



# Town of Colchester, Connecticut

127 Norwich Ave, Colchester, Connecticut 06415

Board of Finance Budget Workshop #2  
Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, April 24, 2024 @6:00 pm  
Hybrid: Town Hall- Meeting Room 1 and Via Zoom

RECEIVED  
COLCHESTER, CT  
2024 APR 25 PM 2:03  
Gayle Furman  
TOWN CLERK

**BOF Members Present:** S. Chapman, K. Belding, T. Vaillancourt, M. Egan, M. Hayes, J. Thomas

**Also Present:** Bernie Dennler- First Selectman, Steve Hoffman- Fire Chief, Brad Bernier- Deputy Fire Chief, Zachary Cash- Sgt. Resident Trooper, Lori Merker-Chapman- Human Resource Director, Michelle Marceau- Acting Finance Director, Michele Wyatt- Tax Collector, Gayle Furman- Town Clerk, John Chaponis- Assessor

1. CALL TO ORDER: Chair, Scott Chapman called meeting to order at 6:00pm
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
3. PUBLIC SAFETY PRESENTATIONS:
  - a. Fire Department- Chief- Steve Hoffman and Deputy Chief- Brad Bernier gave a presentation on the Fire Department budgetary needs.
  - b. Police-Sgt. Resident Trooper- Zachary Cash gave a presentation on the Police Department budgetary needs.
4. CITIZENS COMMENTS/QUESTIONS:
  - a. M. Dubreuil- Questioned Fire Chief about fire gear.
5. BOARD Q&A- Board of Finance members asked questions to the Fire Chief, Deputy Fire Chief and Sgt. Resident Trooper regarding their budget requests.
6. GENERAL GOVERNMENT PRESENTATIONS:
  - a. First Selectman/Human Resources/Finance:
    - i. Bernie Dennler- First Selectman: Spoke about office staffing duties memberships, budget increase requests.
    - ii. Lori Merker-Chapman- Human Resource Director: Spoke about office duties, job postings and contract negotiation.
    - iii. Michelle Marceau- Acting Finance Director: Spoke about office staffing, job duties, and salaries.
  - b. Tax Collector: Michele Wyatt- Tax Collector spoke about staffing, office duties and software for office.
  - c. Town Clerk: Gayle Furman-Town Clerk spoke about staffing, office duties and grant use.
  - d. Assessor: John Chaponis- Assessor spoke about staffing, software, supplies, personal property audits, training, and office staff retention.
7. CITIZENS COMMENTS/QUESTIONS:
  - a. Justin: Question about pros and cons of a joint finance office
  - b. M. Dubreuil: Spoke about assessor's report that was handed out during assessor presentation, praised Executive Assistant, Taryn Scott for doing a great job with FOIs, requested a breakdown of duties in the BOE/Town finance office for director positions, tax collector audit, legal expenses.
8. BOARD Q&A: Board of Finance members asked questions to First Selectman, Acting Finance Director, Tax Collector, Town Clerk and Assessor.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion to adjourn by K. Belding 2<sup>nd</sup> by M. Hayes. **Motion carried 6-0.** Meeting adjourned at 8:58pm

\*Correspondence attached: Assessors personal property audit number handout

Submitted By:  
Kayla Fortier, Clerk

Company	2020 GL	2021 GL	2022 GL	2023 GL	
A	\$71,150	\$70,640	\$62,630	\$56,400	
B			\$473,510	\$426,200	
C	\$65,100	\$45,040	-\$2,190	\$0	
D	\$33,300	\$30,410	\$22,750	\$20,310	
E	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	
	\$169,550	\$146,090	\$556,700	\$502,910	
Mill Rates	0.03305	0.02682	0.02722	0.02822	GRAND TOTAL
Taxes	\$5,604	\$3,918	\$15,153	\$14,192	\$38,867