

Town of Plymouth

80 Main Street, Terryville, CT 06786

www.plymouthct.us

Board of Finance

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1. Call Meeting to Order: Jim Kilduff, Chairman called the scheduled Meeting April 19, 2018, Board of Finance Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Community Room at Plymouth Town Hall. Members in attendance: Victoria Carey-Vice Chairman, James Zalot, Jay Dorso, Pattie DeHuff, and Briana Brumaghim. Also present: Ann Marie Rheault - Director of Finance and Town and Councilwoman Sue Murawski

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Notice of Fire Exits

4. Presentation of Proposed FY2018-19 General Fund Budget

Jim Kilduff, Chairman informed the public that there were copies of the draft budget, and the PowerPoint presentation available for perusal.

Hearing Agenda

- Presentation of the General Fund Budget
- Public Comment /Questions and Answers
- Adjourn to Joint Meeting of Town Council, Boards of Finance & Education

Jim Kilduff introduced all Board of Finance Members and Ann Marie Rheault - Director of Finance

The Budget Presentation included the following:

1. Critical Issues & State Budget Deficit
2. Summary of Revenues and Expenses
3. Tax Impact and Closing Comments

Jim Kilduff, Chairman discussed the following in his presentation:

- Budget Goals - To prepare a balanced, responsible budget under the current economic conditions.
- Critical Factors
 - ✓ Declining Revenues – Loss of state grants & reimbursements
 - ✓ Impacts of Cuts – Cost-cutting measures implemented:
 - Departmental restructuring
 - Staff reductions
 - Spending freezes
 - ✓ Rebuild the fund balance to strengthen the Town's ability to absorb the loss of state revenues.

Barbara K. Poth...
TOWN CLERK

18 APR 24 PM 2:30

PLYMOUTH, CT
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE
RECEIVED FOR RECORD

Budgeted Expenditures for 2018-19
Increases/(Decreases) from current year budget

❖ Town	(421,397)
❖ Board of Education	(175,000)
❖ Capitals	28,858
❖ Debt Service	<u>293,986</u>

\$(273,553)

- ✓ Revenue Reductions 2018-19 – Due to loss of State Funding
- ✓ Revenues & Expenditures (Pie Chart/Graph)
- ✓ Summary of Total Expenditures
- ✓ Capital Projects FY 2018-2019 highlighted were:
 - Ⓢ Upgrade Town wide Communications System-Phase 2
 - Ⓢ Computer/Technology Upgrades (Year 6 of 7)
 - Dial-a-Ride Bus Purchased –Jim Kilduff thanked Vinny Klimas for working diligently on obtaining this Grant -80% from Grant /Town responsible for 20%
 - Ⓢ Town Aid Roads (due to budget constraints lowered)
 - Ⓢ Street Light Purchase Program (New LED lights, savings)
 - Ⓢ Replacement Front Loader

Board of Education Summary

❖ BOE TC Approved FY 2018 Budget	\$24,212,790
❖ BOE Requested Increase from 2018	\$ 22,646
❖ BOE Requested 2019 Budget	\$24,235,436
❖ Board Of Finance Recommend	\$24,037,790
❖ BOF Recommended Reduction from 2018	\$ 175,000

- ✓ Board of Education Minimum Budget Requirement
- ✓ Historical Enrollment
- ✓ Impact of Tax Increase

Commentary & Observations

Dr. Martin J. Semmel, Supt. of Schools stated appreciated all of the Board of Finance’s hard work.

Dr. Martin J. Semmel, Supt. of Schools stated salaries and benefits drive most of the Board of Education budget.

Dr. Martin J. Semmel, Supt. of Schools stated the Board of Education is running efficiently and gave a brief overview of net cost per pupil/median comparisons, cuts, and insurance negotiations.

Board of Finance Meeting

April 19, 2018

Page 3 of 4

Dr. Martin J. Semmel questioned the possibility of the 9.7 M - ECS money an additional \$400,000 most or all it for 2019-2020 being given back to the Board of Education since falling behind in certain areas and would be a significant help to correct.

Dr. Martin J. Semmel stated to consider increasing the contingency fund with the Board of Education's \$175,000 cut and to set aside for the Board of Education and briefly elaborated.

Jim Kilduff stated appreciated all of the cooperation and understanding from all town employees.

5. Public Input – Question & Answer Session

Vinny Klimas, 5 Coral Drive, Terryville - thanked Board of Finance, thanked all who supported the Senior Bus approval, Heidi Caron, hope for funding for Library Saturday hours, task force -Reduction of students, recommended Board of Finance, Board of Education and Town Council unsustainable funding of declining student enrollment task force.

John Murphy, 385 Greystone Road, Terryville – questioned why our cost of education is higher than comparable town, Board of Education gave back over \$800,000 - budget should have been lower, lights and savings –realize any savings on solar at high school, Extra Duty Fund -revenue index, declining student population and closing schools.

Melanie Church, 328 Main Street, Terryville - cut board of Education by \$266,189, combine Board of Education and Town business office, documentation paychecks for payroll, accounts payable for 16 hours the most cut to part-time position, questioned the number of people in accounts payable.

Cathy Kosak, 201 Harwinton Avenue, Terryville – questioned the savings on changeover of streetlights, School budget - positions and salaries at school.

Chief Karen Krasicky – gave an overview and detailed job description and duties entailed of two valuable Police Officer positions that will be eventually eliminated.

Chief Karen Krasicky stated temporary agreement until the end of school year June 21, 2018, and then this agreement would end.

Chief Karen Krasicky stated we are requesting to put back into the budget the two back-fill positions Nos. 24 and 25 which allows significant cost savings overall.

Public Comment (round 2)

Melanie Church, 328 Main Street, Terryville – look at fees, increase revenue, losing revenues, Extra Duty Fund, Recreation, questioned Board of Education increase, cut the maximum amount, need to look at Board of Education surplus, and streetlights.

John Murphy, 385 Greystone Road, Terryville - questioned lights, charter, and 3 bids

Board of Finance Meeting

April 19, 2018

Page 4 of 4

Vinny Klimas, 5 Coral Drive, Terryville – explained various ways for public bids, town advertising in the newspaper, Dept. of Administration Services, the legitimate methodology of bidding regional government –individual towns have access from local, state and regional.

Vicky Carey requested that Charlie Wiegert or Mayor David Merchant come up and speak of the lighting, rebates, and savings.

Mayor David Merchant gave brief overview of lighting savings, which reduces budget going forward.

Mayor David Merchant stated we do not have a quorum here this evening so will need a Special Meeting jointly with the Board of Education.

Board Member’s Comments

James Zalot –None

Briana Brumaghim –stated Board of Education budget agreed we need strong school system. The Board of Finance has proposed to reduce current budget by \$175,000. The actual amount the town contributed to the Board of Education has increased over 1.1 M over the current budget due to the reduction of the ECS Grant. The local taxes are contributing an additional 1.1 M over the current year’s budget. We are trying to maintain the Board of Education’s current spending level while trying to balance knowing value and trying to support that as much as possible.

Pattie DeHuff – stated comment made previously anything over \$50,000- special appropriation, which would come into play after the budget is approved.

Vicky Carey – None

Jay Dorso – None

6. Adjourn to Joint Meeting with Town Council & Board of Education

Canceled

7. Adjournment

There being no further business of the Board of Finance, a motion was made by Vicky Carey, seconded by James Zalot to adjourn at 8:20 p.m. This motion was approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele Yokubinas

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Recording Secretary