

**New Hartford Board of Finance
Regular Meeting
March 12, 2024 @ 7:00 pm**

Present Chairperson Kerry Guilfoyle, Members: Dan Charest, Lou Helt, Charlie Neale;
Alternates: Ryan Bingham (virtual), Steve Seltzer, Camille Buford.

Also, present Supt. of Schools Jeff Sousa, BOE Chairman Tim Klepps, First Selectman Dan Jerram, Mary Beth Greenwood, John Burdick, Annie Witte, Chris King & Debbie Franklin from King & King Associates and Penny Miller, Recording Secretary.

Absent Paul LeClair, Ben Witte

Call to Order Chairwoman Guilfoyle opened the meeting at 7:00 pm.

Seating of Alternates Ryan Bingham and Steve Seltzer were seated.

Adoption and/or Revision of Agenda None

Approval of Minutes: Regular Meeting February 13th, 2024

Motion by Mr. Charest to approve the minutes of the February 13, 2024, meeting. Second by Ms. Helt.

Unanimous

Opportunity for Public Comment None

Communication and Other Items Presented to the Board

Chairperson Guilfoyle said several letters were received in support of the Beekley Library. They are from: Heather Rankin, 57 Prospect St, Susan Lowell, 75 Niles Rd, Dean Harper, 81 Arrowhead Dr, Kate Pesce Smith, 191 Niles Rd, Miki MacKennedy, 147 Whitbeck Rd, Darcy Canu, Timothy Lyman, and Heather Grosk, 770 Niles Rd. The letters are with the Town Clerk for viewing.

King and King 22/23 Audit Presentation – Chris King

Chris King and Debbie Franklin of King and King Associates presented the FY 2023 Audit for the Town of New Hartford. There were no findings or material weaknesses. A copy of the audit is available at either the Town Clerk or First Selectman's Office.

Motion by Ms. Helt to accept the Annual Financial Audit Report for the fiscal year July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2023. Second by Mr. Neale.

Unanimous

2024/2025 Budget

Capex Presentation

Supt. Sousa and BOE Chair Tim Klepps presented the Board of Education Capital budget. Ms. Guilfoyle welcomed Mr. Klepps to the meeting and congratulated him on becoming the board's chairman. The 5-year Capital Expenditures were not available for this meeting. Supt. Sousa presented the New Hartford Board of Education Capital Budget for \$285,515. A copy of the Preliminary Capital Expenditure Requests for 2024-2025 is available for viewing in the Town Clerk's Office.

The proposed Capital Budget contains the following:

District-wide for technology - \$15,000, Security Grants local match - \$157,000, 11 Desktop Computers - \$11,000, Indoor Air Quality (IAQ-done yearly) - \$15,675, Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (every 5 years) - \$28,440.

Ms. Helt said the grants are great, but it is still going to cost the taxpayers \$452,000 over 3 years and that is a lot of money. Mr. Jerram said the grants with a total of \$1.3 million with our cost of \$471,000. When will be voted on and when will it be put out to bid. We don't have a way currently to know what the cost will be. How will the people of New Hartford vote on this? Mr. Sousa said the \$471,000 will give us the ability to spend up to \$1.3 million. Mr. Jerram asked what happens if the bids come in over the \$1.3 million. We usually don't spend \$1.3 million without a vote. We have an expectation of spending and that goes to a town meeting. Ms. Guilfoyle said that an executive session is needed with Supt. Sousa to go over what is included to be done, that is sensitive material.

Antolini School – Presentation System, Promethean Board - \$8,400, Painting - \$10,000, Paving Walkway - \$20,000. Currently when there are meetings for PPT's a shared laptop is used and passed around to the attendees. The \$8,400 would include additional laptops and a Promethean Board. Pushed from last year's Capital to this year is Painting for \$10,000 and Paving the Walkway for \$20,000. The current walkway is being eroded.

Bakerville School – Pushed from last year's Capital to this year is: Painting, exterior trim replacement for \$10,000.

New Hartford Elementary – Painting \$10,000. For a total of \$285,515.

Mr. Charest asked about the oil tanks. Mr. Sousa said it looks like they were all installed in 2001. We believe they have a 30-year life span. They will be tested to find out the next steps. There are 2-steel 10,000-gallon tanks at Antolini and at Bakerville & New Hartford Elementary there each have Single Wall Fiberglass tanks.

Ms. Buford asked does the cost for the walkway cover erosion, maintenance, and other items? Mr. Sousa said they will rip it up and compact the soil. There is also a pipe there that might need to be replaced. It will not include an ADA switchback.

Town of New Hartford Capital presentation

First Selectman Jerram said the proposed Capital for 2024—2025 is \$510,000. This is to take care of the Town Hall, Parks, 25 buildings and DPW garage. The annual average for Town

CAPEX over the past 5 years is \$398,200. A new Freightliner truck was purchased at \$250,000 plus \$20,000 for the wing plow and the dump body. There are 10 different routes for the trucks. Along with 10-15 bridges. The High Street bridge was built around 1955 and is supported with concrete blocks. An engineering analysis is being done. Behren's Road Bridge is not as big but has concrete blocks and tires supporting it. High Street could be \$2 million and Behrens Road about \$1 million. A box culvert on Bruning Road is a \$175,000 project. The one at Stub Hollow will be less expensive.

Included is \$40,000 for continued work on town maps and comply w/state regs for the Assessor GIS/MS4; Technology - \$25,000 in the Town Hall, \$25,000 General Upkeep/Improvements for Town Hall Equipment will include carpets in the Assessor's Office and the Police Dept. floor; General Park - \$60,000 Improvements. The roofs on the Lions Club & Cub Scout Buildings need to be replaced. The playscape also needs some items replaced; \$165,000 for replacement of a 2nd Front Loader 444H – this is used for sand and salt; Downtown Improvements – Sidewalk /Lighting & Island for \$40,000. The island has become overgrown. The downtown merchants are looking for something to make it look nice; Bridge Improvements for \$30,000 – continues work on culverts & engineering on larger bridge projects; \$60,000 for replacement of 1997 Vermeer Chipper Unit and \$65,000 – Town Hall Furnace/Heating Cooling Upgrade – part 2 from 2023 Reduction.

Mr. Neale asked if there are any projects that could be deferred. Mr. Jerram replied there always is compromise but he would first talk with the Board of Selectmen.

Mr. Bingham asked about doing a bond. Mr. Jerram isn't opposed to doing a bond project, but it would need further discussion.

Adjournment

Motion by Ms. Helt to adjourn at 9:47 pm. Second by Mr. Neale.

Unanimous

Respectfully submitted, Penny Miller, Recording Secretary

Beekley Library letters

CAPEX

2022/2023 Audit