

**BOARD OF FINANCE  
TOWN OFFICE BUILDING  
40 OLD FARMS ROAD  
WILLINGTON, CT 06279**

**BUDGET MEETING MINUTES**

Thursday, February 21, 2019  
7:00 PM

*\*Minutes are not official until approved at the next regular meeting*

**Members Present:**

Jim Bulick, Chairman  
Mike Makuch, Vice Chairman  
Bill Rankin  
Peter Tanaka  
Fred Schoen – Alternate  
Laurie Semprebon  
Randy Belair

**Members Absent:**

Barry Wallett

**Also Present:**

Erika Wiecenski, First Selectwoman  
Donna Latinsics, Business Manager  
Tish Ignatowicz, Treasurer  
Suzanne Chapman, Republican Registrar of Voters  
Christine Psathas, Democrat Registrar of Voters  
Peter Andersen, Chair of Conservation Commission  
Walter Parcel, Chair of Planning and Zoning  
Tess Gutowski, Chair of Inland Wetlands and Waterways  
Richard Mindek, Chair of Economic Development Commission  
Courtney Hendricson, Connecticut Economic Resource Center, Inc

Chairman Jim Bulick called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

**SEATING OF ALTERNATES:**

**Laurie Semprebon moved to seat Fred Schoen in place of Barry Wallet. Peter Tanaka seconded the motion. Vote: Yes ( J. Bulick, P. Tanaka, R. Belair, L. Semprabon, F. Schoen, M. Makuch, B. Rankin) 0 No.**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Due to incompleteness, February 14 minutes will be tabled until next meeting.

**PRESENT TO SPEAK:**

No one present to speak

**NEW BUSINESS:**

***Elected Officials and Commissions***

***0122 Tolland-Mansfield Probate Court District (amount set by formula)***

Request Option 1: \$4,066.86, their fee based on their Grand List + \$530 for security renovations.

Request Option 2: \$3,536.86, their fee based on their Grand List.

The Board of Finance thanks.

***0126 Registrar of Voters***

Suzanne Chapman (Republican Registrar of Voters) and Christine Psathas (Democrat Registrar of Voters) presented their request for \$38,714 (\$5,312 or +15.9% over last year). Most of the increase is from the potential (6) voting events planned for next fiscal year which includes (2) possible municipal primaries that may occur. The 2% wage increase makes up the balance of the increase. The Board thanked Susanne and Christine for their presentation.

***0131 Board of Finance***

The Board deferred discussion of its budget for another time, preferring to here other presenters this evening.

### ***0132 Treasurer***

Tish Ignatowitz (Treasurer) presented her budget for \$33,180 (\$641, or 2% over last year). The increase was solely due to the general wage increase negotiated for Town employees. The Board thanked Tish for her presentation.

### ***0135 Board of Assessment Appeals***

The Board of Finance did not receive any budget recommendations from the Board of Assessment Appeals. The budget line item will remain flat until they hear otherwise.

### ***0161 Conservation Commission***

Peter Andersen (Chair Conservation Commission) presented their budget for \$1,500 (no increase over last year). Peter explained that the funds are used primarily for Park and Open Space management, with some going to programs and outreach and education of commission members. The Board thanked Peter for his presentation.

### ***0171, 0172, 0176 Planning and Zoning, ZBA, IWW***

Walter Parcel presented the budgets for Planning and Zoning, Zoning Board of Appeals, and Inland Wetlands, and Waterways together. The request is for \$129,256, \$4,735, and \$2,000 respectively (no increase over last year). Walter explained how they have contracted out the services of a full time Land Use agent and have hired a part-time Land Use clerk with the goal of the clerk to eventually become a full time agent after completing their training, certifications, and requisite experience. They have reported coverage and enforcement have improved considerably. Randy Belair also reported that there has been much improved cooperation between all Commissions and cited a recent example concerning a foundation replacement issue. All of this is very positive news.

The Board thanked Walter for his presentation.

### ***0175 Economic Development***

Richard Mindek (Chair Economic Development Commission) presented his budget for \$20,000 (\$14,500 over their previous budget of \$5,500). Rich shared expressed his plan to contract out a few hours of professional Economic Development staffing to grow the town's business tax base. Courtney Hendricson (Connecticut Economic Resource Center, Inc.) gave a short presentation to

the board outlining the services her organization (CERC) provides.

The Board thanked both Rich and Courtney for their presentation.

***CT Budget News – Update given by Treasurer Tish***

| Grant:                               | Willington's<br>Approved<br>Budget<br>FY 2018-19 | State of CT<br>Estimated<br>FY 2019 | State of CT<br>Recommended<br>FY 2020 | State of CT<br>Recommended<br>FY 2021 |
|--------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
|                                      | (\$)   | (\$)                                |                                       |                                       |
| ECS Base Entitlement                 | 3,335,459  | 3,353,744                           | 3,394,666                             | 3,273,419                             |
| LoCIP                                | 107,457  | 68,381                              | 58,613                                | 58,613                                |
| Pequot-Mohegan Grant                 | 17,399   | 17,399                              | 17,399                                | 17,399                                |
| PILOT: State -<br>Owned Property     | 24,965   | 24,965                              | 24,965                                | 24,965                                |
| Town Aid Road                        | 258,469  | 258,347                             | 258,347                               | 258,347                               |
| Grants for the<br>Municipal Projects | 20,018   | 20,018                              | 20,018                                | 20,018                                |
| Municipal<br>Stabilization Grant     | 0  | 0                                   |                                       |                                       |
| Total                                | 3,763,767  | 3,923,854                           | 3,774,008                             | 3,652,761                             |

|                     |  |  |        |        |
|---------------------|--|--|--------|--------|
| TRS<br>Contribution |  |  | 32,990 | 68,127 |
|---------------------|--|--|--------|--------|

|   |  |           |           |           |
|---|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| NET TOTAL -<br>Statutory Formula<br>Aid & TRS<br>Contribution |  | 3,923,854 | 3,741,018 | 3,584,634 |
|---|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|

|   |  |  |           |           |
|---|--|--|-----------|-----------|
| Net Change over<br>of CT Estimated<br>FY 2019 |  |  | (182,836) | (339,220) |
|---|--|--|-----------|-----------|

**OLD BUSINESS:**

*Contract negotiations for the school Classified Staff – Meeting #1 starts 7 March.*

*Annual Report is due 28 March, Draft 1 is due 14 March.*

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

Vice Chair Mike Makuch regrets to inform the board that he is not able to attend tonight's meeting as he will be attending the funeral of a fellow first responder, Lt. Heidi Vasseur Vaughan.

**GOOD AND WELFARE:**

Peter Tanaka spoke highly of fellow first responder, Lt. Heidi Vasseur Vaughan, and how she will be missed. The Board expressed their deepest condolences.

**Peter Tanaka moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:54 p.m. Randy Belair seconded the motion. Vote: Yes ( J. Bulick, P. Tanaka, R. Belair, L. Semprabon, F. Schoen, M. Makuch, B. Rankin) 0 No.**

Respectfully submitted,

Guinnevere Almquist, Recording Secretary