

TOWN OF FRANKLIN

BOARD OF FINANCE (BOF)
FRANKLIN TOWN HALL
7 Meetinghouse Hill Rd.
Franklin, Connecticut

MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday, September 13, 2022
7:00 p.m.

This meeting was held in-person and with connections via ZOOM.

(Minutes are Unapproved). Formal approval takes place at the next Board meeting held and will show changes/ corrections if any)

1. Call to Order: Chairman Richard Handfield called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Members Present: Veronica Calvert, Calli Carboni, Chairman Richard Handfield, Alden Miner, Vice Chairman Richard Weingart. **Alternate Members Present:** Roland Mihok. **Alternate Members Absent:** Jeremy Beisiegel, Melissa McGuire.

Also Present: Charlie Grant, First Selectman, Greg Keith, Principal, Franklin Elementary School.

2. Recognition of Visitors: Chairman Handfield recognized visitors.
3. Additions to the Agenda: None
4. Approval of Minutes:

- a. August 9, 2022 Regular Meeting:

MOTION 1: made by Richard Weingart SECONDED BY Calli Carboni that the Board of Finance approve Meeting Minutes of August 9, 2022 - as presented

VOICE VOTE: UNANIMOUS

MOTION CARRIES

5. Review of Reports:

- a. **Monthly Tax Collection Report:** Kelsey Allard reviewed Tax Collector's report:

AUGUST 2022: \$540,525.26 Taxes Collected

- 57.27% 2021 Grand List Taxes Collected
- 2,166,122.60 Real Estate Taxes collected
- 402,280.14 Personal Property Collected
- 591,114.24 Motor Vehicle Taxes Collected
- 30,080.77 Back Taxes Collected
- 9,865.41 Interest & Lien Fees Collected

- b. **Monthly Board of Selectmen Income Report:** Reports reviewed dated 9.6.22.

All State of Connecticut income has not been received by the Town at this point. BOF asked miscellaneous grants within Town Budget be itemized within the budget showing specific grant-type and associated numbers.

- c. **Monthly Board of Selectmen Expense Report:** Reports reviewed dated 9.6.22.

Items of discussion included, but were not limited to, increased costs for CIRMA insurance, postage, and computer line items. It was explained, Town insurance company did not renew therefore the Town had to obtain a new insurance carrier quickly at an \$800/yr. increase. Postage is increasing due to increased usage by Town Staff and rising USPS costs.

- d. **Monthly Board of Education Report:** Reports reviewed dated 9.6.22.

Items of discussion included, but were not limited to, high percentage of expense early in current fiscal year for school clerk position, custodial services, repairs & maintenance, professional development, and additional staff salaries.

Mr. Keith replied school clerk does much of the work during the summer in preparation for start of school year; repairs/maintenance/custodial services are up at this point due to painting lockers, stripping floors, and cleaning (done in summer months and as a result there are no remaining significant maintenance-upkeep items for the year), EASTCON costs have increased significantly for professional development, and increased student enrollment required hiring new full-time teacher

e. **Monthly Selectman's Report:**

PERSONEL: Mr. Grant noted Senior Center Coordinator is retiring, one Public Works employee will be leaving, Assessor and Building Official are retiring.

WATER/SEWER: Mr. Grant provided expense and income numbers associated to existing water/sewer line running from south end of Route 32 to Murphy Road. Users will eventually grow in number. There have been recent commercial property tie-ins. It is anticipated future tie-ins will supplement tax base for Franklin over a long period of time. BOF spoke out about their concerns of the negatived financial impact that may be felt by Franklin residents if users do not increase and considering the significant length of time it will take to pay down associated debt.

Lengthy discussion took place on action taken by Franklin residents, at a Town Meeting held September 7, 2022, in favor of accepting an Urban Act Grant to extend existing water/sewer line north from Murphy Road to Baltic Road. BOF members are concerned accepting the Urban Act Grant may involve Town of Franklin resident taking on more debt.

Mr. Grant indicated no costs have been incurred for accepting the Urban Act Grant. If received, the grant will cover the cost of extending the water/sewer lines from Murphy Road to Baltic Road.

6. Correspondence: None

7. Old Business: None

8. New Business:

9. Public Comments:

BOF would like to see financial reports showing expenses and income from the beginning of the current water and sewer project as well as the possible expansion to Baltic Road.

10. Adjournment:

MOTION: made by Richard Weingart SECONDED BY Alden Miner that the Board of Finance adjourn the meeting

VOICE VOTE: UNANIMOUS;

MOTION CARRIES

Respectfully submitted,
Sherry Pollard,
Board Secretary