

**Town of Easton
Board of Finance - Minutes**

Location: Easton Senior Center Meeting Type: Regular Date/Time: May 5, 2020 – 7:00 pm
Attendees: Members: Matt Gachi-Chair, Paul Lindoerfer-Clerk, Andy Kachele, Michael Kot,
Art Laske, Paul Skrtich,
Alternates: Gregg Saunders, Devon Wible, Tara Gottlieb
Absentee(s):
Guest(s): Christine Calvert-Finance Director/Treasurer, Dr. David Bindelglass, First Selectman
Bob Lessler-Selectman, Kristi Sogofsky-Selectman

Call to Order: Meeting called to order at: 7:03 pm by: Matt Gachi

Appointment of Alternates

Notes: All members were present. No alternates needed to be appointed.

Agenda Item 1a ***Discuss and approve the meeting minutes of Apr 2, 2020.***

Notes:

Action/Motions: A motion was made to approve the subject meeting minutes.

Motion (Second): Andy Kachele (Art Laske)

Result: All in favor

Follow Up:

Agenda Item 1b ***Discuss and approve the meeting minutes of Apr 7, 2020.***

Notes:

Agenda Item 3 should have read: A motion was made to remove from the table the motion to approve the revised Volunteer Firefighter and EMS Personnel Honorarium Ordinance that was made and then tabled at the Mar 3 meeting. All were in favor. After some discussion a vote was taken on the motion to approve the revised ordinance. The motion passed unanimously.

Action/Motions: A motion was made to approve the subject meeting minutes as corrected.

Motion (Second): Paul Skrtich (Andy Kachele)

Result: All in favor

Follow Up:

Agenda Item 2 ***Presentation of Region 9 education budget***

Notes: Todd Johnson and Scott Reiss presented the Region 9 Board of Education budget. The total budget of \$24,351,255 is a 0.9% increase over last year's budget. Easton's share of 45.68% or \$11,123,653 is an \$893,626 increase over last year.

Action/Motions: None

Agenda Item 3 ***Discuss and possible action for boiler replacement at 660 Morehouse Road.***

Notes: Ed Nagy, Director of Public Works, discussed the need for a boiler replacement at 660 Morehouse Road and the funds available for the work.

Action/Motions: A motion was made to change the scope of the existing capital project fund for replacement of other boilers and associated work to include this boiler replacement.

Motion (Second): Andy Kachele (Paul Skrtich)

Result: All in Favor

Action/Motions: A motion was made to authorize a special appropriation of \$17,500 from the Unassigned Fund Balance to the boiler replacement capital project fund.
Motion (Second): Andy Kachele (Paul Skrtich) **Result:** All in Favor
Follow Up: None

Agenda Item 4 ***Discuss and possible to use LOCIP funds to purchase an antenna system for EMS.***
Notes: Paul Skrtich had asked EMS, in writing, several questions about the EMS radio upgrade which he stated were answered to his satisfaction.

Action/Motions: A motion was made to authorize the use of \$23,187 of LOCIP funds for this upgrade.
Motion (Second): Paul Skrtich (Michael Kot) **Result:** All in Favor
Follow Up:

Agenda Item 5 ***Discuss and possible action on selection of auditors.***
Notes: Tara Gottlieb updated the Board on the selection of a new auditor. Two have answered the town's RFP. There will be a question and answer session with each of them on Thursday May 7 after which the three boards of education will be asked to select one.

Action/Motions: None

Agenda Item 6 ***Situational overview***
Notes: Matt Gachi made a presentation, "Easton BOF Data Overview", on the COVID-19 pandemic and resulting national, Connecticut and Easton economic data.

Action/Motions: None

Agenda Item 7 ***Easton macro assessment***
Notes: Where do we feel we need to be with respect to a mil rate increase? For those that expressed an opinion the numbers ranged from 3% to "zero or below" with the latter having the most mentions.

Action/Motions: None

Agenda Item 8 ***Revenue Projections***
Notes: On the question of tax collection rate assumptions there seemed to be general agreement that we might not achieve our usual 98.785% rate.

It was noted that revenue from Aquarian, The CT Golf Club and UI combined is about \$1.5m.

Action/Motions: None

Agenda Item 9 ***2019-20 Budget Returns and Unassigned Fund Balance***

Notes: Budget return estimates:
a. Easton BOE: \$300k to 600k
b. Region 9: \$330 to 600k
c. Town : \$600k

Action/Motions: None

Agenda Item 10	<i>Budget</i>
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Notes:	The list of departments was reviewed and the call-back list updated.
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Action/Motions:	None
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Agenda Item 11	<i>Easton Macro Revisited</i>
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Notes:	No one expressed a path to the proposed tax rate discussed in #7?
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Action/Motions:	None
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Agenda Item 12	<i>Treasurer's report</i>
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Notes:	The Treasurer presented this month's report and answered questions from attendees.
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Action/Motions:	None
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Agenda Item 13	<i>Discuss and possible action on Munis Financial Report</i>
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Notes:	The Finance Director presented this month's report and answered questions from attendees.
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Action/Motions:	None
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Agenda Item	<i>Adjournment</i>
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Action/Motions:	A motion was made to adjourn at 9:49pm
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Motion (Second):	Mike Kot (Paul Lindoerfer)	Result: All in favor.
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Submitted by,

Paul Lindoerfer- Clerk

Instr# M2020000327

Received and Filed Remotely 5/11/2020

Christine Halloran, Town Clerk, Easton, CT