

**TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON
EAST HAMPTON, CT 06424**

BOARD OF FINANCE

Monday June 18, 2018
Town Hall Meeting Room

Approved Minutes

Present: Janine Jiantonio, Alannah Coshow, Bridget McLennan, Barbara Moore and Ted Turner

Not Present: Mike Rose, Richard Brown

Other attendee(s): Jeffery Jylkka: Director of Finance, Michael Maniscalco: EH Town Manager

1-2. The meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m.

Upon a motion from Ms. Coshow, seconded by Ms. McLennan and unanimously carried, Ms. Jiantonio was assigned to preside over the meeting as Chairwoman pro tem in the absence of Chairman Rose and Vice-Chairman Brown.

The Pledge of Allegiance then followed.

3. Adoption of Agenda

Upon a motion from Ms. Coshow, seconded by Ms. McLennan and unanimously carried, the agenda was adopted as presented.

*A motion from Ms. Moore followed to add agenda item 10c) ECS Funding Discussion. The motion was seconded by Mr. Turner. **Vote: 5-0. Motion Passed.***

4. Approval of Minutes:

a) Regular Meeting 5/21/2018

*Ms. Coshow made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Moore. **Vote: 5-0. Motion Passed.***

b) Special Meeting 6/12/2018

*Ms. Coshow made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Moore. **Vote: 5-0. Motion Passed.***

5. Public Remarks:

Hunter Soltanpanah: 11 Bower Road – As a student at East Hampton Middle School, informed the Board members what his experience has been like and what he feels the priorities should be in order to properly “plan for the future”.

Patience Coleman: 52 Schoolhouse Lane – Feels that education is being underfunded and asked that ECS funding be reallocated to BOE.

**TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON
EAST HAMPTON, CT 06424**

BOARD OF FINANCE

Monday June 18, 2018
Town Hall Meeting Room

Tania Sones: 17 Curry Lane – Stated that the Town needs “healthy budgets (both education and general government)”.

Mary Ann Dostaler: 56 William Drive – Feels the 2nd Referendum being voted down shows that tax payers have “no confidence” in current leaders and are having their rights limited by the current process the Board and Council are following (i.e. making adjustments to the proposed BOE budget before voting and ECS funding allocations).

6. Financial Transactions:

None

7. Special Presentations:

Deferred to new item 10c – ECS 10C

8. Correspondence:

Board members acknowledged receiving “quite a few” emails from tax payers stating why they voted the way they did at the Referendum on 6/12/2018.

9. Status Reports [Financial]:

a) Revenue

b) Expenditures

c) Fund Balance

Mr. Jylkka provided a brief status on the FY 2017-2018 Revenues, Expenditures and Fund Balance to date still projecting a positive variance in revenue. Mr. Jylkka still feels that we will end the year with a slight surplus.

10. New Business:

a) Approval of Tax Collector Suspense List

Upon a motion from Ms. Moore, seconded by Ms. McLennan, the Board approved the Tax Collector to move forward with the provided suspension list.

Vote: 5-0. Motion Passed.

b) Discuss and possible recommendation on the 2018-2019 Budget for Town Council (Town Operations only) – 3rd referendum

Discussion began with Board members sharing differing opinions on why the Town Operations Budget did not pass at the 2nd referendum and what adjustments should be recommended for the third Referendum.

**TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON
EAST HAMPTON, CT 06424**

BOARD OF FINANCE

Monday June 18, 2018
Town Hall Meeting Room

While Ms. Moore re-proposed her failed motion from the May 21st Regular meeting to recommend the allocation of the ECS grant money received (~\$716,415) in the following ways:

- \$250,000 – to BOE Budget (in order to retain 3 of 8 teacher positions)
- \$300,000 – to reduce the 2018-2019 Mill Rate
- \$166,415 – to Mill Rate Stabilization Fund,

The proposal was not however, formalized into a motion after additional opinions were provided during discussion.

Ms. Coshow made a motion to table the Budget discussion until such time that the full Board can be in attendance (Regular meeting of the BOF scheduled for July 16th, 2018 or a Special Meeting to take place before July 16th, 2018 (date, location and time: TBD).

The motion was seconded by Mr. Turner.

Vote: 5-0. Motion Passed.

c) ECS Fund Discussion

Mr. Jylkka projected a brief presentation on ECS funding to further help Board members and public present to understand how the ECS funding impacts the overall budget(s).

11. Continued Business:

a) Website Upgrade

Nothing new to report at this time. Still on hold due to other items taking precedence.

b) TIF Zone Proposal

A Public Hearing is scheduled on June 26th at 6:15.

c) Teacher Contract Negotiations

Negotiations scheduled to begin in August.

d) Tax Bill Modifications

Nothing new to report as the 2018-2019 Budget has yet to be approved.

12. Committee/Liaison Assignments

a) Town Council (Coshow/Jiantonio)

Nothing with a financial impact discussed except status of 1 Watrous St and bids being collected for proposed use of property (sale and/or redevelopment).

**TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON
EAST HAMPTON, CT 06424**

BOARD OF FINANCE

Monday June 18, 2018
Town Hall Meeting Room

b) Board of Education (Finance Sub-Committee) (Rose/Moore)

No Report – Conflicting meeting times

c) Economic Development Commission (Turner)

The business of the month program continues along with the recent recognition of multiple new businesses around town. The commission is also discussing developing a local business brochure.

d) Lake / Conservation (Moore)

Nothing with a financial impact discussed

e) Fire Commissioners (Brown)

No Report – Dr. Brown not present

f) Brownfields/Redevelopment (McLennan)

No Report – Meeting changed due to Memorial Day Holiday.

g) Park & Rec. Advisory Board (McLennan)

Seamster Park construction on hold until additional funding is collected.

13. Public Remarks

Cheryl Cwierniewicz: 104 Champion Hill Road – Shared her opinion that priorities may need to be reevaluated (eg: teachers before smart locks) in order for the budget to pass.

Hunter Soltanpanah: 11 Bower Road – Reiterated his previous statement around what the priorities should be in order to properly “plan for the future” (i.e. chairs, desks and teachers before chrome books and smart locks).

Doug Lockhart: 45 Chestnut Hill Road – Re-emphasized the issue with class size and the need to save teacher positions. Feels that, at a minimum, the 3 teacher positions resulting from layoffs (aside from the 5 resulting from retirements) being “saved” would be a good step forward.

Heather Phillips: 11 Bower Road – Reiterated the need for more teachers (i.e. smaller class sizes) and more transparency into ECS funding.

Mary Ann Dostaler: 56 William Drive – Feels the 2nd Referendum being voted down and all this discussion is unnecessary but is the result of irresponsible cuts and irresponsible cash vs. leasing choices. Feels a “responsible budget” will pass.

**TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON
EAST HAMPTON, CT 06424**

BOARD OF FINANCE

Monday June 18, 2018
Town Hall Meeting Room

Cheryl Cwierniewicz: 104 Champion Hill Road – asked some clarifying questions about investments and federal/state rules/regulations that impact the Town’s accounting practices.

14. Town Manager's Report

Mr. Maniscalco provided a brief update on three items:

1. *Library Roof* – Library roof replacement quotes are still being reviewed and timing projections lend to having to experience another winter before any improvements are able to be made.
2. *Fuel Island* – Construction underway.
3. *Chief of Police* – Chief Dennis Woessner was in attendance and introduced to the Board.
4. *Implications of no budget* – The optimal window of time to pave/patch/curb N. Main St. is in jeopardy due to a GG budget not being in place.

15. Adjournment:

The motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Turner and was seconded by Ms. Jiantonio.

Vote: 7-0. Motion Passed. Meeting adjourned at 8:31 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Renee Bafumi
Recording Secretary