

**Board of Finance Budget Vote – Public Executive Session**  
**Thursday, March 30, 2023**  
**7:30pm**  
**Via Webex & In Person @**  
**BOE Room 295A/B, 501 Kings Hwy E.**  
**Fairfield, CT 06825**

A recording of this meeting can be found here: [BOF Budget Deliberations & Vote 3.30.23.](#)

FINAL MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairwoman Lori Charlton, Vice-Chair John Mitola, Secretary Sheila Marmion, Craig Curley, Christopher DeWitt, Mary LeClerc, Kevin Starke, Jack Testani, James Walsh

OTHERS PRESENT: First Selectwoman Brenda Kupchick, CFO Jared Schmitt, Budget Director Frank Magneri

1. Call to Order

Chairwoman Lori Charlton called the meeting to order at 7:40 pm.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Chairwoman Charlton led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairwoman Charlton gave background and budget process for the Town General Fund and the WPCA. Ms. Charlton thanked First Selectwoman Kupchick, CFO Jared Schmitt and Budget Director Frank Magneri and all else involved in creating the Town budget.

3. Public Executive Session - Budget Vote and WPCA Budget Vote (no public comment)  
*(requires RTM approval)*

Chairwoman Charlton made a motion to put the Town budget of \$354,780,492 before the BOF. Christopher DeWitt seconded the motion.

The BOF went through the budget book in order of listed departments and made motions to amend the budget:

Town Revenue:

- A. Craig Curley made a motion to increase Dividend/Interest Income line 44001 by \$1,491,204. John Mitola seconded the motion which carried 6-3-0 (Walsh, Testani, LeClerc opposed)
- B. Craig Curley made a motion to increase the Miscellaneous Police line 42369 by \$689,455. John Mitola seconded the motion which carried 7-2-0 (Testani, Walsh opposed)

- C. John Mitola made a motion to increase Penfield Concession line 42476 to \$20,451 to reflect Penfield opening. Lori Charlton seconded the motion which carried unanimously.
- D. John Mitola made a motion to increase Penfield Rental Revenue line 42510 to \$41,250. Chris DeWitt seconded the motion which carried unanimously.
- E. Sheila Marmion made a motion to increase Burr Mansion rental line 42507 to \$76,020. Chris DeWitt seconded the motion. James Walsh made a motion to amend Sheila Marmion's motion and reduce the Burr Mansion rental line 42507 from Ms. Marmion's motion of \$70,020 to \$50,896. Chris DeWitt seconded the motion which carried unanimously. The original motion carried unanimously.
- F. John Mitola made a motion to increase Penfield beach parking line 42352 by \$27,500. James Walsh seconded the motion which carried unanimously.
- G. Sheila Marmion made a motion to decrease Conveyance revenue line 42312 by \$100,000. John Mitola seconded the motion which carried 5-4-0 (Walsh, LeClerc, Testani, DeWitt opposed)

Lori Charlton made a motion to increase the total Town non-tax revenue by \$2,220,756 to \$29,796,311 to reflect the changes above. Sheila Marmion seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

#### Board of Education

Chairwoman Charlton made a motion to put the BOE budget before the BOF in the amount of \$210,195,578. Chris DeWitt seconded the motion.

- A. John Mitola made a motion to decrease BOE Pension line 58900 by \$32,133 to reflect updated estimates from the actuary. Craig Curley seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Ms. Charlton made a motion to approve the BOE budget in the amended amount of \$210,163,445. Craig Curley seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

#### Town Expenses:

- A. Sheila Marmion made a motion to increase Registrar Fees & Professional Services line 52200 by \$5,237 to correct Social Security budget. Chris DeWitt seconded the motion which carried unanimously.
- B. John Mitola made a motion to decrease OPEB-Town Retirees line 52105 by \$802,111. James Walsh seconded the motion which carried unanimously.
- C. John Mitola made a motion to increase OPEB Police/Fire line 52110 by \$3,859. Chris DeWitt seconded the motion which carried unanimously.
- D. John Mitola made a motion to increase Retirement Contributions – Town line 52310 by \$86,758. James Walsh seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

- E. John Mitola made a motion to increase Retirement Contributions-Police/Fire line 52311 by \$376,650 to reflect updated numbers from the actuary. Chris DeWitt seconded the motion which carried unanimously.
- F. Sheila Marmion made a motion to increase Active Employee Benefits line 52100 by \$91,563. Chris DeWitt seconded the motion which carried unanimously.
- G. Craig Curley made a motion to increase Contingency line 58010 by \$174,767 due to arbitration. Chris DeWitt seconded the motion which carried unanimously.
- H. Craig Curley made a motion to increase Fees & Professional Services-BOF by \$50,000 for audits. John Mitola seconded the motion which carried 8-1-0 (Testani opposed)
- I. Craig Curley made a motion to increase the VERIP liability line 51010 by \$75,000 as recommended by the Finance Department. James Walsh seconded the motion which carried unanimously.
- J. Craig Curley made a motion to reduce Unemployment Compensation line 52510 by \$125,000. John Mitola seconded the motion which carried 5-4-0 (Walsh, Testani, LeClerc, DeWitt opposed)
- K. Craig Curley made a motion to increase Police Capital Outlay line 57000 by \$689,455. John Mitola seconded the motion which carried 8-1-0 (Walsh opposed)
- L. Sheila Marmion made a motion to increase ECC transfers out dispatch line 58950 by \$65,137 to reflect updated OPEB & Insurance. Jack Testani seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

John Mitola made a motion to increase the Penfield Pavilion budget due to it be opening this summer:

Increase Seasonal staff line 51070 by \$20,475.00

Increase PT Staff line 51030 by \$5,700.00

Increase Social Security Contributions line 52200 by \$1,500.00

Increase Utilities/Water line 54110 by \$500.00

Increase Utilities/Gas line 54120 by \$1,750.00

Increase Utilities/Electric line 54130 by \$3,166.00

Increase Cleaning & Janitorial line 56130 by \$2,000.00

James Walsh seconded the which carried unanimously.

- M. Sheila Marmion made a motion to increase Burr Mansion expenses line 58821 to \$76,020 to reflect costs outlined by P&R Director Anthony Calabrese. Craig Curley seconded the motion which carried unanimously.
- N. Craig Curley made a motion to increase the Contribution to Fund Balance line 58950 to \$1,225,000. James Walsh seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

The final numbers to reflect the Town FY 2024 Budget:

-Total expenses: \$356,775,787

-Levy required before other credits to taxpayers: \$322,701,688

-Levy required: \$330,545,464

-Increase to Mill Rate of .99% to make new (July 1, 2023) Mill Rate 27.51

**Chairwoman Charlton made a motion to recommend the adjusted FY 23-24 budget of \$356,775,787 to the RTM. Craig Curley seconded the motion which carried unanimously.**

WPCA FY 23-24 Budget

- A. Craig Curley made a motion to increase Investment Income Revenue line 44001 by \$521,500. Chairwoman Charlton seconded the motion which carried unanimously.
- B. Sheila Marmion made a motion to increase WPCA Health Self Insurance by \$14,880 to reflect revised estimates. Craig Curley seconded the motion which carried unanimously.
- C. John Mitola made a motion to reduce OPEB Health Retirement line 52105 by \$185,292 based on the revised estimate. James Walsh seconded the motion which carried unanimously.
- D. John Mitola made a motion to reduce WPCA Retirement Contributions by \$91,517 based on the actuarial estimate. Sheila Marmion seconded the motion which carried unanimously.
- E. Chairwoman Lori Charlton made a motion to increase WPCA Authorized Appropriations line 59500 by \$783,429. Chris DeWitt seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

**Chairwoman Charlton made a motion to approve the WPCA FY 23-24 budget of \$9,197,932. James Walsh seconded the motion which carried unanimously.**

4. Adjourn

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

The meeting adjourned a 10:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Pru O'Brien  
Recording Secretary