

## Correspondence Presented at Board of Finance Meeting: 02/20/2019

**From:** deee bouchard <deeedeeee1963@yahoo.com>

**Sent:** Sunday, January 6, 2019 7:31 PM

**To:** Robert Tarlov

**Subject:** BOF Minutes 12/5/2018

Dear Rob,

The BOF Minutes for the 12/5/2018 are not posted on the website. Can you please look into this.

Thank you

Deanna

Happy New Year 🌟

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

**From:** Robert Tarlov

**Sent:** Monday, January 7, 2019 10:21 AM

**To:** deee bouchard

**Subject:** Re: BOF Minutes 12/5/2018

[http://www.colchesterct.gov/Pages/ColchesterCT\\_BComm/BOF/ColchesterCT\\_FinanceMin/2018/12-05-2018/](http://www.colchesterct.gov/Pages/ColchesterCT_BComm/BOF/ColchesterCT_FinanceMin/2018/12-05-2018/)

[http://www.colchesterct.gov/Pages/ColchesterCT\\_BComm/BOF/ColchesterCT\\_FinanceAgendas/2019/](http://www.colchesterct.gov/Pages/ColchesterCT_BComm/BOF/ColchesterCT_FinanceAgendas/2019/)

Rob Tarlov, Chairman, Board of Finance

860-608-4293

**From:** deee bouchard <deeedeeee1963@yahoo.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, January 30, 2019 9:46 PM

**To:** Robert Tarlov

**Subject:** 2019 Budget Survey

Rob,

When will the results/comments from the 2019 Budget Survey be made public?

Thank you

Deanna

**From:** Robert Tarlov

**Sent:** Saturday, February 2, 2019 5:39 AM

**To:** deee bouchard  
**Subject:** Re: 2019 Budget Survey  
Should be posted Monday.

Rob Tarlov, Chairman, Board of Finance  
[860-608-4293](tel:860-608-4293)

**From:** deee bouchard <deeedeeee1963@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 4, 2019 5:07 PM  
**To:** Robert Tarlov  
**Subject:** Re: 2019 Budget Survey

Rob,

Can not locate Budget Survey/Comments results.

The new Town WebPage does not have your Agenda Packet.  
In fact it's missing quite a lot of information past & present.

If it is on the page somewhere else, can you tell me where I can find it.

Thank You,

Deanna

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

**From:** deee bouchard <[deeedeeee1963@yahoo.com](mailto:deeedeeee1963@yahoo.com)>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 4, 2019 5:28 PM  
**To:** Robert Tarlov  
**Subject:** Fw: 2019 Budget Survey

Rob

Could you please send results via email. I can not navigate the new Town Web Page lots of error messages.

Thanks  
Dee

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Robert Tarlov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 5, 2019 12:12 PM  
**To:** deee bouchard  
**Subject:** Re: 2019 Budget Survey

It will be under Your Government (tab at top under picture of town hall), then click Budget Information.  
<http://www.colchesterct.gov/2019-2020-budget-information>

The agenda and other documents were there yesterday. You can get to it in one of 2 ways, both starting with Your Government tab.

- Your Government
  - Boards and Commissions
    - Board of Finance
      - Click February 6 under agendas on the right
- Your Government
  - Agendas and Minutes
    - Board of Finance
    - 2019

Rob Tarlov, Chairman, Board of Finance  
860-608-4293

**From:** jmcnair3 <jmcnair3@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 30, 2019 7:34 AM  
**To:** Robert Tarlov  
**Subject:** Foi request

Rob,

I'd like to renew my annual request to get the electronic file of the current survey results. (CSV or excel). As in the past, exclude the IP address field. Of course, no rush just when there is time.

James McNair

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

**From:** Robert Tarlov

**Sent:** Saturday, February 2, 2019 5:36 AM

**To:** jmcnair3

**Subject:** Re: Foi request

James,

I apologize, I thought I had sent this sent out morning received, still in my drafts

Did you want to change this to a non FOI request.

If so, send me an email withdrawing your FOI request and then a second asking me if I would share the info with you as I did last year.

Otherwise, I have to forward to Tricia to respond.

It is almost completed, had to redact names of employees and indecent language. I forwarded to Tricia yesterday afternoon so you will hear from here, but I will still send out directly if you can do the above.

Rob

**From:** jmcnair3 <jmcnair3@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 2, 2019 6:04 AM  
**To:** Robert Tarlov  
**Subject:** Request to get survey data like last year

Rob,

Can to send me this years survey data like last year's format.

Thanks,

**From:** Robert Tarlov <BOFChair@colchesterct.gov>  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 2, 2019 9:16 AM  
**To:** jmcnair3 <jmcnair3@comcast.net>  
**Subject:** Re: Request to get survey data like last year

Here you go.

Also included what will be posted on Monday.

Rob

**From:** James D McNair III <jmcnair3@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 2, 2019 10:45 AM  
**To:** Robert Tarlov  
**Subject:** missing report header??

Rob,

Looking at survey monkey PDF it seems a header is missing. Q17 and Q18 I think are referring to open gov software. Yet, not referenced.

James

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

**From:** Robert Tarlov  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 2, 2019 6:20 PM  
**To:** James D McNair III  
**Subject:** Re: missing report header??

You're right, same with 15 and 16 which is the paramed program.

That's the way they export from SM.

Rob

Rob Tarlov, Chairman, Board of Finance  
860-608-4293

**From:** James D McNair III <jmcnair3@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 2, 2019 10:33 AM  
**To:** Robert Tarlov  
**Subject:** RE: Request to get survey data like last year

Thanks

Any thoughts about survey responses dropping off so much this year?

**From:** Robert Tarlov  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 3, 2019 5:37 AM  
**To:** James D McNair III  
**Subject:** Re: Request to get survey data like last year

Perhaps last year was an anomaly as the prior two years were 414 and 489.

The first 2 years were 630 and 659, so this year's 492 was 3rd.

Perhaps first 2 years were due to the newness of the survey.

Last year's 617 came right after a late close to the budget season, with the closure held up by the State which then left the town looking to make up a 1M + reduction in State funding. Perhaps that energized and/or engaged people.

Rob

**From:** James D McNair III <jmcnair3@comcast.net>

**Sent:** Sunday, February 3, 2019 8:15 AM

**To:** Robert Tarlov

**Subject:** reading the survey tea leaves

Rob,

Here's an analysis that does a deep dive into the data. Just a couple of observations.

Clearly most will tolerate a tax increase. The question is how much. 56% of those expressing an opinion want less than 1%. The wild card is the no increase or decrease tax segment. At 32%, that segment represents the largest segment. Yet, no clear how many are at 0% versus under 0%. I suspect given past voting patterns many are under 0%.

The survey has a female bias. Close to 60% respondents are female whereas normally 51% are voters.

Lastly, it tells me (again) the stereotypes of Yes/No voters is wrong. The No voters represent a significant segment of each cross tab; even school age parents.

Thanks for making the time to share the data,

James

**From:** James D McNair III <jmcnair3@comcast.net>

**Sent:** Monday, February 4, 2019 9:39 AM

**To:** Robert Tarlov

**Subject:** survey tea leaves part II

Rob,

Still appears the public needs an education about the connection between spending and tax increases. For example, 80% stated they wanted to maintain funding for the all the major cost centers in the Budget; yet stated they'd want little or no tax increase to fund it. They seem not to realize 1% or less would lead to less service not the same.

Thanks again,

James

percent tax increase	# wanting to maintain funding of education, police and fire	%
>2% Increase if Amount is Needed to Maintain Current Services or Add Services.	24	20%

1>0% to 1% Increase (likely reduce services)	31	25%
10>1% to 2% Increase (possible reduction in some services)	30	25%
Decrease or No Increase (will reduce services)	37	30%
	122	

From: Robert Tarlov <BOFChair@colchesterct.gov>  
Date: 2/4/19 11:06 AM (GMT-05:00)  
To: James D McNair III <jmcnair3@comcast.net>  
Subject: Re: survey tea leaves part II

I think many still believe that there is "fat" in the budget that can be cut without impacting services. I noticed comments critical of cutting the days the transfer station is open and hours the library, youth center and senior center are open, cut to keep the budget in check.

Some people want trash pick-up saying with the taxes we pay, it should be included. Some think that the old borough still has pick-up.

I haven't taken a deep dive into the spreadsheet as I did last year, but recall many who said no tax increase and then in the comments asked why things were cut or wanted additional services.

I deal with the same with people when doing a financial plan.

Rob

Rob Tarlov, Chairman, Board of Finance  
860-608-4293

**From:** jmcnair3 <jmcnair3@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 5, 2019 1:51 PM  
**To:** Robert Tarlov  
**Subject:** Re: survey tea leaves part II

Where are comments for q21,q23,q24

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone



**From:** Robert Tarlov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 6, 2019 4:19 AM  
**To:** jmcnair3  
**Subject:** Re: survey tea leaves part II

Will be posted later as an Excel file. I didn't realize that when I saved it as a pdf, it only saved 23 pages, Excel doc is 60 pages

Rob Tarlov, Chairman, Board of Finance  
860-608-4293

From: Robert Tarlov <BOFChair@colchesterct.gov>  
Date: 2/6/19 5:56 AM (GMT-05:00)  
To: jmcnair3 <jmcnair3@comcast.net>  
Subject: Re: survey tea leaves part II

Figured how to get it into one pdf. Attached.

Rob Tarlov, Chairman, Board of Finance  
860-608-4293

**From:** jmcnair3 <jmcnair3@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 6, 2019 6:55 AM  
**To:** Robert Tarlov  
**Subject:** Re: survey tea leaves part II

Thanks

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

**From:** elaine alexander <elainemsalexander@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Tuesday, February 12, 2019 8:42 AM

**To:** Robert Tarlov

**Subject:** Paramedic Program

Mr. Tarlov,

I am unable to attend the town meeting on February 20, but I would like to express my support for the paramedic program proposed by the Colchester Fire Department. The combined factors of the amount of services required for our town, the large geographical area of coverage, and distance from the nearest hospital all support the need for this program.

Sincerely,  
Elaine Alexander

**From:** Robert Tarlov

**Sent:** Tuesday, February 12, 2019 12:04 PM

**To:** elaine alexander

**Subject:** Re: Paramedic Program

Elaine,

Thanks for writing.

The 2/20 meeting is only a presentation by the Fire Department.

Although Board of Finance will have discussion on our agenda for our meeting immediately following the presentation meeting, we will not be making any decisions until we review the proposed budget (workshops in the 2nd and 3rd week of April).

I understand that the Board of Selectmen will have Discussion and Possible action on their 2/21 meeting agenda.

Your letter will be entered into the record under the Correspondence item on our 2/20 agenda. Thanks for sharing your opinion.

Rob

Rob Tarlov, Chairman, Board of Finance  
860-608-4293