



TOWN OF MIDDLEBURY

*Board of Finance
1212 Whittemore Road
Middlebury, CT 06762*

**Meeting Minutes
Wednesday March 13, 2019
Shepardson Community Center
Room 26**

Present: William Stowell, Chairman
Rita H Smith, Board Member
Stephen Ruccio, Board Member
Ralph Barra, Alternate
Dawn Albizu-Calabrese, Board Member

Absent: Vincent Cipriano, Board Member
Joseph Drauss, Board Member
Keli-Ann Bollard, Alternate

Also Present: Edward B. St. John, First Selectman
Larry Hutvagner, CFO
Rachel Primus, Recording Clerk
Elaine Strobel, Selectman

William Stowell opened the meeting at 7:09 PM. He appointed Ralph Barra as a regular voting member in place of Vincent Cipriano.

Approval of Minutes

VOTED: Unanimously on a motion by Rita Smith and seconded by Ralph Barra to **APPROVE** the February 13, 2019 minutes.

VOTED: Unanimously on a motion by Stephen Ruccio and seconded by Rita Smith to **APPROVE** the February 27, 2019 meeting minutes.

Public Comment

None

Reports

1. Chief Financial Officers Report

Larry Hutvagner stated the report was included in the packets. One item that will be an issue is that State revenue for the elderly exemption which will not be funded this year or next year. A positive item is the Pilot and the Veteran State reimbursement which will be partial this year. He reported that Telecommunication is down so there will be less money. The self-sustaining

account in Park and Recreation will not meet budget this year. The tenant at the Library has renewed their lease. On the expenditure side there are 2 line items that are over budget, the overtime at Public Works and the Legal account due to arbitration from the police union. Bill Stowell questioned why the Park and Recreation account has been an issue. Larry said the revenue has not been coming in for the expenses of the programs. Ed St John said he reached out to Betty but he is waiting for her to return from her vacation. Bill Stowell would like Betty to come to a meeting and give a report to the board to explain why this is happening.

2. Tax Collectors' Report

Included in packets. Brenda noted that the personal property bills went out. She said that next December she will put a tax reminder in the Bee. There was 5 scheduled tax sales, but 4 of the 5 have paid back taxes. And there will be about 140 lien notices mailed out tomorrow.

Routine Business

1. Budget Transfers

None

2. Correspondence

None

Old Business

1. Discussion and Action on Board of Finance Transfer Policy

Bill Stowell said it was recommended by the auditor to not do end of year transfers and she questioned why they do the little ones throughout the year. He referred this to Bob Smith, the town attorney, to make sure it is in compliance with the State Statue and Town Charter. He is still waiting to hear back from him.

2. Update/Discussion on allotted State Budget 2019-2020

Larry Hutvagner said he has no new updates from CCM. There was a discussion on the governor's proposal on the Teachers Retirement Contribution.

3. Discussion and Action on Board of Selectman submitted 2019-2020 Budget

Stephen Ruccio noted they should be using last years approved budget amount and use the percentage of increase compared with this year's figure, the actual operating budget amount. Mike McCormack said it should be based on the budget amount the tax payers voted on last year. Stephen Ruccio said it would be a 7.3% increase without the onetime items. Larry Hutvagner said the only changes he has made is the FICA amount, which he figured out the accurate amounts. Bill Stowell said he was concerned with Department 60, Park and Recreation and why it increased by 4%. There was a discussion on how Betty came up with this figure. Bill said the number was probably fine, and that he didn't want to make any changes at this time. He does have questions on the self-sustaining account. He felt he wasn't prepared to vote on the budget this evening because of the questions he has. He is asking the board to go through the budget and if they have questions to get them to him as soon as possible. The board scheduled a special meeting for March 21, 2019 at 7:00 PM at the town hall.

New Business

None

Public Comment

None

Adjournment

VOTED: Unanimously on a motion by Stephen Ruccio and seconded by Rita Smith to
ADJOURN the meeting at 8:17 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Rachel Primus, Recording Clerk

Cc: Board of Selectmen
Board of Finance and Alternates
Larry Hutvagner, Chief Financial Officer
Robin Stanziale, Town Treasurer
Email Notification for Website
File