town Hall Meeting Room, 400 Main St., Ridgefield, CT.

Board Members D. Ulmer, J. Mancini, A. Freidenrich, S. Connelly, D. Moccia were in attendance

II. Comments from the Public- None

III. Approval of Minutes:

January 15- approved with changes. S. Connelly moved to accept changes and A. Freidenrich seconded. All in favor.

May 14—approved with changes. D. Moccia moved to approve changes, A. Freidenrich seconded. All in favor.

Minutes from Budget Deliberations: March 26, 27, 28 approved as is. Motion by J. Mancini, seconded by S. Connelly. All in favor. D. Moccia abstained from all three.

Minutes from Budget Deliberation April 1. Correction on page 2, replace Dr. Bill Collins with Dr. William Collins. Under Fiscal Y19 removed word “esthetically.” Under A. Freidenrich comment regarding kids leaving district, remove comma.

J. Mancini moved to approve changes; A. Freidenrich seconded. All in favor.

IV. Treasurer’s Report-The BOF requests Molly McGeehin to be present at next meeting. They have questions for her regarding large numbers for 0501 and 2525.

V. Tax Collector Report-Jane Berendsen-Hill

Way better than expected, over 100%. She apologizes for not having a better update on May 14. Didn’t anticipate being over 100%. There are the same number of delinquencies with several escrow not paid on time. Delinquencies were down. Between 30-40 didn’t disburse funds on time; seen as delinquencies. Properties are with regular and supplemental bills. Real estate supplemental bills are more than usual. Building 2 & 3 at 77 Sunset not complete at end of the grand list; closed before June 30. Tax sale net \$700,000. Total for year about \$400,000. More than previously anticipated. Last group of bills to go out June 19, 2019.

VI. BOE Financial Report-Dawn Norton

As of April 30, 2019 BOE, has expended or obligated \$93,550,049 of \$95,000,000 budget. This represents 98.47% of appropriation. This amount does include revenue off set from the Special Ed excess cost reimbursement (ECR) of \$1,172,930 received 2-27-2019. BOE is expecting the second ECR reimbursement from the state in late May. \$1,565,078 total of ECR reimbursement. Year end numbers will be available for August BOF meeting. Final transfers not made yet, current transfers are through the end of April. When final payroll and purchases are complete, final transfers will be made.

Firefighters at the high school-issue was remedied but they're still there. Fire Marshall has not released the schools. Is this overtime? Fire Marshall has been in schools doing assessments. Schools not released from Fire Watch. A full report has not been made available. An updated report has been requested. Approximately \$20,000-\$30,000 spent for Fire Watch. Financials have been requested on how much has been spent so far.

Was Dr. Paddyfote hired as a consultant due to Dr. Collins medical leave? This is an extra cost to the district. The agreement for her was a set amount.

Substitute salaries-D. Moccia would like a list for the number of substitutes. Dawn will get the numbers when available. Superintendent or Chairman from the BOE was requested to attend the BOF August meeting. Dawn can get answers to questions that are emailed to her from BOF members.

VII. Controller's Report-Kevin Redmond

Revenue- looks good with a significant increase in tax revenue, non-tax revenues have not changed much. Bottom line hasn't changed much. Weather needs to improve to help golf. Hopeful for the end of June weather. Rec. Center doing well; makes up for some of golf. Conveyances continue to be weak, ambulance is off, expect strong revenue year.

Expenses-Favorable as well. Layoffs and outsourcing are saving money. Highway spending was low in May. Roads and drainage need improvements. Many complaints received by residents regarding roads. Kevin to follow up on the Fire Watch @ RHS.

Blum Shapiro- A required communication provided to the BOF members. They're trying to sell services; many things in report don't apply to Ridgefield.

Bond Resolution- Approved the sewer bond ballot question in August. There is no guarantee of receiving funds; will know by the end of June. Bond counsel wants to get this completed. Kevin is confident \$11 million is coming.

J. Mancini introduced and read the following resolution:

RESOLVED: That pursuant to Section 3-10 of the Town Charter, the Board of Finance at its meeting hold on August 21, 2018 previously approved the authorization of bonds and notes pursuant to the resolution entitled "Shall The \$48,000,000 Appropriate And Bond Authorization (Less Any Grants Expected To Be Received From The State Of Connecticut Clean Water Fund) For The Planning, Design, And Construction Of The South Street Sewer Treatment Plant And Pump Station Upgrades Be Approved", and said resolutions also being adopted by the legal voters

of the Town at a referendum held in conjunction with the general election on November 6, 2018, and the Board of Finance hereby ratify, confirm and approve of such authorization of bond and notes as more fully set forth in the resolution entitled “Resolution Appropriated \$48,000,000 (Less Any Grants Received) For The Planning, Design, And Construction Of The South Street Sewer Treatment Plant And Pump Station Upgrades And Authorizing The Issuance Of \$48,000,000 Bonds (Less Any Grants Received) Of The Town To Meet Said Appropriation And Pending The Issuance Thereof The Making Of Temporary Borrowings For Such Purpose”, a copy of which is attached hereto, is hereby approved.

S. Connelly moved that said resolution be adopted as introduced and read and the motion was seconded by D. Ulmer. Upon roll call vote the ayes and nays were as follows:

Ayes-J. Mancini, S. Connelly, D. Ulmer, A. Freidenrich
Abstain-D. Moccia

Thereupon declared the motion carried and the resolution adopted.

VIII. Old Business-None at this time

IX. New Business-Email received regarding the discussion of anonymous donations to the town. Email stated that this shouldn't have been discussed; concerned with Robert Rules. New business concerning this topic should have been put on the agenda per the email. Not necessary as no votes or motions made on this topic; for discussion only.

X. Adjournment-motion to adjourn at 8:52 by J. Mancini, seconded by S. Connelly. All in favor.

Next meeting August 20, 2019

Respectfully Submitted by,

Mia Belanger