

**Town of Easton**  
**Board of Finance – Regular Meeting Minutes**

Date/Time: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 – 7:00 pm  
Location: Virtual meeting using the Zoom app.  
A recording of this meeting can be found at the  
Agenda, Minutes & Recording section of the town website.

**Attendees:** Members: Andy Kachele-Chair, Paul Lindoerfer-Clerk, Michael Kot, Art Laske,  
Wendy Bowditch  
Alternates: Gregg Saunders, Ira Kaplan, Jackie Kaufman  
**Absentee(s):** Paul Skrtich  
**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: Andy Kachele

<b><i>Appointment of Alternates</i></b>	
Action/Motions:	A motion was made to appoint Gregg Saunders to fill in for Paul Skrtich in his absence.
Motion (Second):	Kott (Laske) <b>Result:</b> All in Favor
<b><i>Election of Clerk.</i></b>	
Agenda Item 1	
Notes:	Andy Kachele noted that both Wendy Bowditch and Paul Lindoerfer agreed to be available for the Clerk position.
Action/Motions:	A motion was made to elect Paul Lindoerfer Clerk.
Motion (Second):	Bowditch (Laske) <b>Result:</b> All in Favor
Follow Up:	
<b><i>Discuss and approve the special meeting minutes of both meetings on January 26, 2021.</i></b>	
Agenda Item 2	
Notes:	The minutes of the second meeting should have indicated they were for a “Special” meeting, not a “Regular” meeting. The posted time of the second meeting should have been 7:10pm.
Action/Motions:	A motion was made to approve the subject meeting minutes as amended.
Motion (Second):	Laske (Kot) <b>Result:</b> All in Favor
<b><i>Budget Overview</i></b>	
Agenda Item 3	
Notes:	Andy Kachele gave an overview of the town’s generally good financial shape though the Undesignated Fund Balance is larger than we would like. There are some large capital projects on the horizon including a new roof for Hellen Keller school building and two new bridges to be built, one with some state funding and the other without. Art Laske urged board members to, when reviewing department budgets, look for one-time capital projects that could be paid for with undesignated funds.
<b><i>Review Budgets for the Following</i></b>	
Agenda Item 4	
Notes:	a. Senior Center: Val Buckley reviewed the Senior Center budget with the attendees and answered questions.

- b. Insurance Commission: Gerry O'Brien reviewed the Insurance Commission budget with the attendees and answered questions.
- c. Assessor and Board of Assessment Appeals: Rachel Maciulewski reviewed these two department budgets with the attendees and answered questions.
- d. Building Department: Anthony Ballaro reviewed the Building Department budget with the attendees and answered questions.
- e. Emergency Management: Chief Richard Doyle reviewed the Emergency Management budget with the attendees and answered questions.
- f. Police (Communication, Police and Animal Control): Chief Richard Doyle reviewed the budgets of these departments with the attendees and answered questions.

Agenda Item 5	<b><i>Discuss and possible action upon the recommendation from the Police Commission to appropriate \$49,770 for the purchase of Body and Dash Cameras.</i></b>	
Notes:	The need for body and dash cameras was discussed.	
Action/Motions:	A motion was made to recommend to a town meeting a special appropriation for the Police Department of \$49,770 for the purchase of Body and Dash Cameras.	
Motion (Second):	Laske (Bowditch)	<b>Result:</b> All in Favor
Follow Up:		
Agenda Item 6	<b><i>Discuss and possible action to appropriate \$249,900 for the proposed Pathway along Sport Hill Road.</i></b>	
Notes:	Considerable discussion ensued. Justin Giorlando, the consultant working on the project for Planning & Zoning, Answered questions from the Board. There was considerable discussion of an alternate path that would not use Sport Hill Rd. Justin said this path had been considered but issues with right of way, wetlands and other issues were problematic. The project estimated cost is \$1,247,000 with Easton's cost \$49,400 and the remainder from a grant from CT DOT.	
Action/Motions:	A motion was made to recommend to a town meeting a special appropriation of \$249,400 for the proposed pathway on Sport Hill Rd.	
Motion (Second):	Laske (Lindoefer)	<b>Result:</b> For: Laske, Lindoefer, Bowditch Against: Saunders, Kot, Kachele The vote is a tie and thus defeated.
Agenda Item 7	<b><i>Discuss and possible action on the Tax Relief for the Elderly Ordinance.</i></b>	
Notes:	Paul Lindoefer presented the Tax Relief for the Elderly Committee report and discussed the changes the committee is recommending be made to the ordinance.	
Action/Motions:	A motion was made to recommend to a town meeting the ordinance changes the	

Motion (Second): committee has proposed.  
Kot (Saunders)

**Result:** All in Favor

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Agenda Item 8      ***Discuss and review past revenue streams***  
Notes:              This item is deferred to a future meeting.

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Agenda Item 9      ***Treasurer's Report***  
Notes:              The Treasurer presented this month's report and answered questions from attendees.  
Action/Motions:    None

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Agenda Item 10     ***Discuss and possible action on Munis Financial Report for appropriations and revenue presented by the Director of Finance.***  
Notes:              The Finance Director presented this month's report and answered questions from attendees.  
Action/Motions:    None

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Agenda Item 11     ***Fill-in budgets: Treasurer, Debt Service, First Selectman, Professional Service, Probate Court, Town Hall, Cemetery, Probate Court, Contingency, Auditors/BOF, Town Attorney and any other budgets as deemed necessary.***  
Notes:              No fill-in budgets were reviewed this evening.

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Agenda Item 12     ***Adjournment***  
Action/Motions:    A motion was made to adjourn at 10:38 pm  
Motion (Second):   Kot (Lindoefer)                              **Result:** All in favor.

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Submitted by,

Paul Lindoefer- Clerk