



Town of Colchester, Connecticut

127 Norwich Avenue, Colchester, Connecticut 06415

Mary Bylone, First Selectman

BOARD OF FINANCE BUDGET WORKSHOP

April 20, 2021 – Zoom Meeting – 6:30 PM

Minutes

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

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

1. Meeting Called to Order at 6:35 PM
2. CITIZENS COMMENTS – Citizens offered comment in support and oppositions of the budgets. Tax Collector M Wyatt said she had review the delinquency revenue and interest revenue, and felt we could increase both by 25K.
3. BUDGET REVIEW – R Tarlov reviewed the reductions/fund balance needed to achieve the 3 mill rates discussed the evening before. Superintendent J Burt review questions asked at the previous meeting. M Egan suggested we review the fund balance as a starting point. Discussion of how much of 558 we should use. A Bisbikos suggested that proposed P/T planning position be removed. Other board members were not in favor. Several items also suggested. R Tarlov said he felt the discussion was not moving forward and recognized the board members felt they needed to review fund balance and the town budget to review the dollar amount to decrease the BOE budget. He said we needed to make a list of potential town reductions and determine an order of importance and begin removing the ones with lower priority. He said it was getting late and we needed to determine if we would get to the school discussion. Review possible reductions. Interim Fire Chief, S. Showmaker texted fire related items he could remove.

4. CITIZEN DISCUSSION – Questions and comments regarding the town budget and questions regarding preK.

Eight minute break at 7:47.

5. TOWN BUDGET DISCUSSION – M Egan proposed we use 325K of fund balance and ask that the BOE reduce their increase by 275K. The board will then review reductions on town budget on 4/21 to determine items need to get down to a 1%. Discussion of best times to review items that BOE may need to remove.
6. CITIZENS DISCUSSION – several citizens made comments both in supporting and not supporting the increases after the reductions.
7. BUDGET DISCUSSION – A Bisbikos suggested we consider a delay in the referendum so that the ARPA funds

could be reviewed when available. A Bisbikos said he didn't think a +1 mil would pass. He asked R Tarlov if he thought it would pass. R Tarlov said he did not know, and that he had not had a good record of guessing the amount in the pass, and asked A Bisbikos for the number he thought would pass.

8. CITIZENS COMMENTS – several citizens commented.

9. Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 11:04 PM

Submitted By,

Robert Tarlov