

A **REGULAR MEETING** of the Board of Finance was held in the City Hall Auditorium on Tuesday, May 21, 2019.

Present were Mayor Elinor Carbone, Corporation Counsel Atty. Victor Muschell and Board of Finance Members Lance Boynton, Laurene Pesce, Mark Bushka, Christopher Anderson, Christopher Beyus, and James Wright. Comptroller Alice Proulx was also present along with Deputy Comptroller Gina Casper, Treasurer Dan Farley, Purchasing Agent Pennie Zucco, Public Works Director Raymond Drew, Street Dept. Supervisor Bill Mayers, Fleet Manager Emil Castro, Fire Chief Peter Towey, Deputy Fire Chief David Tripp and Police Captain Wayne Newkirk.

Mayor Carbone called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. starting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES

On a motion by Mr. Beyus, seconded by Mr. Bushka, the Board voted unanimously to accept the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on April 16, 2019. Mr. Bushka abstained.

On a motion by Mr. Anderson, seconded by Mr. Beyus, the Board voted unanimously to accept the minutes of the Special Meeting held jointly with the Board of Education on April 30, 2019. Mr. Boynton abstained.

On a motion by Mr. Bushka, seconded by Mr. Anderson, the Board voted unanimously to accept the minutes of the Public Hearing held on April 30, 2019. Mr. Boynton abstained.

OPEN TO PUBLIC

On a motion by Mr. Beyus, seconded by Mr. Anderson, the Board voted unanimously to open the meeting to the public.

Veronica Gelormino, a teacher at Torrington High School, expressed her concerns regarding class sizes, resources, and a lack of capital investment at the Torrington Public Schools.

McClure Whiting expressed his support for investing in Torrington Public Schools and stated that an improved school district would raise home values.

Sandy Mangan spoke on behalf of Jeff Putnam to inform the Board about mandatory special education costs and to express his support for increasing funding to Torrington Public Schools.

Carrie Cassidy and Tom Ethier, teachers at Torrington Middle School, expressed their support for the proposed 2019-2020 TPS budget.

Kristen Conway stated that she has daughters in first and third grade, and urged the Board to invest in the Public Schools.

BOE FINANCIAL REPORTS

On a motion by Mr. Anderson, seconded by Mrs. Pesce, the Board voted unanimously to accept the Board of Education financial reports for March and April, 2019.

PD BUDGET AMENMENTS

On a motion by Mr. Beyus, seconded by Mr. Wright, the Board voted unanimously to authorize the 2018/2019 budget amendments to fund required Police training, as described in Chief Baldwin's Request for Transfer dated February 28, 2019. Mrs. Pesce questioned why the training would be funded through regular wages. Captain Newkirk explained that when someone retires or resigns, it can take a long time to hire a new officer.

FINANCIAL AUDIT SERVICES

On a motion by Mr. Anderson, seconded by Mr. Bushka, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Purchasing Agent and authorize the Mayor to award the contract for Financial Audit Services to Blum, Shapiro & Co., P.C. of West Hartford, CT for the next three (3) fiscal years for the contracted amounts of \$64,000, \$65,000 and \$66,000 respectively. Mayor Carbone explained why the City determined that Blum, Shapiro & Co. was the best option.

VEHICLE REFURBISHMENT

On a motion by Mr. Anderson, seconded by Mr. Beyus, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Fleet Manager and the Purchasing Agent to refurbish Plow Truck #37 and authorize the Mayor to award the contract for the refurbishment to A & E Auto Body Services, Inc. of Wolcott, CT, including the additional purchase of the dump body from Universal Body and Equipment of Oakville, CT for a total project cost of \$41,617, with funding through the Vehicle Replacement account. Mrs. Pesce questioned whether it is cost-effective to invest money into the used vehicle. Mr. Castro clarified that they plan to extend the life of the vehicle by replacing components that are susceptible to rust. He also discussed a newly implemented washing program that is aimed at negating the detrimental effects of road salt on the City's fleet.

DISCUSSION: BUSINESS BY DEPARTMENT HEADS

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

DISCUSSION: BUSINESS BY THE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF FINANCE

On a motion by Mr. Beyus, seconded by Mr. Bushka, the Board voted unanimously to consider business presented by the Mayor and members of the Board of Finance. Mr. Anderson asked for Revenue information and the Mayor replied that she is waiting for the State to provide it.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Mr. Anderson, seconded by Mr. Beyus, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn at 6:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jonathan R. Draper, Asst. Clerk

ATTEST: 
CAROL L. ANDERSON, MMC
CITY CLERK