

TOWN OF PLAINFIELD
BOARD OF FINANCE
SPECIAL MEETING
MINUTES

Received For Record At Plainfield CT

On MAY 10 2021 at 4:23pm

Attest: Barbi J. Gardiner

Barbi J. Gardiner, Town Clerk

The Board of Finance for the Town of Plainfield held a Special Meeting on Tuesday, May 4, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. at the Plainfield Town Hall. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Tom Sinkewicz.

Members present: Tom Sinkewicz, Matt Radant, Travis Irons, Don Kivela, Gary Stalaboin, and Ted Dumaine

Members absent: Keith Sheeley and Dean Gorman

Also present: First Selectman – Kevin Cunningham, Selectman – Art Gagne, Finance Director – Kelly Vachon, Deputy Chief – William Wolfburg

Matt Radant was appointed in for Dean Gorman:

Acceptance of minutes from April 21, 2021 Meeting

Tom Sinkewicz noted that on Page 2 he is listed as Ms.

Don Kivela motioned to accept the minutes of April 21, 2021. Travis Irons seconded. Matt Radant abstained. Motion passed.

New Business:

A. To discuss and set proposed FY 2021/2022 Budget for May 17, 2021 Town Meeting

Mr. Sinkewicz asked for the total including the \$89,000, to come from fund balance. Ms. Vachon noted \$100,000 is from the school's reserve to offset. The total is \$1,279,922. Mr. Dumaine asked what it leaves in fund balance. Ms. Vachon stated it is 18 percent last audit, and estimated about 14 percent of the operating budget, \$6.8 million. She said the auditors state 14 percent is acceptable. GFOA recommends 2.5 months in reserve. This will be 2 months reserve.

Matt Radant confirmed the 2 percent hold over from FY 19/20 is in a separate account. He asked about the process, if there will be a formal request from BOE. Ms. Vachon said it is in a separate bank account and a policy is needed. He said currently we rely on state statutes for guidance.

Don Kivela asked if we are on target with state money. Ms. Vachon said we received the last payment of Education Cost Share money and it is \$37,000 less than anticipated. She said all

Town Aid Road came in. An article suggested the state may cut ECS by \$201,000 next year. Mr. Stalaboin mentioned the BOE figured the same for next year. Mr. Radant noted it is similar to a year ago when a shortfall was covered by unexpended funds. Mr. Vachon noted the problem with unexpended funds is the shortage of in town tuition. Mr. Sinkewicz stated the next meeting will discuss a 2 percent policy.

Mr. Radant asked First Selectman Cunningham his thought on the pension projection. Mr. Cunningham said there is work to be done and we are looking at a minimum of \$1.4 million. He noted that town and sewer are doing what we can, but he is concerned about the BOE contribution. He stated we have to make sure it is funded.

Mr. Sinkewicz invited Mr. Cunningham to comment. Mr. Cunningham noted the process of the Public Hearing to discuss the proposed budget not the current budget. He asked that in the future, comments may be on the proposed budget. He spoke in favor of keeping the fireworks as part of an important weekend along with Celebrate Plainfield and VJ Day parade. He said keeping comments specific to the proposed budget would be helpful.

Mr. Cunningham noted a list of grants that have been applied for with \$25,000 already received. He noted the new recreation programs. Regarding legal fees a couple of tax appeals have been settled out of court.

Mr. Stalaboin inquired about the Dattco lease. Mr. Cunningham said it is \$78,000 an increase on \$64,500. Mr. Stalaboin said to make sure we get a contract and asked if it will be local revenue. Ms. Vachon said it is Other Local Revenue. Mr. Cunningham said it will come to the town, an additional \$13,000. Mr. Stalaboin asked if the previous \$100,000 is there. Ms. Vachon replied yes and will provide a general ledger to show.

Mr. Dumaine inquired about the tax collection rate. Ms. Vachon said it is currently 98 percent.

Travis Irons motioned to move the Proposed Budget of the Town \$11,674,950 and Education \$35,993,861 preserving the current mill rate of 28.33. Travis Irons amended the motion to include the 5 Year Capital Plan. Ted Dumaine seconded. Gary Stalaboin abstained, motion passed.


Mr. Cunningham thanked the boards who worked hard on the proposed budget.

The Town Meeting will be May 17, 2021 at 7:00 pm.

Adjournment

Ted Dumaine motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:54 p.m. Don Kivela seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,


Dodie Mineau
Recording Secretary