BOARD OF FINANCE

Town Hall
5866 Main Street
Trumbull, Connecticut 06611

Board of Finance Meeting
Council Chambers, Trumbull Town Hall
Approved Minutes
January 15, 2026
7:00 pm

Call To Order
Chairman McHugh called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm. All joined in the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence.

Present
Chairman, Lainie McHugh, Paul Timpanelli, David Galla, David Pia, Massimo Mallozzi, Michael Colohan, Nathan Tinker (Alternate) and Vincent DeGennaro (Alternate)

Also Present
Maria Pires, Director of Finance; Town Attorney Daniel Schopick; Rebecca Lopez, Internal Auditor; Anthony Musto, Town Treasurer; Dr. Martin Semmel, Superintendent of Schools, Kevin Dion, Director of Operations, Board of Education; Stefan Lyhne-Nielsen, Library Director; First Selectman, Vicki Tesoro; Kathleen McGannon, Chief Administrative Officer; Cindy Katske, Chief Administrative Officer; George Estrada, Director of Public Works; Glen Byrnes, Assistant Chief of Police; Douglas Bogen, General Foreman, Highway; William Mauer, Town Engineer; Richard Infante, Director of Operations, Public Works; Aaron Traussi, Fleet Supervisor, Highway

Public Comment
No public comment.

Internal Auditor
Rebecca Lopez updated the Board noting her intention was to present the HR Employee Health and Benefit Administration Audit Report. After reviewing findings with Staff, it was felt additional information should be included. Audit will be discussed at the February meeting.

Ms. McHugh noted audit topics suggested include vehicle and equipment inventories across the departments and purchase policies and how administered. Additional topics should be forwarded to the Chair for inclusion in the Audit Plan for 2026.

Treasurer's Report
Treasurer's Report was previously distributed to the Board. Mr. Musto indicted rates are affected by the cuts at the Federal level but are not oppressively low. Mr. Colohan raised a concern regarding bank account amounts and insurance coverage. Mr. Musto explained the structure of the accounts at Newtown Bank and M&T Bank.

01-26-01 – Bonding Resolution – Board of Education - $6,470,000
Motion was made by Mr. Timpanelli to read the title of the Board of Education CIP Bond Resolution in its entirety and to waive the reading of the remainder of the resolution, incorporating its full text into the minutes of this meeting. Seconded by Mr. Mallozzi. Motion passed 6-0-0. All back-up information can be found online.

Mr. Galla introduced the following resolution -

> Resolution 01-25-01 appropriating $6,470,000 for the Trumbull Board of Education Capital Improvement Plan 2026-2027 and authorizing the issuance of $6,470,000 in bonds of the Town to meet said appropriation and pending the issuance thereof the making of temporary borrowings for such purpose.

Mr. Galla moved its adoption; seconded by Mr. Mallozzi.

Dr. Semmel introduced himself and Mr. Dion noting he is appreciative of the funding from the Town for the schools over the years. This year, he is requesting $6.4 million dollars to continue those efforts. Average age of buildings is 55 years with 1.2 million square feet of plant.

Discussion items

1. Madison Middle School – specifics discussed for the elevator regarding pricing and bidding (KONE is the primary service contractor); new elevator specifics; material offset would be seen.
2. Middlebrook Elementary – shades discussed with regard to usage and options.
3. Daniels Farm – specifics discussed for back-up generator, AC Units/split units.
4. Tashua – replacement of cafeteria tables due to age.
5. Frenchtown – specifics discussed for drainage and design of drop off zone; retention basin.
6. Trumbull High School – specifics discussed for parking, drainage and driveway, roof top air handlers, refurbishment of chiller units. Lengthy discussion held on parking/drainage for Phase 1.
7. Long Hill Administration Building – specifics discussed on the roof replacement and installation of HVAC. Dr. Semmel noted the Master Plan worked through all buildings with Long Hill Admin Building last. There has been no indication that school administration would be leaving this building in the near future. Building opened in 1920.
8. Fleet – specifics discussed for Bd of Education vehicles.

Dr. Semmel will review the Master Plan for the Board of Education and bring to the Board of Finance for information.

Ms. McHugh requested a recess at 7:57 pm; meeting resumed at 8:14 pm.

Additional Question

1. Colohan – roofing at Long Hill – what patching has been completed. Roof is beyond its lifespan, only patched in small places.

Motion by Mr. Timpanelli to reduce by $600,000 the Long Hill Administration Building proposal relative to the HVAC. Seconded by Mr. Galla. Motion passed 6-0-0.

Motion by Mr. Timpanelli to reduce $500,000 relative to Frenchtown Elementary School design/drainage project. Seconded by Mr. Galla. Motion passed 6-0-0.

Motion by Mr. Galla to reduce $55,000 from Middlebrook Office/Staff Room carpeting and cafeteria/gym shades. Seconded by Mr. Pia. Rationale is that this could be expensed out. **Motion passed 6-0-0.**

Resolution on the floor appropriating an amended amount of $5,305,000 for the Board of Education Capital Improvement Plan for the 2026-2027 Fiscal Year and authorizing the issuance of $5,305,000 in bonds of the Town to meet said appropriation and pending the issuance thereof the making of temporary borrowings for such purpose. **Motion passed 6-0-0.**

01-26-01 – Bonding Resolution – Town of Trumbull - $15,620,000
Motion was made by Mr. Pia to read the title of the Town CIP Bond Resolution in its entirety and to waive the reading of the remainder of the resolution, incorporating its full text into the minutes of this meeting. Seconded by Mr. Colohan. Motion passed 6-0-0. All back-up information can be found on-line**.**

Mr. Galla introduced the following resolution -

> Resolution 01-26-02 for the Town of Trumbull appropriating $15,620,000 for the Trumbull (Town) Capital Improvement Plan 2026-2027 and authorizing the issuance of $15,620,000 in bonds of the Town to meet said appropriation and pending the issuance thereof the making of temporary borrowings for such purpose.

Mr. Galla moved its adoption; seconded by Mr. Pia. Motion passed 6-0-0.

Discussion Items
Mr. Estrada noted he worked closely with the First Selectman and Finance Director to arrive at a plan that was prudent**.** What is being presented are priorities for each area.

1. Library – two phase plan; this is Phase 1.
2. Town Hall – specifics discussed on analysis and abatement of asbestos.
3. Police Headquarters – specifics discussed on lighting and replacement (covered by grant; amount is the Town's match); garage door replacement, window replacement and design.

4. Senior Center – specifics discussed, funds to move the project forward after the referendum failed. Architect fees. Needs Council direction.
5. Fueling station – specifics discussed; reached end-of-life (over 30 yrs); parts unavailable.
6. Garage siding – specifics discussed.
7. Animal Shelter – specifics discussed. Generator being donated; this funding would be in the event they cannot install the donated unit. Price quotes discussed. Mr. Estrada requested additional information from Mr. Pia.
8. Townwide – security updates not discussed in open meetings.
9. Twin Brooks Irrigation – specific discussed. Central area needs remediation.
10. Beaches Park – specifics discussed for the ADA appropriate playscape. Cannot purchase replacement parts for current equipment; will be required to remove it.
11. Historic Society – specifics discussed. Addition to the building has separated from main structure; need an engineer to study.
12. Paving – specifics discussed for Counseling Center and Tashua Knolls. Paving contractors discussed; town paving plan explained.

Ms. McHugh requested Mr. Infante return in February with a presentation on the Pavement Preservation Plan. Facility tours will be conducted also.

13. Highway – specifics discussed. Equipment allows them to reclaim materials.
14. Parks – specifics discussed. Having problems with longevity with pick-up trucks; better product requested. This is a replacement for the current vehicle.
15. Economic Development – specifics discussed. Amount of $50,000 is the Town match for the grant for the trail connection/sidewalk construction on White Plains Road. Long Hill School House restoration was discussed; grants are being pursued; request of $20,000 is a grant match.
16. Engineering – specifics discussed. Daniels Farm Road project – request is for design; funding will be requested from METROCOG. Projected cost is $12 million over four years/four phases. School logistics need to be considered including construction of the new middle school.
17. Bidirectional amplifier (BDA) radio – specifics discussed. Lifespan of the hardware is 10-15 years; current equipment is 14 years old.
18. Garbage truck – specifics discussed. Garbage has hydraulics to pack the loads; dump truck would require multiple loads. Used nine months out of the year. Current truck is 20 years old.

Ms. McHugh requested a recess at 9:26 pm; meeting resumed at 9:32 pm.

Resolution on the floor appropriating $15,620,000 for the Trumbull Capital Improvement Plan for 2026-2027.

Motion made by Mr. Mallozzi to remove $20,000 from Parks for the Bills Property, Phase 1 Design. Seconded by Mr. Galla. Motion passed 6-0-0.

Motion by Mr. Galla to remove from Parks, $605,000 for the Beaches Park Playscape. Seconded by Mr. Pia. New splashpad recently installed; not the right time with the other requests within the Town. **Motion passed 5-1(Galla)-0.**

Motion by Mr. Galla to remove from Abraham Nichols Barn/Park the paving Phase ll, for $114,800. Seconded by Mr. Timpanelli. Motion passed 6-0-0.

Motion by Mr. Galla to remove the drainage and paving of parking lots at Old Mine Park Counseling Center for $249,930. Second by Mr. Pia. Would like to see it pushed off one year. **Motion passed 6-0-0.**

Motion by Mr. Timpanelli to add $12,000,000 for the Daniels Farm Road project to Engineering. Seconded by Mr. Galla. It was felt this is a priority project and should be discussed. The project is moving forward; working with METROCOG to secure outside funding; pushing forward to be ready to go when funding is received. Mrs. Tesoro noted the Town is working closely with METROCOG. Unknown what cost would be. Working to secure funding as they have for other projects. **Motion failed 0-6-0.**

Motion by Mr. Galla to decrease in Highway the Freightliner snowplow and sander, decrease by one plow, $301,200. Seconded by Mr. Mallozzi. Past history is one snow plow each year. Replacement spreadsheet was constructed for fleet maintenance/replacement timelines. Felt there were multiple requests for vehicles in various departments. **Approved (Galla, Mallozzi, McHugh) Opposed (Pia, Colohan, Timpanelli). Motion Failed.** Amount will remain at $602,400.

Motion by Mr. Galla to decrease in Highway for the pothole patching trailer for $99,550. Seconded by Mr. Mallozzi. Mr. Infante indicated this is equipment that would help extend the life of our roads through stabilization. **Motion withdrawn by Mr. Galla.**

Resolution on the floor appropriating $14,420,000 for the Trumbull (Town) Capital Improvement Plan for the 2026-2027 Fiscal Year and authorizing the issuance of $14,420,000 bonds of the Town to meet said appropriation and pending the issuance thereof the making of temporary borrowings for such purpose. **Motion passed 6-0-0.**

Discussion Items

1. Year to Date Budget Report – Expenditures FY 2026 – no further discussion.
2. Year to Date Budget Report – Revenue FY 2026 – no further discussion.
3. Assistant Chief Byrnes presented an updated roster of police personnel. No further discussion.

Approval of Minutes

Motion was made by Mr. Galla to accept the minutes of December 17, 2025 as presented; seconded by Mr. Pia. Mr. DeGennaro voted for Mr. Colohan. **Motion passed 6-0-1 (Colohan).**

Adjournment
There being no further business, motion was made by Mr. Galla to adjourn the meeting at 9:55 pm; seconded by Mr. Pia. Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Crandall
Acting Clerk