

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

**Location:** virtual meeting  
using the Zoom app.  
**Meeting Type:** Special  
**Date/Time:** May 11, 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: 7:07 pm by: Matt Gachi

---

***Appointment of Alternates***

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

---

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

**Notes:** The Board discussed possible budget revisions with Easton Board of Education representatives Jeff Parker, Scott Reiss and Tom McMorran with results as follows:

Jeff Parker presented a revised budget. From the original budget request of \$17,391,586 a reduction of \$241,166 was proposed. Some of the 22 items in the list of what to be cut included, the media specialist position at Keller, extra-curricular activities at Keller, reduction in substitute teacher costs and reduction in utility costs.

In addition the BOE proposed that the town set up a non-lapsing set aside account and that it be funded with \$333,680 of the \$400 to 600k excess costs expected to be accumulated this year. The fund would be for education-related costs and could be drawn from by the BOE with BOF approval. The resulting budget would including spending all of this fund.

A wide-ranging discussion of the education budget followed. This was followed by several motions.

**Action/Motions:** A motion was made to approve a budget for the BOE of \$16,684,000; a 0% increase. This is an amount equal to the approved budget for the current year.

**Motion (Second):** Michael Kot ( none ) Result: Motion failed due to no second.

**Action/Motions:** A motion was made to approve a budget of \$17,150,420; a 2.8% increase. This is the funding level as presented by the BOE. \$17,391,586 minus \$241,166.

**Motion (Second):** Art Laske (Paul Lindoerfer)  
**Result:** FOR: Art Laske, Paul Lindoerfer  
AGAINST: Matt Gachi, Andy Kachele, Michael Kot, Paul Skrtich  
The motion failed.

Action/Motions: A motion was made to approve a budget of \$15,684,000; a 6% reduction or a \$1 million reduction of the current budget.

Motion (Second): Paul Skrtich ( none ) Result: Motion failed due to no second.

Action/Motions: A motion was made to approve a budget of \$16,950,420; a 1.6% increase. This is the funding level as presented by the BOE of \$17,391,586 minus \$241,166 minus an additional \$200,000.

Motion (Second): Andy Kachele (Matt Gachi)

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

Action/Motions: A motion was made to approve a budget of \$17,015,420; a 2% increase. This is the funding level as presented by the BOE of \$17,391,586 minus \$241,166 minus an additional \$135,000.

Motion (Second): Matt Gachi (Paul Skrtich)

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

---

**Agenda Item 2      *Adjournment***

---

Action/Motions: A motion was made to adjourn at 10:10 pm

Motion (Second): Andy Kachele (Paul Shrtich ) Result: All in favor.

Submitted by,

Paul Lindoerfer- Clerk