

Town of Easton
Board of Finance – Special Meeting Minutes

Date/Time: Thursday, May 14, 2020 – 5:00 pm
Location: Virtual meeting using the Zoom app.

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: 5:00 pm by: Matt Gachi

Appointment of Alternates

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

Agenda Item 1A ***Department Call-backs - Emergency Medical Services***

Notes: John Arnold told the Board that the oil furnace in the EMS building has failed and needs to be replaced. After receiving two quotes for the job EMS has determined that they will need \$10,000 for installation of a new furnace which needs to be completed before the end of the coming summer.

Action/Motions: No action was taken on this request.

Agenda Item 1B ***Department Call-backs - Library***

Notes: Library Director, Lynn Zaffino, had been asked at our previous meeting to, at this meeting, describe what the effect of a \$90k cut in the library's budget would be. Lynn discussed with the Board some details of how the Library operates and what the effects of such a cut would be on staff and operations. Among many other items it would include a cut in operational expenses of \$20,600 and in staff of three part time high school student pages.

Action/Motions: A motion was made to reduce the Library budget by \$90,000 to include the reduction of one 29hr person, 5 part time staff and various operational expenses.

Motion (Second): Paul Skrtich (none) **Result:** The motion failed due to lack of a second.

Action/Motions: A motion was made to reduce items in the Library Operations budget by \$20,600 (Playaways and Launch-Pads, \$6,000; Materials and Supplies, \$5,600; Services and Fees, \$9,000) and wages by \$13,500 (eliminate positions for 3 high school pages).

Motion (Second): Andy Kachele (Paul Skrtich)

Result: FOR: Matt Gachi, Andy Kachele, Michael Kott, Paul Skrtich
AGAINST: Art Laske, Paul Lindoerfer
The motion carried.

Follow Up: None

Agenda Item 1C ***Department Call-backs - Building***

Notes: After discussion with the Building Official, Anthony Ballaro, it was the consensus of the board members that the \$2,000 in the Extra Clerical line should be cut.

Action/Motions: None

Agenda Item 1D	<i>Department Call-backs - Planning & Zoning</i>
Notes:	After discussion with the P&Z Chairman, Robert Maquat, it was the consensus of the board members that the \$4,500 line item for Legal Ads should be cut by \$1,000 to \$3,500.
Action/Motions:	None
Agenda Item 1E	<i>Department Call-backs - Parks and Recreation</i>
Notes:	In discussion with Danielle Alves, P&R Director, and Commission member, Philip Tamallanca some members of the Board expressed an interest in moving the Park & Recreation maintenance staff to the Public Works department. A lengthy discussion followed concerning a number of issues involved in making such a move. The result was a commitment by 1 st Selectman Bindelglass that the Board of Selectmen will study this problem and seek to find as quickly as possible a solution that provides the town the best value for its resources. The remainder of the discussion involved some budget items which have been changed since the original budget document and P&R plans for the summer and fall programs.
Action/Motions:	
Agenda Item 1F	<i>Department Call-backs - First Selectman</i>
Notes:	The increase of \$2,500 in the line item for Services and Fees is for expanding the town's capability to put audio and video online for more meetings.
Action/Motions:	
Agenda Item 1G	<i>Department Call-backs - Town Hall</i>
Notes:	\$6,000 for paving stones has been removed from the Capital budget.
Action/Motions:	
Agenda Item 1H	<i>Department Call-backs - Tax Collector</i>
Notes:	The Tax Collector's budget was decreased by \$90 in the Education line and \$500 in Services and Fees.
Action/Motions:	
Agenda Item 1I	<i>Budget Motion</i>
Notes:	
Action/Motions:	A motion was made to declare that it is the intent of Board of Finance to adopt a budget of \$44,639,809.
Motion (Second):	Andy Kachele (Michael Kot)
Result:	FOR: Matt Gachi, Andy Kachele, Michael Kott, Paul Skrtich, Paul Lindoerfer AGAINST: Art Laske The motion carried.
Agenda Item 2	<i>Discuss and act upon appointment of auditors for fiscal year end June 30, 2020 as per</i>

Connecticut General Statutes 7-396 and 4-232.

Notes: Tara Gottlieb briefed the Board concerning quotes received for audit services from two companies; PKF O'Connor Davies (\$42,750) and Blum Shapiro (\$53,200).
Action/Motions: A motion was made to appoint PKF O'Connor Davies as auditors for fiscal year 2019/20.
Motion (Second): Andy Kachele (Michael Kot) **Result:** All in favor
Follow Up:

Agenda Item 3 Adjournment

Action/Motions: A motion was made to adjourn at 8:59 pm
Motion (Second): Andy Kachele (Michael Kot) **Result:** All in favor.

Submitted by,
Paul Lindoerfer- Clerk