

**Town of Andover
Board of Finance
Regular Meeting**
Wednesday, April 13th 2022 at 7:00 P.M.
Location: virtual Zoom meeting

Budget Public Hearing and Special Meeting Budget Workshop Minutes

Budget Public Hearing

Members: Chairman Marc Brinker, Vice Chair Diane Choquette, Joanne Hebert, Curt Dowling, Robert England, Louise Goodwin, Linda Fish
Town Administrator: Eric Anderson, Board Clerk: Marina Pandolfi
Assistant Finance Officer: Marina Pandolfi
RHAM Board of Education: Eric Shevchenko
Public Present: Jennie Morrell, Kelly Haggerty
Andover Board of Education: Superintendent Valerie Bruneau, Gerry Cremè, Chris Bernard, Celeste Willard

1. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance-

Marc Brinker called the meeting to order at 7:00pm

He let public know that the many ways to get in contact with the Board of Finance members for questions or information regarding the budget. Email address set up is budget@andoverct.org

2. Receive Comments from the Public

Gerry Cremè – Thanked the Board for their time, energy, and effort put into the budget. Supports the Town and Board of Education budgets. Is looking forward to the Community Senior Center build.

Eric Shevchenko – Addressed question regarding RHAM's Capital Budget. Stated that RHAM's budget proposal – 1.22% reduction equal to about \$375,000. Andover's portion will be reduced by around \$225,000 – with a refund of \$8,000 from surplus. Asking for support of RHAM budget.

Jennie Morrell – Supporting AES budget

Superintendent Valerie Bruneau – Reiterated Gerry and Jennie's support, the Board of Education worked hard to listen to the public to make a budget that is academically sound & fiscally responsible to accommodate the needs of the students and staff.

Kelly Haggerty – none – just listening in

Chris Bernard – Here to support the budget and to answer any questions

Celeste Willard - none

Board of Finance Comments

Joanne Hebert – followed up to Eric Shevchenko's statement about the RHAM budget. Discussion between the two regarding the bond, surplus, projects and enrollment decline.

3. Close or Continue the Public Hearing – no further comments from the public

4. Adjournment

Curt Dowling MOTIONED to adjourn the Budget Public Hearing at 7:23pm

Diane Choquette SECONDED

MOTION CARRIED 7:0:0

Special Meeting Budget Workshop

Members: Chairman Marc Brinker, Vice Chair Diane Choquette, Joanne Hebert, Curt Dowling, Robert England, Louise Goodwin, Linda Fish
Town Administrator: Eric Anderson, Board Clerk: Marina Pandolfi
Assistant Finance Officer: Marina Pandolfi
Public Present: Jennie Morrell, Kelly Haggerty
Andover Board of Education: Superintendent Valerie Bruneau, Gerry Cremè, Celeste Willard

1. Call to Order-

Marc Brinker called the meeting to order at 7:23pm

2. Public Speak

Gerry Cremè – Thanked Marc Brinker for the information on the Town Charter from the Town's attorney. Supports Marc, the Town and Board of Education budgets.

Jennie Morrell - none

Superintendent Valerie Bruneau – Reminded the Board about the Board of Education support

Kelly Haggerty – none

Celeste Willard – Here to support the Board of Education budget

Marc Brinker handed the meeting off to Diane Choquette at 7:30pm

Eric Anderson stated that a budget will need to be approved by the board by April 27th, 2022 to present at the Town Wide Budget Meeting on May 4th, 2022.

3. Budget Workshop for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Proposed Town Budget

Discussion about the budget spreadsheet setup – column titles and dollar amounts need to be updated to match and to avoid confusion.

Discussion about grant money from both the MRSA Grant – Town is no longer getting, and the Historic Document Preservation Grant the Town Clerk receives.

Interest Income accounts – Eric Anderson reached out to the auditor regarding previous year interest income accounts for clarification on difference in revenue.

Joanne Hebert – would like more information on the revenue and expenses. Asked Superintendent Bruneau about the new student database software. New software PowerSchool – old software Tyler SIS. Only cost this year was training. Superintendent Bruneau will send Joanne a PowerSchool vs Tyler SIS cost breakdown.

Joanne Hebert – also asked about salaries that are paid from grants, if they show in the general budget. Superintendent Bruneau answered that they are kept separately from the general budget.

Diane Choquette requested updated fund balances and answers to outstanding revenue questions.

Discussion about RHAM budget decrease – Andover's contribution/LEVY payment.

Diane Choquette stated that the Board does not have enough information to make any decision on the budget in this evening's meeting.

Louise Goodwin asked what the impact of the two Interest Income accounts is on the mil rate. There was an overpayment in taxes last year, taxpayers will pay .1 mil less on tax bills.

Curt Dowling asked who is providing the information that the Board is missing. Eric Anderson reached out to the auditor for further clarification. Diane Choquette stated that she cannot support the current budget without clarification. Curt also asked for a timeline of the combined Finance Department split, dates and reasons why – Eric Anderson will provide.

Diane Choquette felt it was best for the Board to digest the current information they have and regroup at next week's meeting on Wednesday, April 20th, 2022.

4. Correspondence

Diane Choquette read through the correspondence that Eric Anderson provided from Town Attorney Dennis O'Brien – the Board of Finance can make changes to the budget after the Public Hearing and before the Annual Town Meeting.

5. Public Speak

Superintendent Bruneau – nothing further, asking for support on Board of Education budget.

Gerry Cremè – Thanked the Board for their time, asked for support on the budget

Kelly Haggerty – none

Marina Pandolfi –none

6. Adjournment

Curt Dowling MOTIONED to adjourn the meeting at 8:25pm

Robert England SECONDED

MOTION CARRIED 6:0:0

* The following boards/commission Zoom Video Recordings are posted to the NEW Town of Andover, CT YouTube Channel: Board of Selectmen, Board of Finance, Board of Assessment Appeals, Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission, Planning and Zoning Commission, Zoning Board of Appeals. Like our www.facebook.com/townofandoverct page for community updates! Helpfully submitted by the Board Clerk Marina Pandolfi. Please see the minutes of subsequent meetings for the approval of these minutes and any corrections hereto.