

The Board of Finance held a special meeting on **March 18, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.** in the **Bellingham Auditorium at Town Hall, 979 Main Street, Willimantic, CT 06226**

Members Attending: Lynne Ide, Tyler Griffin, Paula Haney, Anita Sebestyen, Nectalis Martinez, Thomas White, and Ken Folan

1. Call to Order

Chairman Lynne Ide called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. Public Comment

James Flores commented he is going to stay neutral during the budget process.

Lloyd Niles commented on dispatch and it should not be included in the Town budget.

3. Board of Finance Comment

There was no Board of Finance comment.

4. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Upon a motion by Thomas White, seconded by Paula Haney to approve the minutes from February 18, 2015.

The motion passed unanimously.

5. Chair's Report

Lynne Ide commented we are starting the budget process and will be meeting for the next few Wednesdays.

The Town Attorney will be present at next Wednesdays meeting.

Thomas White would like to invite the dispatch to next weeks meeting.

Thomas White would like a detail report on the 1.5 million surplus.

6. Presentation and Special Reports

Presentation on the status of the audit for Fiscal Year 2014:

Christian Johnson reported the audit was filed on Monday with the State of Connecticut, GFOA, and EMMA. A quick review of the audit was given to the Board. Something new in the audit this year is GASB 67 which looks at pension and actuarial methods. There were no findings in the audit and 2 findings from last year were removed.

Presentation from the Board of Education on their 2015-2016 budget:

Superintendent, Dr. Garcia, presented the Board with the Board of Education 2015-2016 proposed budget. While preparing the budget this year, community forums and budget workshops were held. There were also meetings with Board of Education members and local officials. Priorities in the budget are to have all students performing at grade level in reading and mathematics, increase learning opportunities for all students to develop their skills and talent, build staff capacity through meaningful and ongoing professional development. The budget is funded 45% by local funding and 55% by State of Connecticut. 82.8% of the budget is for education which includes instructional and administrative salaries, benefits, supplies, equipment, out-of-district tuition, books, and transportation. 17.2% of the budget is for central services which includes salaries, supplies, service contracts and equipment to maintain school buildings and grounds; includes 17 staff members, 9 administrators and 5 managers. Increases in the budget are from personnel costs, contract services, and instruction supplies. This budget will improve student achievement, align curriculum and instruction to the Common Core, support Reading programs, Support new Math program K-5, Introduce Algebra at the 8th grade level, and enhance K-12 Music and Arts programs.

Wayne Donaldson reported on the Board of Education's Capital Improvement Plan. Text books become outdated every 5 to 7 years. Replacing them will be included in the capital improvement plan. They would like to supply students with smart boards.

7. Controller's Report

The Controller's Report was presented by Tom Pesce.

The Town Council's budget was handed out to Board Members. The Town Manager will be making a presentation at next weeks meeting.

We are working on going self insured with workers compensation for next fiscal year. We will be coming before the Board with more details as they become available.

The current year revenues and expenditures were reviewed. The snow removal budget has been exhausted. We can use the Town Road Aid Grant for some overtime for snow removal as well as sand and salt, and repairs to equipment.

We are looking at refinancing the Board of Education's Energy Performance Lease by the end of this fiscal year.

8. Discussion and possible action on any General Government 2014-2015 transfer requests

There were no transfer requests

9. Discussion and possible action on any Willimantic Service District 2014-2015 transfer requests

There were no transfer requests

10. Old business

There was no old business

11. New business

Parking fines collected since parking monitor started.
Where does the parking permit funds go
Dispatch contract
April 1st BOE and WSD budgets
April 8th Town budgets
April 15th Public hearing before regular meeting with all budgets

12. Future agenda items

Update on breakdown of 1.5 million
Dispatch
Presentation from auditor on 2014 audit
Parking monitor
Parking fines

13. Public Comment

James Flores commented he voted no on the Town Council's budget because he could not get an answer on the 1.5 million surplus. He also commented on the Board of Education presentation of the 2015-2016 budget.

Kevin Hoxie commented on the Board of Education proposed budget and cuts will not be made to administrators.

14. Adjournment

Upon a motion by Thomas White, seconded by Tyler Griffin the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Attest: _____
Thomas Pesce