

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Finance held at 7:00 P.M., on Wednesday, April 15, 2015.

Members Present: First Selectman Freda, Mr. Monico, Mr. Hallahan, Mr. Pieper, Ms. Vissicchio, Mr. Lianos, Ms. Brown

Also Present: Director of Finance Edward J. Swinkoski

The following materials were either mailed to the members prior to this meeting or distributed at this time.

- 1. Agenda – April 8, 2015
- 2. Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on March 18, 2015
- 3. March 31, 2015 - Report of Budget
 - Report of Revenue
 - Special Funds
 - Board of Education Accounting
- 4. Resolutions (3), Budget to Annual Town Meeting
- 5. FY 15-16 Budget Changes
- 6. FY 15-16 Budget dated April 15, 2015

MINUTES

After a brief discussion of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on March 18, 2015, Mr. Lianos moved their acceptance, seconded by Ms. Vissicchio.

VOTE:	Freda- Yes	Monico - Yes	Hallahan - Yes
	Pieper - Yes	Vissicchio - Yes	Lianos – Yes
	Brown - Yes		

OLD BUSINESS

Ms. Brown informed the Board that the Open Space Advisory Committee met last night. There are seven (7) committee members. She said the Director of Public Works will be reviewing the list of available parcels. Once the review is complete, the Committee will prioritize which parcels to pursue.

NEW BUSINESS

REPORT OF BUDGET, REVENUE, SPECIAL FUNDS AND BOARD OF EDUCATION ACCOUNTING MARCH 31, 2015

Mr. Swinkoski referred to these reports stating that tax collections at the end of March were 99.8%. Mr. Swinkoski reviewed the expenditure report in detail. Further discussion followed. Ms. Vissicchio made a motion to accept the reports.

Seconded by, Mr. Hallahan.

VOTE:	Freda - Yes	Monico - Yes	Pieper - Yes
	Hallahan - Yes	Vissicchio - Yes	Lianos - Yes
	Brown - Yes		

FINALIZE FY 2015-16 BUDGET

Mr. Hallahan said that he will not be supporting this budget. He felt that the Board of Education should reduce their transportation and health care budget lines. He said that if these two items were reduced it would not affect the quality of our education. Mr. Hallahan said the budget was not affordable.

Mr. Freda said that this budget is somewhat of a test for residents. If residents want to maintain current services, they will vote for this budget. If residents decide against this budget, services and personnel will be cut.

Ms. Vissicchio said that she doesn't like the fact that our taxes will increase but its reality. She wanted to make residents aware that we are fortunate to have trash pickup, leaf pickup and bulk pickup. Most towns do not offer these services. If this budget does not pass, services will be cut and residents will have to independently pay for these services. Further discussion followed.

Mr. Pieper then moved the following:

RESOLVED: That the Board of Finance recommends a Town Government Budget for FY 2015-2016 in the amount of \$43,005,189.

Seconded by, Ms. Vissicchio.

VOTE:	Freda - Yes	Monico - Yes	Pieper - Yes
	Hallahan - No	Vissicchio - Yes	Lianos - Yes
	Brown - No		

Mr. Lianos then moved the following:

RESOLVED: That the Board of Finance recommends a Board of Education Budget for FY 2015-2016 in the amount of \$49,733,032.

Seconded by, Ms. Vissicchio.

VOTE:	Freda - Yes	Monico - Yes	Pieper - Yes
	Hallahan - No	Vissicchio - Yes	Lianos - Yes
	Brown - No		

Mr. Pieper then moved the following:

RESOLVED: That a Total Budget for FY 2015-2016 in the amount of \$92,738,221. (Town Government \$43,005,189. - Board of Education of \$49,733,032.) be presented to the Annual Budget Town Meeting to be held on Monday, May 11, 2015.

Seconded by, Ms. Vissicchio.

VOTE:	Freda - Yes	Monico - Yes	Pieper - Yes
	Hallahan - No	Vissicchio - Yes	Lianos - Yes
	Brown - No		

OTHER

Ms. Vissicchio gave an update on the Middle School. She said that Perkins Eastman have received the comments from Pierz (the third party reviewer) and have responded to those comments. Documents will now be brought to OSF on April 15, 2015. Once OSF signs off, the bidding process will begin.

Mr. Freda also mentioned that a meeting is scheduled next week with our state legislators to discuss the reimbursement rate for the middle school.

Mr. Hallahan asked if the Town plans on grinding the stumps from the trees which have been cut down by UI. Mr. Freda said that public works will be grinding down the stumps and there will be no reimbursement from the UI.

Mr. Hallahan asked about the change in duties of the Director of Public Works and the Director of Field Operations. The Director of Field Operations now reports directly to the First Selectman and the Director of Finance. Mr. Freda explained that both jobs have grown significantly. The Director of Public Works is handling most of the STEAP grants and blight issues. The Director of Field Operations is involved with several town projects. The change in duties enables the departments to run more efficiently.

Further discussion followed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Discussion followed for approximately 45 minutes with residents asking questions and making recommendations.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Freda moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 PM, seconded by Mr. Hallahan.

VOTE:	Freda- Yes	Monico - Yes	Hallahan - Yes
	Pieper - Yes	Vissicchio - Yes	Lianos - Yes
	Brown - Yes		