



# Town of Colchester, Connecticut

127 Norwich Avenue, Colchester, Connecticut 06415

## Board of Finance Minutes

### Special Meeting Minutes

Monday, June 2, 2014

Immediately following the 6pm Board of Selectmen's Meeting  
Room 1

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WANDY A. DEAY  
TOWN CLERK  
*Wandy A. Deay*

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Rob Tarlov, Thomas Kane, James McNair, Rob Esteve, Art Shilosky, John Ringo

**OTHERS PRESENT:** S Soby, D Mizla, R Coyle, B Curran, D Giles, M Cosgrove, B Bernier, D Kennedy, R Tarlov, R Esteve, C Hancin, W Cox, J McNair, J Paggioli, J Jones, R Goldstein, C Praisner, T Kane, A Shilosky, D Lee

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Tarlov called the meeting to order at 6:45 p.m

2. **CITIZENS COMMENTS:**

John Jones would like to see the Substance Abuse Counselor stay in the budget.

Lynn Dickey posed the question on what the Town is doing to increase the tax revenue base. First Selectman Stan Soby outlined past and current efforts.

Bill Ford stated his opinion is that financing is an issue in town.

3. **Budget Discussion:**

Discussion took place on a target number for Mill rate. A consensus with the Board of Finance was to start with .94, which would bring the mill rate down to 30.56. The Town to cut \$105,000 and Board of Education to cut \$272,000 from the existing budget.

Discussion took place regarding the Town Budget with cuts presented by the Board of Selectmen. Consensus from the BOF was not to cut the Substance Abuse Counselor and to add some funding back to Roads.

T Kane inquired about \$5,000 possibly being cut from Open Space. It was explained by M Cosgrove that the amount in the line item is required to secure grant funding.

Discussions on the Senior Center rent amount, and utilizing the P&R program fund for some of the program expenses currently in the budget

4. **CITIZENS COMMENTS:**

Citizen recommended everyone read the survey results online, commented on the Mohegan Fund, and Teacher's Step raises.

Cindy Praisner expressed as a parent she is concerned about the school system, and if we don't provide the necessary services others will go to magnet schools which in the end will cost the town money.

Gary Sidell commented that perhaps we shouldn't be treating the BOE and Town sides the same in terms of budget growth, maybe use some flexibility.

Rosemary Coyle stated that the town non-union employees are not getting raises.

5. **Budget - Discussion and Possible Action**

T Kane questioned if the capital on the BOE list can pay for out of the General Fund? Rob Tarlov answered the fund is about in the middle of our confidence zone (7-10%) and that in the current FY we have withdrawn about \$140,000 for special appropriations. If the school project moves forward or the Senior Center purchase, we will need money for those costs as well as other unforeseen ones that come up during the year.

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R. Esteve opened discussion to Board of Education contribution to the Health Care Fund. M Cosgrove stated the Board of Ed health fund condition had improved so that they were ahead of plan.

6. **ADJOURNMENT:** J Ringo MOTIONED to adjourn at 8:25 p.m. SECONDED by J McNair. All members present voted in favor, MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tricia Dean  
Clerk