

**SUBJECT TO MODIFICATION AND APPROVAL
BOARD OF FINANCE**

MINUTES

MARCH 21, 2016

VOTING SESSION ON FIRST SELECTMAN'S PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 2015-2016

Chairman Elaine Hammers called the Board of Finance meeting to order at 6:07 p.m. at the Town Hall, Trumbull, Connecticut. All those present joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Chair indicated that if there is no change in a department we will accept it and move on and when we vote the total, we will assume that we have accepted what we have not changed.

In addition, the Chair indicated that Mr. DeGennaro would be voting for Mr. Kelly.

Members present and absent were as follows:

PRESENT

Chairman, Elaine Hammers
Andrew Palo
Roy E. Molgard
William J. Haberlin
Scott Zimov
Ted Chase, Alternate
Vincent DeGennaro, Alternate

ABSENT

Tom Kelly
Karen A. Egri

ALSO PRESENT

Maria Pires, Director of Finance; Dawn Savo, Assistant Director of Finance

01 GENERAL GOVERNMENT

01010000 Town Council

\$91,388

01010100 The Trumbull Nature Commission

\$ 5,056

01010200 Ethics Commission

\$120

01010400 First Selectman

\$298,071

Mr. DeGennaro moved, seconded by Mr. Zimov, to reduce account 501101 Salaries FT/Permanent by \$7,852 in order to cap proposed increases at 5%, not at the mid-point.

Vote: 6-0-0

The Chair moved to accept the new total of \$ 298,071.

Vote: 6-0-0

01010600 Probate

\$12,180

01010800 Elections

\$146,356

Mr. Haberlin moved, seconded by Mr. Molgard, to reduce account 501101 Salaries FT/Permanent by \$6,868 to in order to cap proposed increases at 5%, not at the mid-point.

The Chair asked for an explanation regarding the increase in salary. Ms. Pires indicated that the change represents an allowance for additional hours worked that may be incurred by the two registrars not for salary.

Mr. Haberlin withdrew his motion and Mr. Molgard also withdrew his motion.

Mr. Haberlin moved, seconded by Mr. Zimov, to increase account 501102 Salaries – PT/ Permanent by \$250 in order to correct an error made by the department.

Vote: 6-0-0

Mr. Haberlin moved, seconded by Mr. Zimov, to reduce account 581888 Capital Outlay by \$8,800 for Polling Tablets that might be supplied by the State.

Vote: 6-0-0

The Chair moved to accept the new total of \$146,356.

Vote: 6-0-0

01011000 Finance Department

\$564,858

Mr. Haberlin moved, seconded by Mr. Zimov, to reduce account 501101 Salaries-FT/Permanent \$4,000 in order to cap the proposed increase at 5%, not at the mid-point, and add an additional \$1,000 to bring the employee to a salary level above that of one of her employees and to compensate her for supervising an additional employee.

The Chair added that giving someone an increase to advance them to the midpoint in the salary schedule set-up by a Town Council ordinance was not the problem; however, they felt a raise of \$10,000 to reach the midpoint should be done in several steps.

Vote: 6-0-0

The Chair moved to accept the new total of \$564,858.

Vote: 6-0-0

01011400 Board of Finance

\$81,733

01011600 Tax Assessor

\$340, 889

01011800 Board of Assessment Appeals

\$3,700

Mr. Haberlin moved, seconded by Mr. Molgard, to increase account 545501 Communications-Legal Notices \$350, since they mentioned at their meeting that they anticipate higher costs.

Vote 6-0-0

The Chair moved to accept the new total of \$3,700.

Vote 6-0-0

01012000 Tax Collector

\$357,180

01012200 Purchasing

\$87,595

01012400 Treasurer

\$25,000

01012600 Technology

\$847,607

Mr. Haberlin moved, seconded by Mr. Molgard, to increase account 501105 Salaries – Overtime \$2,500, since Board feels additional funds are warranted given the projects being worked on.

Vote: 6-0-0

Mr. Haberlin moved, seconded by Mr. Molgard, to increase account 522204 Services - Fees Contractual \$31,224. The First Selectman increased to upgrade/install Energov for P&Z and the Health Department; however, allocation for the Health Department was short \$31,224.

Vote: 6-0-0

Mr. Haberlin moved, seconded by Mr. Molgard, to increase account 556601 Professional Dev-Sem/Conf \$1,780. There was an error made when calculating funds needed for all employees to attend 2 classes.

Vote: 6-0-0

The Chair moved to accept the new total of \$847,607.

01012800 Town Attorneys

\$443,590

01013000 Human Resources

\$283,588

Mr. Haberlin moved, seconded by Mr. Molgard, to reduce account 501101 \$6,500 to cap salary increase at 5%.

Vote: 6-0-0

The Chair moved to accept the new total of \$283,588.

Vote: 6-0-0

01013400 Employee Benefits

\$15,658,731

Mr. Zimov moved, seconded by Mr. Molgard, to increase 511150 Fringe Benefits-FICA \$8,148.

Vote: 6-0-0

Mr. Haberlin moved, seconded by Mr. Molgard, to reduce 511152 Fringe Benefits-Worker Comp \$20,000, based on a three year average.

Vote: 6-0-0

The Chair moved to accept the new total of \$15,658,731.

Vote: 5-1-0 (opposed: Palo)

01013600 Town Clerk

\$287,698

Mr. Haberlin moved, seconded by Mr. Molgard, to increase account 501101 Salaried -FT Permanent \$813.

Vote: 6-0-0

The Chair moved to accept the new total of \$287,698.

Vote: \$287,698

01013800 Town Hall

\$2,273,494

Mr. Haberlin moved, seconded by Mr. Molgard, to increase account 501116 Contingency \$250,000.

The Chair indicated that the town needed to set-up a reserve in the event the medical plan does not change. If not needed, we can use the funds and reverse some reductions we will be making tonight. The \$250,00 would be the differential if we stay with the current insurance.

Vote: 6-0-0

Mr. Musto spoke regarding balances to save costs on fees. Because the tax account actually takes deposits, we are charged fees on the amount. To offset those fees, we received 45 bps on our deposits. He is proposing we invest the funds rather than use the balance to offset the fees, which he feels will result in additional income to offset the fees which will increase to \$40,000.

Mr. Haberlin moved, seconded by Mr. Molgard, to reduce account 522205 Program Expenses \$20,000.

Vote: 5-1-0 (opposed: Palo)

The Chair moved to accept the new total of \$2,273,494.

Vote: 5-1-0 Vote: 5-1-0 (opposed: Palo)

01014200 Planning & Zoning

\$335,247

Mr. Haberlin moved, seconded by Mr. Molgard, to reduce account 501106 – Longevity \$425, since individual is leaving.

Vote: 6-0-0

The Chair moved to accept the new total of \$335,247.

Vote: 6-0-0

01014600 Economic Development

\$130,995

01014800 Inland Wetlands Commission

\$17,425

01015400 Conservation Commission

\$1,375

01015600 Clean Energy Fund

\$-0-

01015800 Transit District

\$44,084

01 General Government Total: \$22,337,960

The Chair moved to accept the new General Government Total \$22,337,960, an increase of \$227,488.

Vote: 6-0-0

02 PUBLIC SAFETY

01022000 Police

\$8,578,616

Mr. Haberlin moved, seconded by Mr. Zimov, to reduce account 501101 Salaries-FT/ Permanent \$161,262, to reduce 2 vacant Lieutenant positions and add one SRO (for ½ year).

Vote: 4-2-0 (Opposed: Palo, DeGennaro)

The Chair moved to accept the new total of \$8,578,616.

Vote: 4-2-0 (opposed: Palo, DeGennaro)

01022400 Animal Control

\$130,181

01022600 EMS

\$1,420,096

Mr. Haberlin moved, seconded by Mr. Zimov, to increase account 522202 Service & Fees – Professional \$37,700 to restore the requested amount.

The Chair indicated that by doing so, they can bring on more staff, take on more calls and take better care of town residents.

Vote: 6-0-0

Mr. Haberlin moved, seconded by Mr. Palo, to increase account 522203 Services & Fees – Ancillary \$21,500 to correct an error.

Vote: 6-0-0

Mr. Palo moved, seconded by Mr. DeGennaro, to reduce account 522205 – Program Expenses \$1,000 to keep it at the historical amount.

Vote: 6-0-0

The Chair moved to accept the new total of \$1,420,096.

Vote: 6-0-0

01022800 Fire Marshal
\$ 312,679

01022824 Fire Hydrants
\$1,379,112

01023200 Building Official
\$346,518

01023400 Emergency Management
\$79,201

02 Public Safety Total: \$12,246,403

The Chair moved to accept the new Public Safety Total \$12,246,403, a decrease of \$103,012.

Vote: 5-1-0 (opposed: Palo)

03 PUBLIC WORKS

01030000 Public Works Director
\$188,164

01030025 Street Lights
\$456,934

01030100 Public Works Highway
\$2,633,463

Mr. Haberlin moved, seconded by Mr. Molgard, to increase account 501101 Salaries – FT/Permanent \$74,537 to allow for replacement of position omitted in error. Retiree is being replaced.

Vote: 6-0-0

Mr. Haberlin moved, seconded by Mr. Molgard, to increase account 501888 – Uniform Allowance \$10,000 to reinstate the requested amount, per Union Contract.

Vote: 6-0-0

Mr. Haberlin moved, seconded by Mr. Molgard, to increase account 556601– Professional Dev-Sem/Conf \$1,000 for safety seminars.

Vote: 6-0-0

Mr. Haberlin moved, seconded by Mr. Zimov, to increase account 581888 Capital Outlay \$6,324 to restore the department request for a pick-up truck.

Vote: 6-0-0

Mr. Palo moved, seconded by Mr. DeGennaro, to reduce account 501101 Salaries – FT/Permanent by \$250,000 to reduce the cost of leaf pickup.

Mr. Palo indicated that every year, for the six years he has been on this board, they talk about reducing the cost of leaf pickup and each year we do nothing. He went on to add that he picked this account to reduce because it is a large number and there are expenses in leaf pickup scattered everywhere. He feels that since our auditor has looked at it, and he sees how much other towns pay for leaf pickup compared to what we pay. He indicated that he made this motion in the hope that it would provide an impetus for the Town to provide the service at a lower cost. He went on to add that he has every confidence the Public Works Director can provide the service at a lower cost.

Vote: 2-4-0 motion fails (opposed: Haberlin, Molgard, Zimov, Hammers)

The Chair moved to accept the new total of \$2,633,463.

Vote: 5-1-0 (opposed: Palo)

01030100 Snow Removal

\$519,950

01030105 Highway–Construction

\$150,754

01030200 Public Works – Building Maintenance

\$987,647

01030300 Fleet Maintenance

\$1,188,242

Mr. Haberlin moved, seconded by Mr. Molgard, to increase account 501888 Uniform Allowance \$2,805.

Vote: 6-0-0

The Chair moved to accept the new total of \$1,188,242

Vote: 6-0-0

01030400 Recycling Center

\$2,127,161

01030500 Town Engineer

\$604,788

Mr. Haberlin moved, seconded by Mr. Molgard, to increase account 589901 Rentals-Annual Rentals/Lease \$6,000 for a new car

Vote: 6-0-0

The Chair moved to accept the new total of \$604,788.

Vote: 6-0-0

03 Public Works Total: \$8,857,103

The Chair moved to accept the new Public Works Total \$8,857,103, an increase of \$100,666.

Vote: 6-0-0

04 PUBLIC HEALTH

01040000 Health Department

\$343,044

Mr. Haberlin moved, seconded by Mr. Molgard, to increase account 556601 Dev-Sem/Conf \$600, so employees can attend all necessary classes.

Vote: 6-0-0

Mr. Haberlin moved, seconded by Mr. Molgard, to decrease account 567701 Transportation-Gas \$3,043. The Town Hal account should be used.

Vote: 6-0-0

Mr. Haberlin moved, seconded by Mr. Molgard, to set-up account 590011 Utilities Heat and fund \$1,200.

Vote: 6-0-0.

Mr. Haberlin moved, seconded by Mr. Molgard, to increase account 590014 Utilities Telephone \$1,200.

Vote: 6-0-0

Mr. Palo moved, seconded by Mr. DeGennaro, to reduce account 501102 Salaries-PT/Permanent \$30,000.

Vote: 6-0-0

Mr. Palo indicated that when the Health Department separated from the Trumbull-Monroe district, the Board was told that it would save money for the Town of Trumbull. He went on to add that when he looked back over the previous two years, the costs were \$304,000 and \$315,000 respectively and now we are up to \$343,000. This is why he feels the account should be reduced.

Vote: 1-5-0 motion fails (opposed: Haberlin, Molgard, Zimov, DeGennaro, Hammers)

The Chair moved to accept the new total of \$343,044.

Vote: 5-1-0 (opposed: Palo)

01040200 Vital Statistics

\$1,100

01040400 Nursing-Seniors

\$35,634

04 Public Health Total: \$379,778

The Chair moved to accept the new Public Health Total \$379,778, a decrease of \$43.

Vote: 5-1-0 (opposed: Palo)

05 SOCIAL SERVICES

01050000 Social Services

\$86,400

01050200 Mary Sherlach Counseling Center

\$312,750

01050600 Senior Citizen's Services

\$286,250

05 Social Services Total: \$685,400

The Chair moved to approve the Social Services total \$685,400.

Vote: 6-0-0

06 EDUCATION

01060000 Education

\$107,426,063

Mr. Haberlin moved, seconded by Mr. Molgard, to reduce account 511151 Fringe Benefits-Medical/Dental \$10,095,501.

Mr. Haberlin moved, seconded by Mr. Molgard, to reduce account 511162 Medical Ins. Reserve \$1,600,000.

Mr. Haberlin moved, seconded by Mr. Molgard, to increase account 522205 BOE Program Expenses \$11,695,501.

Vote: 5-1-0 (opposed: Palo)

The Chair indicated that it was necessary to take action, since the deadline for the Board of Finance is March 24, 2016. She went on to add that the Town Council can increase the accounts up to the First Selectman's request.

01060200 School Nurses

\$849,268

01060400 Non Public Schools

\$336,994

01060600 Trumbull Community TV / Business Education Initiative

\$106,779

06 Education Total: \$108,719,104

The Chair moved to approve the Education total \$108,719,104.

Vote 5-1-0 (opposed: Palo)

07 LIBRARIES

01070000 Libraries

\$1,662,17607 Libraries Total: \$1,662,176

The Chair moved to approve the Libraries total \$1,662,176.

Vote: 6-0-0

08 PARKS AND RECREATION

01080000 Public Events

\$20,000

01080300 Trumbull Fall Festival

\$20,000

01080400 Recreation

\$528,815

01080600 Parks

\$1,880,586

Mr. Haberlin moved, seconded by Mr. Molgard, to reduce account 501120 AED Annual Stipend \$600, since the EMS provides most of the training.

Vote 6-0-0

Mr. Haberlin moved, seconded by Mr. Molgard, to increase account 581888 Capital Outlay \$9,000 for the snow blower.

Vote: 6-0-0

The Chair moved to approve the new Parks total \$1,880,586.

Vote: 6-0-0

01080800 Tree Warden

\$152,410

08 Parks and Recreation Total: \$2,601,811

The Chair moved to approve the new Parks and Recreation total \$2,601,811, an increase of \$8,400.

09 DEBT SERVICE

01090000 Debt Service

\$6,171,267

09 Debt Service Total: \$6,171,267

The Chair moved to approve the Debt Service total \$6,171,267.

Vote: 6-0-0

GENERAL FUND: \$163,661,002

The Chair moved to approve the new General Fund Balance \$163,661,002, an increase of \$233,499.

Vote: 6-0-0

10 ENTERPRISE FUNDS

20100000 W.P.C.A

\$9,050,203

21100000 Tashua Knolls Golf

\$1,982,464

Mr. Zimov moved, seconded by Mr. Haberlin, to reduce account 501101- Salaries-FT/ Permanent \$2,474 for the Director, at the request of the Golf Commission.

Vote: 6-0-0

The Chair moved to approve the new total \$1,982,464.

Vote: 6-0-0

10 Enterprise Funds Total: \$11,032,667

The Chair moved to approve the new Enterprise Funds Balance \$11,032,667, a decrease of \$2,474.

Vote: 6-0-0

GRAND TOTAL: \$ 174,693,669

The Chair moved to approve the new Grand Total \$174,693,669, an increase of \$231,025.

Vote: 6-0-0

By unanimous consent the meeting was adjourned at 7:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted

Phyllis C. Collier - Board of Finance Clerk