



Town of Colchester, Connecticut

127 Norwich Avenue, Colchester, Connecticut 06415

Andreas Bisbikos, First Selectman

Board of Finance Special Meeting Minutes

March 21, 2023, at 6:00 PM

Hybrid: Town Hall - Meeting Room 1 & Via Zoom

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Gayle Furman
TOWN CLERK

Members Present: A. Migliaccio (Chair), J. Thomas, M. Egan, A. Shilosky, M. Hayes, and T. Vaillancourt

1. Call to Order – Meeting called to order at 6 PM
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Discussion of the BOE Budget Process
 - A. Migliaccio provided an overview of the Finance Departments, the BOE Budget Process, and discussed the importance of transparency. Board members provided feedback on the budget process, the level of information needed, and when to reschedule a budget workshop.
4. Citizens Comments
 - C. Porte expressed disappointment with the power struggle between the Board of Finance and the Board of Education. M. Trujillo spoke about the importance of the Munis Reports. J. McKenzie spoke about the importance of a public education. J. Barnowski spoke in favor money go to education over the senior center. T. Crowell spoke about keeping band classes. M. Dubreuil spoke against the BOE Budget. K. Kalela talked about allocating money differently. S. Kardys spoke about educational cuts. B. Caffey spoke about the positive impact the band program had on students. K. Kardys spoke about how BOE members may vote. E. Shuman expressed disappointment in the current meeting. Parker and Logan (students) spoke about their love of band. J. Malsbenden discussed the budget process. T. Hamilton spoke about special education and band. S. Silberman spoke about meeting scheduling. R. Silberman spoke about the town budget vs. the education budget. S. Adams spoke about the importance of education. K. McKenzie spoke about cuts. A. Zaugg spoke about the cancelation of meetings. A. Potter spoke about the potential cancelation of the band program and the importance of full day kindergarten. J. LaChapelle spoke about transparency and BOE spends its money. J. Joaquin spoke about the importance of having the Munis Reports. S. Croucher spoke about citizen engagement. A. Leggott provided a student perspective on the education system. D. Bouchard spoke against the BOE Budget increase. D. Gaman spoke about the importance of collaboration between both boards. K. Crowell spoke in favor of band and full-day kindergarten. M. Gignac spoke about having a budget workshop. J. Shuman spoke citizen engagement and wanting to vote on the proposed budget. V. Rose spoke against the budget reductions. S. Masen spoke about saving the saving the music program. C. Praisner spoke about the importance of a public education. B. Gooddine spoke about the importance of transparency and following the money. L. Simons spoke about the importance of band. W. Mohrlein spoke about the importance of band. E. Evans provided his perspective on education. K. Belding spoke about citizen attendance and potential reductions. C. Barthel spoke about band program. T. Dimitri

spoke in disappointment of the cancellation of the budget workshop. M. Millington against any reductions. N. McKenzie spoke against any reductions. A. Hill expressed concerns over seeing a reduction in full day kindergarten. B. Tizzi spoke in favor of the Superintendent's transparency. Brooke (student) spoke in favor of band.

- The Board of Finance Chair and members answered questions and addressed concerns.

5. Budget Discussion

6. Next Steps

- A. Migliaccio discussed the schedule of the meetings/workshops.

7. Adjournment – M. Egan made a motion to adjourn. 2nd by T. Vaillancourt. Meeting adjourned 8:41 PM

Submitted by A. Migliaccio