

BOLTON BOARD OF FINANCE
REGULAR MEETING
APRIL 18, 2013

MINUTES

The Board of Finance held its Regular Meeting on April 18, 2013 at the Notch Road Municipal Center. Members present were Chairman Bob Munroe, Jim Roscoe, John Toomey, Jim Bruner, Judy Wilson, Barry Stearns and Kelly Regan. Also present were Administrative Officer Joyce Stille, Financial Director Brenda Douglas, a member of the Board of Selectmen, two members of the Board of Education and Bolton residents.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Bob Munroe at 7:21 P.M.

2. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Leslie Shea, member of the Board of Selectmen, praised the Board of Finance for doing a good job at the public hearing and stated that she supports this budget.

A few parents requested that the Board of Finance put money back into the Board of Education budget. Another parent expressed her concerns about the budget and how it will affect the quality of education in Bolton, stating that she loves this town and all it has to offer and will support the budget, with no more cuts.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Jim Roscoe, seconded by John Toomey to approve the Minutes of the following meetings, with corrections, as follows:

3/21/13 Regular Meeting – Item No. 3. Approval of Minutes – at the end of the last sentence, add ‘**with one abstention by Barry Stearns**’;

3/26/13 Special Meeting – as presented.

4/2/13 Special Meeting – Item No. 4, paragraph 6 – at the end of the paragraph, add (**Ayes - Munroe, Wilson, Regan, Roscoe and Bruner; Nays – Toomey and Stearns**).

4/11/13 Public Hearing – as presented.

Motion passed unanimously.

4. CORRESPONDENCE

Nothing at this time.

5. ELECTED OFFICIAL AND TOWN STAFF REPORTS

a) Tax Collection Summary

Brenda Douglas circulated an updated Tax Collection Summary as of March 31, 2013. To date the town has collected 98.05% (of 100%) of outstanding taxes.

b) Town Budget Update

Joyce Stille submitted a Budget Summary dated as of March 31, 2013, together with four budget transfers which have been approved by the Board of Selectmen and were due to shortages in a few departments. She also stated that the town has instituted departmental freezes to help support the upcoming budget.

6. BOARD OF EDUCATION BUDGET UPDATE

a) Monthly Update

Bob Munroe reported that he received an updated Board of Education financial report which was circulated to board members for review. An issue of particular concern in this report was the notation of a possible \$108,000 deficit due to healthcare issues. Board of Finance members requested an explanation for this and there was no one from the Board of Education that could explain this initially. Subsequently, information was offered by Matt Giuffre after consulting with Kristen Heckt.

7. OLD BUSINESS

a) Shared Services

Joyce Stille reported that the new phone system was installed recently.

8. NEW BUSINESS

a) Consider and Act on FY 14 Budget

Chairman Munroe discussed the public hearing and was pleased to hear from so many residents. A discussion of revenues followed and as a result, the following motions were made:

A motion by Barry Stearns, seconded by Jim Bruner to add \$50,000, which was returned by the Board of Selectmen, to the Unexpended Town/Debt Service line item. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Jim Roscoe, seconded by Barry Stearns to put the \$30,000 of unexpended appropriations from the Board of Education into a new account called Less Undesignated Fund Balance. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Barry Stearns, seconded by Jim Roscoe to reduce the contingency budget by \$10,000, reduce the Board of Selectmen's budget by \$20,000 and decrease the cut to the Board of Education budget by \$80,000. After a brief discussion, Chairman Munroe called the vote. The vote was 5-2 (Ayes – Toomey and Stearns; Nays – Munroe, Regan, Wilson, Bruner and Roscoe) and the motion did not pass.

A motion was made by Jim Roscoe, seconded by Barry Stearns to increase the Undesignated Fund Balance from \$30,000 to \$80,000. After discussion, Chairman Munroe called the vote. The motion passed 4-3 (Ayes – Munroe, Toomey, Stearns and Roscoe; Nays – Bruner, Wilson and Regan).

A motion was made by Jim Roscoe, seconded by Barry Stearns to set the question for the Town of Bolton budget referendum for FY 2013-2014 as follows:

“Shall the Annual Budget for the Town of Bolton for the fiscal year 2013-2014 as recommended by the Board of Finance, in the amount of \$19,569,483 be adopted?”

The motion passed unanimously.

9. ONGOING BUSINESS

a) Status report on High School Project

Nothing new at this time.

10. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Jim Bruner, seconded by Kelly Regan to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 9:47 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Sheridan
Board Clerk

PLEASE SEE THE MINUTES OF SUBSEQUENT MEETINGS FOR THE APPROVAL OF THESE MINUTES AND ANY CORRECTIONS HERETO.