

TOWN OF FRANKLIN

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

MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday, March 8, 2022
7:30 p.m.

1. Call to Order: Chairman Richard Handfield called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

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

Alternate Members Present: Roland Mihok. **Alternate Members Absent:** Jeremy Beisiegel

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

- a. February 8, 2022 Regular Meeting

MOTION 1: made by Richard Weingart SECONDED BY Alden Miner that the Board of Finance approve Meeting Minutes of February 8, 2022 Regular Meeting - as presented

VOICE VOTE: UNANIMOUS;

MOTION CARRIES

5. Review of Reports:

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

February 2022: \$172,901.86 Taxes Collected

- 96.8% 2020 Grand List Taxes Collected
- 3,977,349.72 Real Estate Taxes collected
- 690,775.60 Personal Property Collected
- 527,347.28 Motor Vehicle Taxes Collected
- 64,270.06 Supplemental Motor Vehicle Taxes collected
- 76,777.10 Back Taxes Collected
- 35,299.20 Interest & Lien Fees Collected

- b. **Monthly Board of Selectmen Income Report:** Mr. Grant reviewed the report as submitted.

- c. **Monthly Board of Selectmen Expense Report:** Mr. Grant reviewed his report as submitted. There was discussion on various expense budget line items, including but not limited to:

Giddings Park Tree Removal: assigned contractor, job related activities, town invoices, safety issues and timing of project.

Town Planner Contract: hourly pay structure, meeting attendance, and increased work load. This position includes activities associated to Planning & Zoning, Zoning Board of Appeals, and Inland Wetlands Agent review and Enforcement. Southeast Connecticut Council of Governments sets this position as an hourly salary.

Street lights and signals. location and ownership of street lights/signals. The First Selectman noted some street lights/signals owned by the Town are located at the museum, Tyler Drive, Giddings Park, and the intersection of Rt 32 and Pleasure Hill. First Selectman intends to review budget to be sure funds are being charged to correct line items.

Election Expenses: First Selectman to review budget line item. It was noted, election materials may have been recently purchased.

Maintenance Expenses: Safety items are being updated throughout Town facilities.

- d. **Monthly Board of Education Report:** Amy Konow was present to represent the Board of Education. She noted the FY 2022 Budget is being worked on at this time. Discussion included, but was not limited to, foreign language salary line item is very low, paraprofessionals line item very high at 104%, therapeutic services, tuition-based contracts, and the issue of legal fees running 361% over budget.

Ms. Konow noted the foreign language salary low amount may be a clerical error, paraprofessional line item is over due to requirements of covid compliance, therapeutic services line item will be looked into, and the legal fees line item will be budgeted at a higher number for FY 2022 Budget.

- e. **Monthly Selectman's Report:** Charlie Grant reported Public Works is setting up to start sweeping. Sweeper is shared with the Town of Sprague. Over the rail mowing is being set up. Franklin also shares the mower with Sprague. Salt supply has been increased and numbers are being put together for next year's purchase. Sand supply is good. Franklin will be receiving speed awareness signs shortly. Water/sewer tie-ins are beginning to occur. Town staff is working with Norwich Public Utilities on billing process.

6. Correspondence: None

7. Old Business: None

8. New Business:

- a. Selectman's Insurance Payments:

Discussion included, but was not limited to, health insurance financial mechanism in place for the First Selectman. BOF recommended the Board of Selectmen develop a town policy or ordinance defining health insurance compensation. The First Selectman indicated this subject matter is the responsibility of the Board of Selectman. This issue has been and will continue to be discussed by the Board of Selectman during upcoming monthly meetings.

9. Public Comments: There was review of the upcoming FY 2022-23 Budget Process.

10. Adjournment: The Board of Finance adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Sherry Pollard,
Board Secretary