

Town of Somers
Board of Finance
Special Meeting Minutes
April 10, 2014

1. Call to Order

Meeting called to order by Chairman J.Persano at approximately 7:00 pm

2. Members Present

T.Mazzoli, S.Krasinski, T.Geib, M.Parker, J.Tolisano and Chairman J.Persano Audience:
L.Pellegrini, First Selectman; D.Palmer, BOE Chairman; B.Boutwell, Business Manger; M.Suffredini,
Superintendent of Schools; Atty Landolino, K.Devlin, BOS; M.Marinaccio, CFO

3. FY 2015 Budget Discussion and Recommendations

S.Krasinski made several suggestions regarding the reallocation of monies, i.e. take \$50,000 from the Board of Education attorney fees and place the monies into the Board of Finance Contingency Account; shifting an operating budget amount of \$105,000 from Board of Education IPads to Capital Improvement; moving \$280,102.00 in excess revenues to the Debt Service Account under a new account labeled Debt Service Reserve to off-set future bond payments.

M.Suffredini, School Superintendent ó defended and justified the allocation of monies within the purview of the BOE vs. BOF and Capitol Improvement. The BOE monies budgeted for attorney fees are utilized for on-going negotiations, litigations and special education litigation and mediations. Multiple attorneys are used for varied cases and situations and the services provided protect both the BOE and Town.

The BOE is committed to having technology as a priority in the budgeting process. M.Suffredini stated that the BOE has not received all of the monies previously allocated within the CIP account and that the BOE should retain control over the expenditure of \$105,000 for IPads vs. the requesting of monies from the BOF. S.Krasinski contradicted stating that last year, \$40,000 was paid from Capitol to BOE and the remainder of the monies were never requested by the BOE. Several BOF members agreed with M.Suffredini that the monies remain the BOE operating budget.

M.Suffredini also stated that the BOE in coming in at a 1.90% increase which is a realistic presentation of expenditures. The only increase has occurred in contractual salaries, insurance and BOE legal.

No action was taken on the recommendations of S.Krasinski relating to the movement of \$50,000 from BOE attorney fees to BOF contingency and \$105,000 IPads to CIP.

The BOF and CFO M.Marinaccio agreed that \$280,102.00 in excess revenues will be moved to the Debt Service account in a new account ó Debt Service Reserve. Motion made, seconded and unanimously approved.

A motion was made, seconded and unanimously voted to put forward the following five components comprising the 2014-2015 proposed budgets: \$7,057,271.00 Town Budget, \$20,744,253.00 BOE, \$300,000 CIP, and \$1,797,409 for Debt Service. The total 2014-2015 Proposed Budget is \$29,898,933.00 in Revenues and \$29,898,933.00 in Expenditures. A zero mil increase is anticipated.

4. Budget Flyer

Motion made by T.Geib, seconded by J.Tolisano and unanimously voted to utilize the same format as utilized last year. J.Persano to meet with CFO M.Marinaccio for development.

5. Former Chief Financial Officer's Position

J.Persano conveyed to the Board that he had been contacted by the Town's labor attorney who advised him to remove this agenda item from discussion by the BOF. Motion made and seconded to remove the item. Discussion of M.Parker questioned whether or not the recommendation to remove the item was in writing by the attorney. Atty Landolino commented that Atty McHale was out of town and he was present to confirm the advice of Atty McHale. M.Parker made a motion to table the item until a written communication was received. A motion was made, seconded and unanimously voted to amend the original motion from removing the item to tabling the item until written communication is received from the Town Labor Attorney.

6. Adjournment

Motion made, seconded and unanimously voted to adjourn the Special Board of Finance Meeting at approximately 8 pm

Respectfully submitted
Ann Marie Logan
Town Clerk

Minutes are not Official until Approved at a Subsequent Meeting