



Board of Finance

TOWN OF MADISON
CONNECTICUT 06443-2563

MEETING DATE: March 24, 2008

MEETING PLACE: Hammonasset Room

Board of Finance Budget Workshop Meeting Minutes

Ms. Rossini called the Budget Workshop of the Board of Finance to order at 7:36 p.m. Present for the Board of Finance were Kathleen Rossini, Owen Charles, Fillmore McPherson, Kathleen Stahelski, Jennifer Tung, and David Youngerman. Present for the Board of Education: Mr. Hale, Ms. Gowanlock, Ms. Coffey, Ms. Rutlin, Ms. Dobson, and Superintendent Klein. Also present were Al Goldberg, Noreen Kokoruda, Kathy Traugh, Dotty Bavin and Helen Burland.

The Discussion began with compliments to the Board of Education for a budget without waste, however all new programs may not be possible for this year due to the economic climate. The Board stated that the Town is facing lower interest rates, decreases in income from the State, slow Grand List growth, high legal fees and possible delays in tax collections due to assessment appeals, all factors that will lower revenues. Many of the BOE strategic plan initiatives can be made this year even with a cut in the budget. Half the Board of Finance members wanted to see the BOE budget go to referendum as requested. Mr. Youngerman motioned, seconded by Mr. Charles, to accept the full BOE budget at \$47,126,467. Approval was given by Mr. Youngerman, Ms. Rossini and Mr. Charles, against votes came from Mr. McPherson, Ms. Stahelski and Mrs. Tung. Thereby the motioned failed with a tie. A straw poll was taken to cut the BOE budget by \$100,000 and this was acceptable by Mrs. Tung, Ms. Stahelski and Mr. Youngerman. A motioned was made by Ms. Rossini and seconded by Ms. Stahelski to cut \$80,000 from the BOE budget for a total budget of \$47,046,467 or a 5.8% increase in operating expenses. This was approved by Mr. Youngerman, Ms Stahelski, Ms. Rossini, Ms. Tung and Mr. Owen, Mr. McPherson voted against the motion.

Mrs. Tung made a motion to approve a special appropriation of \$110,000 from the undesignated fund balance to the Planned and Cycled Maintenance Fund. This is slightly less than half of the revenue from the state reimbursement for the school modular buildings, and the remainder is to be left for consideration to pay growing legal fees for the Police Department. The motion was seconded by Kathy Rossini and unanimously approved.

Mr. Youngerman motioned to approve the creation of a Planning Reserve Fund, seconded by Mrs. Tung. Following discussion, the regulation was amended to remove consultant fees for program or staffing review, and reword the items to be covered by the funds to include "planning, economic and facilities initiatives." In addition, the Board of Finance must approve expenditures

from the fund as they would any other special appropriation. A motion was made by Youngerman to create the amended fund, seconded by Mrs. Tung and unanimously approved.

The Board discussed the amount of money to be set aside for the GASB 45, in the event the Board creates a trust to fund the pensions. Following discussions they determined that an additional \$30,000 should be placed into the Health Insurance Fund until a trust is created. It was also agreed that \$50,000 should be placed into the new Planning Reserve Fund for the next fiscal year, and later a special appropriation will be made for \$50,000 this year to get the Fund started. Following a great deal of discussion, with comments from each member of the Board of Selectmen present and Ms. Burland, the Board of Finance decided to modify the following accounts:

Police wages	-50,383
Police uniforms	-13,000
Pension	-11,000
Land Use	15,000
Youth & Fam.	19,600
Public works fuel	15,400
Police fuel	8,200
Town Administration	
Prof & tech.	-5,000
Office equip.	-7,000
Staff dev.	-1,500
Holidays	-1,500
Selectman's Office	
Intern	-1000
Prof & tech	-1000
Telephones	-600

Senor services, prof. services	-2000
Communications staff dev.	-2000
Town water	-6000
Beach and Rec printing	-1650
Town telephone	-2500

Capital projects	Police	-\$35,000
	Ambulance	-6,000
	Major Roads	-\$25,000

Ms. Rossini, seconded by Ms. Stahelski, motioned for a total Town budget of \$19,250,360, as approved by all members.

Meeting adjourned at 10:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Tung
Board of Finance Secretary