



**Board of Finance**

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NANCY A. BRAY  
TOWN CLERK

BOARD OF FINANCE - REGULAR MEETING  
TOWN HALL - 127 NORWICH AVENUE  
MARCH 4, 2009 - Room 2

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairman Bruce Hayn, Ronald Goldstein, Michael Ryan, John Ringo, Ronald Crabb, Brian Smith.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** First Selectman Linda Hodge, Selectmen Greg Cordova, Stan Soby, Rosemary Coyle; Treasurer Jon Sandberg, Senior Center Director Patti White, Fire Chief Walter Cox, Assistant Chief Jess McMinn, EMT Peter Mendlinger; Fleet Supervisor Steve Sharpe, Chief Financial Officer Maggie Cosgrove, Michael Caplet, Pam Scheibelein.

**1. CALL TO ORDER.**

Chairman Hayn called this meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

**2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING.**

**2.1 February 4, 2009 Regular Meeting**

**Motion by:** J. Ringo

to approve the minutes of the February 4, 2009, Regular Meeting, as read.

**Second by:** R. Crabb.

**Vote:** Unanimous.

**3. DEPARTMENT REPORT.**

**3.1 Finance Department**

M. Cosgrove presented Revenue and Expenditure Reports through January 1, 2009. Concern over revenue continues. Tax collection is consistent with last year at this time but conveyance taxes are down.

The Snow Removal account is \$140,000 over, there have been 35 incidents of snow/ice and at this time the Town is out of salt.

**4. CITIZENS COMMENTS.**

No comments received.

**5. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA.**

Chairman Hayn noted a change needed to be made to the budget schedule to be discussed under New Business.

**6. FIRST SELECTMAN'S REPORT.**

**6.1 Selectmen's Agenda**

**6.1.1 Transfer Requests.**

L. Hodge presented the Board with a transfer request from Tax Office requesting additional hours for efforts in collection. TRANSFER ATTACHED.

**Motion by:** B. Smith

to approve the transfer for the Tax Office as requested, contingent on BOS approval.

**Second by:** M. Ryan.

**Vote:** Unanimous.

**6.1.2 First Selectman's Update.**

L. Hodge said all departments are looking at fees. The information will be brought to the next meeting of the Board of Selectmen.

B. Smith asked if L. Hodge would look into contacting the State to raise the State fees that are collected through the Town.

M. Ryan asked for those fees being considered and any new fees be brought to the BOF for review.

P. White and S. Sharpe explained the need for a new handicap accessible senior van. The current van will be off the road this August. This 1996 van with 96,000 miles is used for medical appointments, shopping for seniors and disabled persons.

P. White requested permission to apply for a competitive grant that would be used to purchase the van. The amount from the Town would be approximately \$20,000. The grant will pay up to \$40,000.

**Motion by:** R. Goldstein

to authorize the application for the grant and to allocate funding, pending approval of the grant, from the Equipment Reserve account and to set up a special account for the Town's share of the cost. If the grant is not approved the money will go back to Equipment Reserve.

**Second by:** B. Smith.

**Vote:** Unanimous to approve.

L. Hodge stated that two of the three union contracts have been signed.

**7. CORRESPONDENCE.**

No correspondence was received.

**8. LIAISON REPORTS.**

M. Ryan met with Senior Center Director P. White to discuss her budget proposals.

R. Crabb met with S. Groghan regarding the Library budget noting there has been an increase in the collection of fees.

B. Hayn noted the Fire Department door seals are in need of repair, he met the new Administrative Assistant this week.

R. Goldstein will be meeting with the BOE budget subcommittee Friday morning.

**9. OLD BUSINESS.**

**9.1 Legal Line Item**

The January bill was just received and shows more detail as requested. The legal line item is still under budget.

**10. NEW BUSINESS.**

**10.1 Receive the 2009-2010 Proposed Budget**

The Budget Schedule was sent out to Department Heads and a few changes have been requested due to conflicts with other meetings. A revised schedule for those department requests will be posted tomorrow with the additional change from April 6 and 7 for the Budget Hearings to April 20, and 21, 2009.

The possibility of another forum was discussed. There were 639 responses to the survey but the results have not been tallied.

The 2009-2010 Proposed Budget was given to the Board Members and Selectmen in attendance.

**10.2 Recommendation Regarding Potential Bond Items**

The Board of Selectmen (BOS) presented a memorandum of recommendation to the Board of Finance regarding potential bonding items for the 2009-2010 Budget Proposal. The BOS

voted "to forward the Bacon Academy track Project Proposal as presented in the amount not to exceed \$664,700 and to forward the purchase of a new fire truck, ET228 and equipment(1982) in the amount not to exceed \$701,000, to the Board of Finance to then forward these items to referendum." In a second vote "to forward the *Priority List for Potential Debt Financing for Board of Selectmen Review and Possible Approval* with the amendment of changing "Senior Center" as listed to "Senior Center/Community Center"; to the Board of Finance."

**Motion by:** R. Goldstein  
to accept the recommendation of the Board of Selectmen to bond the Board of Education Track and the Fire Truck.

**Second by:** B. Smith.

**Vote:** In favor: R. Goldstein  
Opposed: R. Crabb, B. Smith, M. Ryan, J. Ringo. Motion **NOT** approved.

Discussion followed on the items in the Priority List provided by the BOS.

**Motion by:** R. Crabb  
to bond the fire truck and road improvements only.

**Second by:** J. Ringo.

**Vote:** In favor: J. Ringo, M. Ryan, R. Crabb.  
Opposed: R. Goldstein, B. Smith.  
Motion **APPROVED**.

**Motion by:** R. Goldstein  
to add the Board of Education track to the bond request.

**Second by:** B. Smith.

**Vote:** In favor: R. Goldstein, B. Smith.  
Opposed: J. Ringo, M. Ryan, R. Crabb. Motion **NOT** approved.

#### 11. ADJOURNMENT.

**Motion by:** B. Smith  
to adjourn the meeting.

**Second by:** R. Crabb.

**Vote:** Unanimous.

Chairman Hayn adjourned this meeting at 9:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Jane Slade  
Clerk

Town of Colchester  
 General Fund  
 Budget Transfer/Additional Appropriation

(6a)

Department: Tax Office

Reason for Request: Additional hours needed to put forth all efforts to increase revenue. More man hours needed to set up payment plans due to the economy and go after delinquent taxpayers. Dmv website needs to be accessed very day to find taxpayers who have moved.

Reason for Available Funds: We will be combining mailings to make funds available for Cont. Temp for additional hours.

From:	Account Number	Account Name	Amount
	11303-44217	Postage	1,500

To:	Account Number	Account Name	Amount
	11303-40105	Cont Temp Occas	1,500

2/19/2009  
 Date Requested Department Director or Supervisor - Signature *Tricia Coblenz*

Print Name Tricia Coblenz

3/2/09  
 Date Reviewed *[Signature]*  
 Chief Financial Officer

3/2/09  
 Date Approved *[Signature]*  
 First Selectman

Date Approved Board of Selectmen Clerk

Date Approved Board of Finance Clerk