

**Board of Finance – Minutes
September 13, 2016
Regular Meeting
Town Hall – 530 Main Street**

Chairman Fitzgerald called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM

BOF members present and seated: James Fitzgerald (Chairman), Stephen Tuxbury, Reginald Smith Jr., Ben Witte, Dan Charest, Bart Baxter and Alternate BOF member Maria Moore

Absent: Robert Nilsson

- I. Seating of alternates: NONE
- II. Approval of minutes from the June 14, 2016 regular meeting and the June 16, 2016 special meeting

Motion by member Smith and second by member Witte to approve the minutes of the June 14, 2016 regular meeting.
Yea: Smith, Witte, Fitzgerald, Charest and Tuxbury
Nay: None
Abstained: Baxter
Motion passed

Motion by member Tuxbury and second by member Witte to approve the minutes of the June 16, 2016 special meeting.
Yea: Smith, Witte, Fitzgerald, Charest and Tuxbury
Nay: None
Abstained: Baxter
Motion passed
- III. Board of Education – Superintendent Brian Murphy & Chairwoman Jennifer Benaitis

Superintendent Murphy reported to the Board of Finance that the Board of Education returned \$91,795.00 (unspent) from the Fiscal Year end of June 30, 2016 to the Town.
Superintendent Murphy reported that the student enrollment is down again and the number of Students are as follows:
Bakerville School: 103
New Hartford Elementary: 49 (K-2)
Ann Antolini School: 280
Total Students (Excluding Pre-K): 432

Number of Pre-K Students: 16 (8 are Special Ed)

IV. Beekley Community Library: Many members of the Beekley Community Library attended the meeting and spoke on behalf of the Library by protesting the 15% budget cut of funds by First Selectman Daniel Jerram that were approved in the Town's Budget by referendum for the Fiscal Year 2016-2017. Beekley board members stated that they are in need of the funds to maintain their operation of hours, payroll, heat and light and serving the community. First Selectman Daniel Jerram responded that the funds are not a cut, but more of a holdback until the 4th quarter when the town has a better handle on possible to potential cuts in town aid from the State of Connecticut.

V. Treasurers Report: NONE

Town Treasurer Gordon Ross sent an email to Chairman Fitzgerald on Monday, September 12, 2016 at 8:58 PM informing the Chair as follows: "Hey Jim, can't make it tomorrow. Please put me on for next month so that I can update you on financing for the school, bridge and a possible refunding of existing debt. We should have finalized our plan by then. thanks, Gordon"

VI. FY 2015-2016 Final line item transfers if any, requiring action by the BOF

Motion by Witte and seconded by Charest to transfer \$9,000.00 from the line item "Road Sweeping/CatchBasin Clean" in the 2015-2016 FY Town operating budget to the 2015-2016 Town capital budget for the purchase of a forklift.

Yea: Witte, Charest, Baxter, Fitzgerald and Tuxbury
Nay: Smith
Abstained: NONE

Motion by Witte, seconded by Charest to approve \$187,249.33 which includes the \$9,000 for the forklift for the Fiscal Year 2015-2016 ending June 30, 2016.

Yea: Witte, Charest and Baxter
Nay: Fitzgerald
Abstained: Smith and Tuxbury

Note: At the time of the meeting the Motion was understood to have passed based on Witte stating it was a simple majority. However, the following day (Wednesday, September 14, 2016), BOF Alternate Member Maria Moore was informed by The Town of New Hartford Town Clerk Donna LaPlante and Assistant Town Clerk Debbie Ventre that the motion didn't pass. The BOF had 6

members present and seated, therefore, the board needed 4 Yes votes (the majority) to pass a motion.

- VII. Line item transfers for consideration and approval by the BOF for FY 2016-2017 YTD: NONE

VIII. Reports:

- a. Bookkeeper's Report – Annie Witte

Bookkeeper Annie Witte presented the revenue and expenditure report for FY 2015-2016 year-end. While the FY 2015-2016 FY year-end is still unaudited, Bookkeeper Witte presented a revenue report showing a revenue surplus of \$54,598.50, and a town operating budget underspending amount of \$214,447.40 for a total surplus for FY 16 of \$269,075.90

- b. First Selectman's Report – Dan Jerram

- c. Detailed report on all capital expenditures open/closed/completed/ over/under, balances etc.

First Selectman Jerram reported on the status of the road paving and chip sealing, rails to trails, and the Pavilion and the Carpenter Road Bridge

- IX. Capital Expenditures Advisory sub-committee Chair appointment

Board of Finance members Smith and Tuxbury have volunteered to be Co-Chairs of the Capital Expenditures Advisory sub-committee

- X. Opportunity for Public Comment: NONE

- XI. Communications to the Board: Letter addressed to the Chairman and sent to all BOF members from Thomas Buzzi, 651 Niles Road, received via email from Thomas Buzzi, PE, Vice President, Camputaro & Son Excavating, 1 Enterprise Dr. Branford, CT 06471 (communication attached)

Email response to the communication from Thomas Buzzi, from BOF member Witte (communication attached)

Communication from Judith A. Palmer, Ed. D Superintendent of Schools, Regional School District No. 7 regarding Rich Carmelich taking another job and his replacement James Gaskins from Ansonia will start working mid to late October (communication attached).

Communication from Judith A. Palmer, Ed. D Superintendent of Schools, Regional School District No. 7 regarding Teachers' and Administrators' Collective Bargaining

(full communication and request of information attached)

XII. Adjournment

Motion by Smith and second by Tuxbury to adjourn at 8:58 PM

Yea: Unanimous

Respectfully Submitted,
Jim Fitzgerald, Chairman