

A **SPECIAL MEETING** of the Board of Finance was held in the City Hall Auditorium on Monday, June 4, 2018.

Present were Mayor Elinor Carbone and Board of Finance Members Lance Boynton, Laurene Pesce, Jenna Reichen, Mark Bushka, and Joshua Ferreira. Christopher Anderson was absent.

Also present were City Comptroller Alice Proulx, Deputy Comptroller Gina Casper, Purchasing Agent Pennie Zucco, Assistant Superintendent of Torrington Public Schools Susan Lubomski, Director of Facilities David Bascetta, Interim Business Manager Rose Forzano, and Board of Education Chairwoman Fiona Cappabianca.

Mayor Carbone called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m. starting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**DISCUSSION ON BUDGETS**

The Board discussed reductions to the Board of Education operating budget for FY 2018/2019.

Mayor Carbone summarized the FY 2018/2019 operating budget proposed by the Board of Education at the previous joint meeting, which reflected a \$2,224,682 increase over the prior year's budget. She recapped several cuts and other factors which were identified to reduce operating expenses, including a health insurance adjustment and the reallocation of several line items to alternate funding sources. She stated that there may be additional savings in insurance costs.

Mayor Carbone recommended that the FY 2018/2019 operating budget be level funded to FY 2017/2018 at \$74,149,114, stating that it would preserve the Board of Education's ability to go forward with their alternative education program and cover other priority expenses.

The Board discussed reductions to the Board of Education capital budget for FY 2018/2019.

Mayor Carbone stated that the bulk of the capital budget reflects improvements to the Torrington Middle School. She recommended the Board of Finance to zero out the budget and consider bonding the middle school improvements as part of a bond package.

The Board discussed bonding and reductions to the City budget for FY 2018/2019.

Mayor Carbone demonstrated the impact that a zero mill rate increase would have on the City. She began by presenting a budget with cuts totaling \$500,000 that would involve changing the restoration of capital funds from a three-year plan to a four-year plan and cutting funds allocated to the animal control facility. Other cuts included eliminating conferences from the budget, reducing funds for updated legal resources and marketing, and eliminating funding to the Police Activity League (PAL), Teen Center, the Volunteer Fire Department, and two vacant positions in the Police and Recreation Departments.

Mr. Boynton stated that he believes funding to develop and implement a marketing plan is needed in order to bring people and businesses to Torrington.

Mayor Carbone presented additional personnel cuts totaling \$871,000 that she does not recommend but would be necessary to achieve the zero mill rate increase. These included eliminating a vacant position in the Parks Department, an administrative assistant position in the Mayor's Office, and another 16 positions in the Police, Fire, and Streets Departments.

Ms. Reichen expressed her disagreement with cutting funding to the Teen Center.

Mayor Carbone announced that the total projected revenue for FY 2018/2019 is \$34,935,081 and recommended using the remaining \$600,000 from the previous year's fund balance to offset the increase in expenditures. She stated that given the revenue projections for FY 2018/2019, her recommendations would result in a net impact of .42 mill rate increase.

**ROLL CALL VOTE: BOARD OF EDUCATION OPERATING BUDGET**

On a motion by Mr. Ferreira, seconded by Mr. Bushka, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the 2018/2019 Board of Education operating budget in the sum of \$74,149,114.

**ROLL CALL VOTE: BOARD OF EDUCATION CAPITAL BUDGET**

On a motion by Mr. Ferreira, seconded by Mr. Reichen, the Board voted unanimously to reduce the 2018/2019 Board of Education capital plan to \$0.

**ROLL CALL VOTE: CITY BUDGET**

On a motion by Mrs. Pesce, seconded by Mr. Boynton, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the 2018/2019 City budget in the sum of \$53,170,968.

**ROLL CALL VOTE: MILL RATE**

On a motion by Mr. Ferreira, seconded by Ms. Reichen, the Board voted unanimously to set the mill rate for 2018/2019 at 46.17 mills.

**ROLL CALL VOTE: MOTOR VEHICLE MILL RATE**

On a motion by Mrs. Pesce, seconded by Mr. Boynton, the Board voted unanimously to set the motor vehicle mill rate for 2018/2019 at 45.00 mills.

**ADJOURNMENT**

On a motion by Mr. Bushka, seconded by Ms. Reichen, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn at 6:37 p.m.

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

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carol L. Anderson".

CAROL L. ANDERSON, MMC  
CITY CLERK