

MIDDLEFIELD BOARD OF FINANCE
405 Main Street
Middlefield, Connecticut 06455

Minutes of the Thursday, April 20, 2023
Special BOF Meeting and Public Hearing, 6:30PM

405 Main St #2, Middlefield, CT 06455

Attendance:

Members

Others

X	Skelps, Michael	X	Al Rusilowicz
X	Kowal, Melissa	X	Bob Yamartino
X	Lowry, David	X	Jim Irish
A	Boyle, Kevin		
X	Matterazzo, Lee (late arrival)		
X	Wolak, Mary		

A=Absent
X=Present

This meeting is held via in person. Michael Skelps called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approval of the Agenda

Agenda was approved unanimously.

Dave made the motion to open the public hearing. Lee seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Public hearing was opened at 6:03pm.

Mike discussed the budget process and reviewed the changes to the budget made by the Board of Finance. The proposed mill rate is up 0.68 mills or 2.5%. This increase is necessary in order to fund essential programs and services in FY 2024.

The net changes are a reduction of expenses of \$111,000 compared to the First Selectman's budget proposal.

Insurance figures were revised based on bills received and quoted renewal premiums. MERS plan increase was applied to pension costs. An additional primary in 2024 was the basis of increasing the Registrars of Voters Budget. Public works payroll was increased due to seniority and promotions. And Parks & Rec and Public Works payroll was being increased due to a split resource working for six months. Peckham Park mowing costs were increased. Salt cost was decreased due to a large ending inventory in Spring 2023. Fire Marshal sundry expenses were increased due to the Fire Marshal's request. Redundant cost of installation of beach mats were removed. DMIAAB budget was reduced based on DMIIAB's budget proposal. Levi Coe Library budget was reduced based on a 2% wage increase as well as the opportunity to generate interest from the reserve funds. School budget was reduced due to RSD13's revised budget. Several Capital & Non-recurring fund changes were discussed, the major items of which were an increase in allocation for the Fire Department Building Committee, removal of the thermal imaging camera (fully funded) and removing of capital funding for the #2 pumper capital fund as the truck is due for delivery within the next year.

No members of the public were present except the Selectmen. Jim mentioned that the reduction in capital items broken down was different than the summarized figure. The difference was due to a grant that was received. Al noted that this would be better presented for clarity at the Town meeting. Bob thanked the Board of Finance for their work on the budget. The Board expressed thanks to Al and Bob for giving a good budget to start from.

Dave made a motion to close the public hearing. Lee seconded. The Public Hearing was closed at 6:53 PM.

Special Meeting Continued

There was no further discussion of the budget. Dave made a motion to send the budget to the town meeting. Mary seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

Adjournment

Mary made the motion to adjourn. Lee seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 6:56pm.