

**Meeting Minutes of the Town of New Hartford
Board of Finance – Special Meeting of
Tuesday July 17, 2018**

Chairman Fitzgerald, called the meeting called to order at 7:00 PM

BOF regular members present; Jim Fitzgerald, Steve Tuxbury, Reggie Smith, Regina Wexler, Ben Witte. Regular members absent; Dan Charest

BOF Alternate members present; Bart Baxter and Paul LeClair. Absent; Kerry Guilfoyle

BOF alternate Bart Baxter was seated for Dan Charest

Public present; Dan and Donna LaPlante, Tom Buzzi, Dave Helt, Lou Helt, Arnie Helt, Christine Hayward, Alesia Kennerson.

Motion by Steve Tuxbury, second by Ben Witte to approve the meeting minutes of the 6/12/2018 BOF meeting.

Yea; Fitzgerald, Tuxbury, Smith, Wexler, Witte

Nay; None

Abstained; Bart Baxter

Motion Passed

Superintendent Brian Murphy and BOE Chairman Josh Adams of the New Hartford Board of Education provided an update to the BOF.

The BOF reviewed & discussed the 2017-2018 year-to-date (July 1, 2017, to June 30, 2018) Revenue & Expenditure Reports. The BOF again requested First Selectman Jerram to clean up the report, so they show only the annual operating, capital, revenue and expenditures, and to separate out the other items such as bond costs, proceeds, associated fees, and projects such as the schools and bridges, etc.

Member Steve Tuxbury made it a point to highlight item number 5 in the letter from Bookkeeper Annie Witte. Tuxbury stated that it is not acceptable to him, and does not want it said that just because it is written in Bookkeeper Witte's letter to the BOF, that the BOF accepted the statement from Bookkeeper Witte that all line items will be covered within their respective departments at year end.

The BOF discussed and approved recategorizing existing unused capital funds currently designated for the purchase of a woodchipper; the approval was for a new large tractor-front loader combo to replace a 1972 John Deere tractor, and a new trailer to move heavy equipment (mini-excavator, skid steer, lawn mowers, etc.).

Motion by Ben Witte, second by Regina Wexler, that we recategorize \$45,000 of unused capital funds from a prior year designated for the purchase of a woodchipper to be used to purchase a new large tractor/ front loader combo and trailer to move heavy equipment any

remaining unused portion of that \$45,000 would subsequently be moved to undesignated capital.

All in favor; Yea; Unanimous. Motion Passed.

The BOF discussed the correspondence received by the BOF Chair regarding the new Highway Superintendent, and the lack of a town ordinance appointing such a superintendent. First Selectman Jerram stated that we do not have an ordinance and that he hired the superintendent of highways and not of bridges and stated that there is no appointment. There was much discussion amongst the BOF members. The BOF also discussed the relative Connecticut General State Statutes 13a-8 through 13a-11 and 9-369. To avoid any bickering, Chairman Fitzgerald suggested that it be resolved by getting an opinion from First Selectman Jerram's town attorney. Mr. Jerram and member Ben Witte did not want to get an opinion and said it would be a waste of money. For now, the BOF took no action, and the discussion ended.

There were no line item transfer requests presented from the First Selectman or Bookkeeper for consideration and approval by the Board of Finance for the Fiscal year, July 1, 2017, to June 30, 2018 - Year-to-Date (Note: per Annie Witte, submission to the BOF will be in September 2018)

Public Comment, Resident and Town Clerk Donna LaPlante expressed her frustration and dissatisfaction with the BOE after reading the minutes from their last meeting. Donna said she would be writing a formal letter to the concerned parties.

Motion by Ben Witte, second by Bart Baxter to adjourn the meeting.

All in favor; Unanimous. Motion Passed. Meeting ended at 8:14 PM

Respectfully Submitted,
Jim Fitzgerald, Chairman
Board of Finance