

**BOARD OF FINANCE
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
MAY 12, 2021**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 8:10 p.m. via GoToMeeting by Chairman Thomas Harrison. Members present: Chairman Thomas Harrison, Vice Chairman/Secretary Catherine Durdan, Ellen Retelle, Cathy Salchert, Katrina Marin, Margaret Bratton (arrived at 8:12 p.m.), and Ken Birk. A quorum was present.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Thomas Harrison.

III. MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETINGS:

April 5, 2021 Public Hearing

On a motion made by Ellen Retelle, seconded by Ken Birk, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Board of Finance approves the minutes of the April 5, 2021 Public Hearing as drafted.

Messrs: Harrison, Birk, and Mmes: Bratton, Salchert, Retelle, Durdan, and Marin voted in favor.

April 7, 2021 Budget Workshop

Page 3, 1st paragraph, 11th line, change first “She” to “Ms. Bratton.” In the 14th line, change “tax of 1 mill to real estate tax” to “State real estate tax of 1 mill of local real estate property.”

Page 4, 2nd paragraph, 14th line, change “one” to “once.”

Page 5, 1st full paragraph, 3rd line, insert “in” before “She is....” In the 6th line, change “a punch” to “out of touch.” In the 14th line, insert “does not add up and” before “it makes the rainy-day fund....”

On a motion made by Ellen Retelle, seconded by Ken Birk, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Board of Finance approves the minutes of the April 7, 2021 Budget Workshop as amended.

Messrs: Harrison, Birk, and Mmes: Bratton, Salchert, Retelle, Durdan, and Marin voted in favor.

Ms. Bratton arrived after approval of the April 5, 2021 Public Hearing minutes and shared a few corrections.

April 5, 2021 Public Hearing

1st page, Item A, insert “via GoToMeeting” after “7:10 p.m.”

Page 6, Item VII, insert “and/or at the Avon High School Auditorium” after “GoToMeeting.”

On a motion made by Ellen Retelle, seconded by Katrina Marin, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Board of Finance reconsider approval of the minutes of the April 5, 2021 Public Hearing as amended.

Messrs: Harrison, Birk, and Mmes: Bratton, Marin, Salchert, Retelle, and Durdan voted in favor.

April 26, 2021 Regular Meeting

Page 2, item 20/21-24, 5th line, change “noted that it is” to “asked if it was....”

Page 3, 1st paragraph, 3rd line, insert “late paid” before “service bills....”

On a motion made by Ellen Retelle, seconded by Ken Birk, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Board of Finance approves the minutes of the April 26, 2021 Regular Meeting as amended.

Messrs: Harrison, Birk, and Mmes: Bratton, Salchert, Retelle, Durdan, and Marin voted in favor.

IV. OLD BUSINESS**20/21-05 FY 21/22 Budget: Set Tax Rate (34.21.Mills)**

Prior to the start of the meeting, budget referendum results were shared by the Moderator with the Board of Finance as follows: 198 voted Yes, 327 voted No; a total of 525 or 3.9% of registered voters. There were 28 absentee ballots, 10 voted Yes, 18 voted No, which counted as part of the 525 total votes.

On a motion made by Ellen Retelle, seconded by Catherine Durdan, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Board of Finance set the Tax Rate at 34.21 Mills for FY 21/22 based on the results of the referendum.

Messrs: Harrison, Birk, and Mmes: Durdan, Retelle, Bratton, and Salchert voted in favor. Mrs. Marin voted no. Motion carried 6-1-0.

Ms. Retelle commented that the Board of Finance was on the right track in getting it down a bit and appreciates all of you and us for doing that. Ms. Bratton added that it was a long meeting with a compromise at the end which was nice. Mr. Harrison commented that the budget process went very well, fairly developed; it is a reasonable and responsible budget. Ms. Bratton noted that year over year, it averages a 1.99% increase; with a 0% increase in FY 20/21 and 3.98% increase for FY 21/22. Mrs. Marin noted that she aligned her vote with the majority of the budget referendum votes which were no votes. Mr. Harrison noted that the Board worked very well together as well as with the Town Council and Board of Education and appreciates everyone's hard work and honest expressing opinions that were delivered professionally.

V. NEW BUSINESS**20/21-25 Supplemental Appropriation: Land Protection Assistance Grant, Farmington River Watershed Association, \$3,000**

On a motion made by Ellen Retelle, seconded by Margaret Bratton, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Board of Finance hereby amends the FY 20/21 Budget by increasing:
REVENUES

General Fund, Intergovernmental, DEP / Farmington River Trail, Account #01-0330-43323 in the amount of \$3,000.00 and increasing:

APPROPRIATIONS

General Fund, Parks, Services – Other, Account #01-5201-52189, in the amount of \$3,000.00, for the purpose of funding the clearing of a section of trail in Fisher Farms.

Messrs: Harrison, Birk, and Mmes: Salchert, Bratton, Marin, Retelle, and Durdan voted in favor.

20/21-26 Supplemental Appropriation: Connecticut Water Company Projects Paving, \$217,451

On a motion made by Ellen Retelle, seconded by Margaret Bratton, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Board of Finance hereby amends the FY 20/21 Budget by increasing:
REVENUES

Capital Projects Fund (Facil & Equip), Other Local Revenue, Payment in Lieu of Road Improvements, Account #02-0360-43659, in the amount of \$217,451.00 and increasing:

APPROPRIATIONS

Capital Projects Fund (Facil & Equip), Town CIP- Facil/Road Overlay, Road Overlay, Account #02-4831-53003, in the amount of \$217,451.00, for the purpose of paving the permanent patches required as a result of The Connecticut Water Company's mainline water replacement projects on Scoville Road and the Oxbow/Woodhaven/Ridgewood neighborhoods.

Messrs: Harrison, Birk, and Mmes: Retelle, Marin, Salchert, Bratton, and Durdan voted in favor.

In response to a question from Ms. Salchert, Mr. Robertson responded that it typically depends on the paving project size as to whether or not Connecticut Water Company completes the paving work on its own versus paying the Town to complete the paving work.

20/21-27 Supplemental Appropriation: Inspection Services for Avon Village Center, \$21,000

On a motion made by Margaret Bratton, seconded by Ellen Retelle, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Board of Finance hereby amends the FY 20/21 Budget by increasing:

REVENUES

CNREF, Other Local Revenues, Refunds & Reimbursements, Account #03-0360-43612 in the amount of \$21,000.00 and increasing

APPROPRIATIONS

CNREF, Avon Village Center, Service & Consultant, Account #03-4858-52184 in the amount of \$21,000.00, for the purpose of paying independent inspections services.

Messrs: Harrison, Birk, and Mmes: Durdan, Retelle, Martin, Salchert, and Bratton voted in favor.

VI. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT – No items were discussed.

VII. ADJOURN

On a motion made by Ellen Retelle, seconded by Katrina Marin, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Board of Finance adjourn the meeting at 8:39 p.m.

Messrs: Harrison, Birk, and Mmes: Bratton, Salchert, Marin, Retelle, and Durdan voted in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,
Cathy Durdan, Vice Chair/Secretary

Attest: Jennifer Worsman, Clerk

All referenced material is available to the public in the Town Manager's Office.