



Town of Colchester, Connecticut

127 Norwich Avenue, Colchester, Connecticut 06415

Mary Bylone, First Selectman

BOARD OF FINANCE BUDGET WORKSHOP
April 14, 2021 – Zoom Meeting – 6:30 PM
Minutes

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

RECEIVED
COLCHESTER, CT
2021 APR 19 AM 9:44
Gayle Furman
TOWN CLERK

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

1. Meeting Called to Order at 6:30 PM
2. CITIZENS COMMENTS – Citizens offered comment in favor of the town budget.
3. TOWN BUDGET REVIEW – Discussion of two new proposed police officers. Sgt. Edwards, Sgt. Rondinone and J Stavola reviewed the need and answered questions. A. Bisbikos questioned the irregularity in reported activity in the budget book from year to year. M. Bylone to bring correct numbers to the next meeting. R. Tarlov asked if we would be able to have 2 new officers on the payroll for 7/1, and a replacement officer for 8/1. If not perhaps we could budget less money based on how quickly to would move candidates through the recruiting and hiring processes. M. Bylone to work with Sergeants to determine hiring calendar and possibly lower the amounts needed in the budget.
4. CITIZEN DISCUSSION – Citizens made comments in favor of adding the officers and several questioned if the additions would lower the numbers and if the numbers required the additions. Questioned whether these were to serve the overnight shift. (no except for an occasional unannounced 3rd or partial 3rd shift)
5. TOWN BUDGET DISCUSSION – the Board reviewed payroll requests. R Tarlov said there is no transparency when salaries are changed between budgets. Even if the Board has no vote the First Selectman should still seek input from the BOF. Salary increases in the middle of the year create a future tax increase with BOF or taxpayer vote. B Dennler said that the First Selectman should at least inform the Board so that we know these increases will be built into the budget before presented in April. R Tarlov asked about positions that Mary had previously said she wanted to increase the pay for and spread the increases over 3 years, saying he could not see this year's increase in the budget and there was no mention of the how they would impact future years. M Bylone said she could not discuss as in negotiations. Board members stated they would like to discuss revenue before offering opinions on the expenditures. R Tarlov questioned the criteria in changing the Coordinator positions from I to II, as one of the positions showed as vacant. Mary said the employees had met the criteria for the change in the job descriptions. R Tarlov asked that the descriptions be sent to him if not available on the website. R Tarlov also questioned the large increase in a P/T position that had a large increase last year.

6. CITIZENS DISCUSSION – several citizens made comments both in supporting and not supporting the increases.
7. TOWN BUDGET DISCUSSION – R Tarlov asked if they would have the debt service plan for next week. M Cosgrove believed it would be ready for Monday. Monday’s meeting will review Revenue and the Capital Plan and that the Board would like J Chaponis to attend. Tuesday night will review the expenditure budgets of the Schools and Town.
8. CITIZENS COMMENTS – several citizens commented.
9. Adjournment – A Bisbikos motioned, M Egan second, adjourn and 10:15.

Submitted By,

Robert Tarlov