

**MINUTES
BOARD OF FINANCE
REGULAR MEETING
CITY HALL AUDITORIUM / ZOOM
May 18, 2021**

A **REGULAR MEETING** of the Board of Finance was held on Tuesday, May 18, 2021. Attendance was by ZOOM and in person. Present at City Hall were Mayor Elinor Carbone, Comptroller Alice Proulx, City Clerk Carol Anderson and Board of Finance Members Laurene Pesce and James Wright. Board of Finance members Christopher Anderson and Lance Boynton joined by Zoom. Christopher Beyus and Mark Bushka were absent.

Mayor Carbone called the meeting to order at 5:04 p.m. beginning with the Pledge of Allegiance.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

On a motion by Mr. Wright, seconded by Mr. Boynton, the Board voted unanimously to open the meeting to the public, but there was no one from the public in attendance.

MINUTES APPROVED

On a motion by Mrs. Pesce, seconded by Mr. Wright, the Board voted unanimously to accept the minutes of the regular meeting held March 16, 2021.

On a motion by Mr. Anderson, seconded by Mr. Boynton, the Board voted unanimously to accept the minutes of the public hearing held April 28, 2021.

On a motion by Mr. Anderson, seconded by Mr. Wright, the Board voted unanimously to accept the minutes of the special joint meeting with the Board of Education held April 28, 2021.

BOE FINANCIAL REPORTS

On a motion by Mr. Wright, seconded by Mr. Boynton, the Board voted unanimously to accept the Board of Education's financial reports.

CITY FINANCIAL REPORTS

On a motion by Mrs. Pesce, seconded by Mr. Anderson, the Board voted unanimously to accept the City's financial reports.

BUSINESS BY DEPARTMENT HEADS

On a motion by Mr. Wright, seconded by Mr. Anderson, the Board voted unanimously to consider business by Department Heads. No business was reported.

BUSINESS BY MAYOR & MEMBERS

On a motion by Mrs. Pesce, seconded by Mr. Wright, the Board voted unanimously to consider business by the Mayor and members of the Board of Finance.

Mr. Anderson expressed his appreciation for the work of the Budget Subcommittee.

Mr. Boynton requested an update on the project at 100 Franklin Street. Mayor Carbone reported that extensive environmental remediation was needed for the property, but she was optimistic that construction would begin as early as the first week of June, 2021. Mayor Carbone and Mr. Boynton discussed the vital role that the property would serve by providing affordable housing opportunities for employees in the City's manufacturing sector.

Mrs. Pesce requested information about tax exempt properties in Torrington and questioned how much of Torrington's housing stock is considered "affordable housing." Mayor Carbone stated that she would share a spreadsheet of tax exempt properties with the Board and she emphasized how important the State's PILOT program funding would be for the City to recoup some of the revenue lost as result of tax exempt properties. She also clarified that the State requires 10% affordable housing, but the actual percentage of affordable housing in Torrington is closer to 11%. The Mayor and the Board also discussed other nuances with the City's housing stock, including the distinction between workforce housing and affordable housing designated for elderly or disabled persons, as well as restrictive zoning regulations in the surrounding towns.

Mr. Wright requested clarification regarding the type of housing that would be provided at 100 Franklin Street. Mayor Carbone explained that there would be a combination of affordable, market rate and low income housing units.

Mayor Carbone discussed the upcoming meeting schedule for the review and adoption of the FY 2021/2022 budgets.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Mr. Wright, seconded by Mr. Anderson, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn at 5:34 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted,
Jonathan Draper, Asst. City Clerk*

ATTEST:

Carol L. Anderson
CAROL L. ANDERSON, MMC
CITY CLERK