

**BOARD OF FINANCE PUBLIC BUDGET COMMENT SESSION**  
**Saturday, March 25, 2023 9:30 a.m.**  
**Fairfield Ludlowe High School Auditorium**  
**785 Unquowa Road, Fairfield, CT 06824**  
**In-Person Only**

A recording of this meeting can be found here: [BOF Public Budget Comment 3.25.2023.](#)

FINAL MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairwoman Lori Charlton, Vice-Chair John Mitola, Secretary Sheila Marmion, Craig Curley, Christopher DeWitt, Kevin Starke, Jack Testani, James Walsh, FairTV, members of the public

MEMBERS ABSENT: Mary LeClerc

OTHERS PRESENT: FairTV, members of the public

I. Call to Order

Chairwoman Lori Charlton called the meeting to order at 9:30 am.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Jack Testani led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Public Budget Comment Session

Before opening up the session to public comment, Chairwoman Charlton had the BOF members introduce themselves. Ms. Charlton also explained that this was not a Q&A, but just comments regarding the FY24 budget.

- Jeff Peterson - BOE Liaison to BOF-Thanked BOF for their work on the budget and advocated for the BOE budget.
- Jennifer Jacobsen - BOE Chairwoman-Thanked the BOF for their work and hoped they would support the BOE budget.
- Elaine Davis - speaking for herself and on behalf of Michele Walker. Schools need resources in classrooms. Asked for them to not cut resources. Ms. Davis is raising her grandchild with her husband on a fixed income and asked the BOF to leave the BOE budget intact.
- John Wynne - Making investments in Fire, Police and education budgets are an investment, but the town cannot have a budget that will increase the mill rate and decrease affordability. (the audio was difficult to understand)
- Christine Vitale-Verna Hill Road-Approve the BOE budget as presented. Ms. Vitale advocated for the school nurses and the budget request to increase the nursing staff.

Chairwoman Charlton opened up the comments to the BOF members. Their full comments and those of the members of the public can be heard here: [BOF Public Budget Comment 3.25.2023.](#)

(There are parts of the meeting that are difficult to understand due to audio issues).

Chairwoman Charlton thanked her board members, First Selectwoman Kupchick, CFO Jared Schmitt and Budget Director Frank Magneri for their work.

IV. Adjourn

Ms. Charlton made a motion to adjourn. Craig Curley seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 10:10 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Pru O'Brien  
Recording Secretary