



Board of Finance Regular Meeting

Monday, May 15, 2023

Meeting Room -Town Hall 7:00 p.m.

(Unapproved)

Attendance

ORANGE, CONN
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Board of Finance Members Present: Chairman Kevin Houlihan, Vice Chairman James Leahy, Kevin McNabola, and Joseph Nuzzo

Board of Finance Members Absent: Kevin Moffett and Ajeet Jain

Staff: John Cifarelli, Finance Director; Deborah Satonick, Recording Secretary

Guests: Don Foyer, Highway Department

1. Call to Order & Introduction

- Chairman Houlihan called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. and asked the members to introduce themselves.

2. Public Dialogue

- Mr. Foyer gave an update on road paving in the Town of Orange. The town is responsible for 110 miles of roads, and currently has repaved 53.44 miles of roadway. Since 2014, chip sealing has been replaced with asphalt repair, and this work is being done using bonds and with financial assistance from the Town. This paving total includes the four schools, the police and transfer station, the firehouse, High Plains Community Center, and Town Hall.
- Mr. Foyer explained that he would appreciate some long-term predictability of future funding for road paving. This forecast would enable him to buy at discount, prepare his spring list of streets for repair, and finish all road work by the end of September. Mr. McNabola suggested a line item in the operating budget each year of one million dollars for street paving, allowing Mr. Foyer to come before the Board in January for possible additional funding. While Chairman Houlihan would love to fully fund road paving, he noted some unknown Capital expenditures with the flooding issues at Pine Tree Dr, Old Country Rd, and Derby-Milford Rd, plus the roof repair at High Plains Community Center.
- While ARPA money may be allocated to some of the above projects, Chairman Houlihan does not want to have a shortfall. He prefers to wait to get quotes for the other Capital

expenditures before awarding additional money for paving. Mr. Foyer noted that Mr. Brinton will come before the Board of Finance next month to request an additional \$500k for road paving. Chairman Houlihan is hopeful that they will have a cost estimate of these other repairs at their June meeting.

3. Amity Update – Mr. Nuzzo

- Mr. Nuzzo reported that the Amity Finance Committee approved the 2.25% increase in the 2023-2024 Amity budget. He also reported that the State of Connecticut reimbursement for Special Education is at 73%. The current Amity surplus is slightly over 1.6 million dollars, of which they will transfer 2% of the surplus into their Contingency Capital Account. Amity will provide the Town of Orange a detailed report as to how these surplus funds will be used.
- Mr. Nuzzo gave a brief update on their returns from their Pension account as well as their other accounts. Amity transferred money into the OPEC Fund, installed new security cameras, and upgraded their math software, among other repairs.

5. Vice Chairman’s Report Mr. Leahy

- Mr. Leahy reported that salaries, benefits, and supplies have gone down this month. He also spoke briefly on the large Amity surplus. Lastly, Mr. Leahy questioning the methodology and purpose of taking bonds in lieu of taxing residents in this current budget for something that will last 20 + years.

6. Budget Discussion – Vote to Reaffirm Budget Amount and Mill Rate

Mr. Leahy made a motion to approve the 2023-2024 budget at \$80,249,651 and the new mill rate at 32.31 for real estate, personal property, and motor vehicle, subject to the budget passing at the referendum on Wednesday, May 17th. Mr. McNabola seconded the motion, and all were in favor. The motion PASSED.

7. Discussion and Possible Vote for Road Paving – Memo from Mr. Bob Brinton

- Mr. Brinton made a request via a memo for budget transfers in the total amount of \$136k for additional road paving.

Mr. Nuzzo made a motion to approve the following line transfers to 21255039 57400 Streets & Bridges:

<i>21257003 54103 Snow Plowing Services</i>	<i>\$24K</i>
<i>21257003 56292 Sand & Salt.</i>	<i>\$53K</i>
<i>21257013 51300 Overtime Snow Removal.</i>	<i>\$59K</i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>\$136K</i>

Mr. McNabola seconded the motion, and all were in favor. The motion PASSED.

8. Discussion and Approval of Minutes

March 30, 2023 Regular Meeting

- Board members reviewed the minutes and made edits as necessary.

Mr. McNabola made a motion to approve the March 20, 2023 Regular Board of Finance meeting minutes, seconded by Mr. Leahy. All were in favor and the motion PASSED.

April 20, 2023 Budget Hearing

- Board members reviewed the minutes and made edits as necessary.

Mr. McNabola made a motion to approve the April 20, 2023 Board of Finance Budget Hearing minutes, seconded by Mr. Leahy. All were in favor with Mr. Nuzzo abstaining. The motion PASSED. (3-0-1)

9. Review Revenue and Expense Reports for May 2023

Revenue Report

- Mr. Cifarelli reported that revenue is \$309,937.82 favorable and took questions as they arose. Permit fees have been increased. Mr. Leahy pointed out that there are some double line items in the report, such as Pool Membership. Mr. Cifarelli indicated that Mr. Williams is working to correct this.

Expense Report

- Mr. Cifarelli reviewed the Expense Report with the Board members and took questions as they arose. He expects that they will “break even” with revenue and expenses.

10. Adjournment

Mr. McNabola made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:25 p.m. minutes, seconded by Mr. Nuzzo. All were in favor and the motion PASSED.

Respectfully Submitted,
Deborah Satonick
Recording Secretary