



Town of Colchester, Connecticut

127 Norwich Avenue, Colchester, Connecticut 06415

Mary Bylone, First Selectman

BOARD OF FINANCE SPECIAL MEETING June 16, 2021 – Zoom Meeting – 6:30 PM Minutes

All members and citizens were present via Zoom Webinar – Meeting was recorded

BOF Members Present: Chairman R. Tarlov, B. Dennler, M. Egan, M. Hayes, A. Bisbikos, A. Migliaccio
Also Present: CFO M. Cosgrove, First Selectman M. Bylone, Superintendent Jeffrey Burt, BOE Budget Chair J. Morozowich, Tax Collector M. Wyatt

1. CALL TO ORDER – Chairman Tarlov called the meeting to order at 6:33 pm
2. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA - None
3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Meeting 05/19 – M. Hayes motioned to approve the minutes, 2nd by B. Dennler. *Vote was unanimous, MOTION CARRIED 6-0.*
4. CITIZENS' COMMENTS – Two citizens stated their opinion on the status of the budget.
5. CORRESPONDENCE - None
6. DEPARTMENT REPORTS
 - a. Tax Collector – M. Wyatt reported the collection rate is currently at 98.91%, which is slightly better than this time last year. Tax abatements have been submitted to the BOS for tax payments that had been received on leased vehicles. Tax bills will be mailed on July 1st. Last day to pay without delinquency is August 2nd.
 - b. Finance – Revenue is ahead in tax collections + delinquencies with interest and penalties. Building fees and conveyance taxes are up. Investment income continues to be down. M. Cosgrove will ask J. Paggioli to ensure all snow removal invoices have been received so the remaining funds in the snow budget can be moved to snow reserve. No other major changes to report.
7. FIRST SELECTMAN
 - a. Transfers – Appropriation from General Fund Assigned Fund Balance of investment earnings for the last four years related to the WJMS project and associated transfer of funds to the Debt Service Fund for future debt payments related to the project. Motion by M. Egan to approve, 2nd by A. Migliaccio. Vote was unanimous, **MOTION CARRIED 6-0.**
 - b. First Selectman's Report – M. Bylone reported hybrid style meetings will be set up for July. The BOS will be establishing a committee to develop the plan for the ARPA grant fund usage. The search for a new Fire Chief is being worked on. There was a recent discovery of inaccuracies reported by the Registrars to the Secretary of the State for the 2019 election. There continues to be a lot of building activity as well as interest from businesses in coming to Colchester. Union contracts in negotiation have been submitted to the attorney for review. There have been no bidders for the Youth Center roof job.
8. FIRE APPARATUS BONDING – Discussion and Possible Action – The board members were unanimous in their consensus that the Town needs to moved forward with the referendum regardless of the future budget referendum, but they should not be held on the same date. Decision was tabled as we have until the next meeting date (July 7) and the Board of Selectman has not made a recommendation to purchase the equipment yet.
9. BOARD BUDGET DISCUSSION –
 - a. Mill Rate – Discussion and Possible Action – For motor vehicles, M. Egan motioned to set mill rate at an unchanged 32.84, 2nd

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by M. Hayes. Vote was unanimous, **MOTION CARRIED 6-0**. For real estate and personal property, M. Hayes motioned to set the mill rate at an unchanged 32.84, 2nd by A. Bisbikos. Vote was unanimous, **MOTION CARRIED 6-0**.

- b. Other Items – Budget Discussion – Board members discussed holding a special meeting to address possible budget reductions as well as revenue from ECS funds. It will be held Thursday June 24th.

10. CITIZENS' COMMENTS – A citizen offered her opinions on several points discussed during the meeting. Another citizen commented that he believes any budget increase will not pass a referendum. One more citizen spoke in favor of addressing the needs for kindergarten staff due to increased enrollment.

11. ADJOURNMENT – A. Bisbikos motioned, 2nd by M. Egan to adjourn. **MOTION CARRIED 6-0**. Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Submitted By:

Stacey Kilgus, Clerk