

TOWN OF FRANKLIN

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

MINUTES

Tuesday, October 10, 2023 – 7:00 PM

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

Call to Order: Chairman Richard Handfield called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Members Present: Veronica Calvert, Calli Carboni, Chairman Richard Handfield, Melissa McGuire, Alden Miner, Vice Chairman Richard Weingart

Alternate Members Absent: Jeremy Beisiegel, Roland Mihok

Additions to the Agenda: None

Approval of Minutes:

Commissioner Miner moved to make a motion to approve minutes of September 12, 2023 as presented. Commissioner Weingart seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion Passed.

Review of Reports:

Monthly Tax Collection Report: Kelsey Allard reported:

Sep 2023: Taxes Collected = \$33,351.03

Sep 30, 2023: 2022 Grand List Taxes Collected = 58.54%

Through Sep 30, 2023:

2,190,028.30 Real Estate Taxes Collected
502,958.57 Personal Property Taxes Collected
631,515.05 Motor Vehicle Taxes Collected
26,600.69 Back Taxes Collected
7,500.67 Interest & Lien fees Collected

Monthly Board of Selectmen Income Report: First Selectman Charlie Grant reviewed report dated 10.4.23:

Net Income: 3,387,494.87 Budget: 7,272,530.00
(Jul 23-Jun 24)

Over Budget: -3,885,035.13 % of Budget: 46.6%

Monthly Board of Selectmen Expense Report: First Selectman Charlie Grant reviewed report dated 10.5.23:

Net Income: -1,197,219.00 Budget: -14,657,131.00
(Jul 23-Sep 23)

Over Budget: 13,459,912.00

Monthly Board of Education Financial Report: Superintendent/Principal Gregg Keith reviewed report dated 10.5.23

Net Income: -604,331.20 Budget: -4,365,783.00
(Jul 23-Jun 24)

Over Budget: 3,761,451.80 % of Budget: 13.8%

Monthly Selectman's Report:**ARPA Federal Allocations Report submitted.**

Peter Calvert noted over one-year ago the Town was told BOS would provide funds that would go back to town if ARPA funds were not fully expended. There is a time limit on Federal Expenditures. Mr. Calvert recommend remaining ARPA funds, if any, be used towards tree removal and guardrail replacements on Town roads.

It was also recommended ARPA report be created in the same format as Towns Profit and Loss Statement so it is easier to understand and can be used as a future reference document.

Correspondence: None

Unfinished Business:**First Selectman's Health Insurance Reimbursement Policy & Obtaining Receipts/Invoices for Reimbursements:**

The following has been received: handwritten receipts, actual invoices, and/or cancelled checks, showing First Selectman's Health Insurance reimbursement for FY 2018-2019; 2010-2020; 2020-2021; and 2021-2022 Fiscal Years. Review to continue at November 14, 2023 meeting.

Water/Sewer Extension Project - DEEP Grant:

BOF members expressed disappointment in the lack of communication from the First Selectman regarding the way in which the 5M Grant funds received by the Town for the sewer/water extension from Baltic to Murphy Rd. are being spent on the start of the project.

BOF noted at the Town Meeting held September 7, 2023, the Board of Selectmen implied they would apply for a DEEP Grant for the extension project from Murphy to Baltic Road and inform BOF and residents when such grant was obtained by the Town. BOF noted the grant was received about four months ago and town residents were not informed. While the DEEP grant pays for the water/sewer line completely, it does not provide for the cost to maintain the system for a significant amount of years to come. It was not right that the BOS moved forward without informing residents and asking for permission.

First Selectman Charlie Grant explained written proof was provided to BOF showing Town Counsel confirmed BOS was within the legal process of going to town meeting and asking for residents' approval to seek the grant, and that once grant funds were received BOS could automatically move forward with expending such funds. There was no legal obligation to return to a town meeting to ask permission to expend grant funds received.

New Business: None

Public Comments: None

Adjournment:

Commissioner Weingart moved to make a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:40PM. Commissioner Carboni seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion Passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Sherry Pollard,
Board Secretary