

BOARD OF FINANCE
PUBLIC HEARING
March 6, 2010

Present: Kenneth Martin; Mark Smith; Andrew Palo; William Crooks; Thomas Tesoro; Steven Lupien and alternate members Alexandra Remson; Dana Misner; Perry Molinoff

This is the second of two public hearings on the First Selectman's Proposed Budget for 2010-2011. This meeting was called to order at 10:10 a.m. in the Madison Middle School. All those present joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

This meeting is specifically for the public to speak generally about the First Selectman's 2010-2011 Proposed Budget. Unfortunately the Board of Finance cannot negotiate with the unions in the town or decide on any construction projects in the town. This is the Board's time to listen to public opinion.

Ralph Monaco – 710 Booth Hill Road...Seniors do not deserve to have their budget cut. They are only tenants in the building; they share with the Nurses, Arts Commission, Social Services. All other area senior centers are for Seniors only.

Dawn Cantafio – 72 Tait Road...Asks that the BOF return education budget to Superintendent's budget. Property values increase with a good school system.

David Weitzman – 209 Fernwood Road...Believes education in Trumbull surpasses most other school systems. The school system should never be underfunded. You only get what you pay for. I encourage the BOF to support the education budget as presented by the Superintendent.

Liz Polzello – 74 Roosevelt Drive...Asks that the BOF restore the education budget.

Eileen Feuerberg – 9 Glen Haven Road...Asks Board to restore education budget as recommended. Help to keep our property values high with good education.

Vicki Tesoro – 133 Beechwood Avenue...Speaks for restoration of Superintendent's budget. The 1.45 million dollar cut by the First Selectman will seriously impact the students. She also asks that the Board review the Special Education transportation account. Also, do not cut the Senior Center budget.

Dennis McLaughlin – 125 Crabapple Road...Ask restoration of education budget.

Tony D'Aquila – 29 Valley View Road...The last election was a significant turning point for the Town of Trumbull. People demanded a change and they got it. Mr. D'Aquila is sick and tired when the BOE fails to maintain their facilities that the town provides them. In replacing these facilities, the town will have to pay three times more than if regular periodic maintenance was performed. The cost of operating town government is too high. We need a systematic transformation of the way the town does business by

reducing the cost and the sizeability. Also, it is very upsetting when an agency of this government comes before you and refuses to answer your direct questions.

Cindy Penkoff – 101 Columbine Drive...Restore the BOE budget. This is strictly about the children. They should not have to suffer. The BOE budget is out of control. Restore this budget for the children.

Steve Castro – 44 Bullfrog Lane...Change has to be long term. Also need to have people who are more efficient. Salaries are all right but the people doing the work are all wrong. Also, everyone should have electronic payments including the summer help. We should not have to pay for a copy of our tax bill. The administration needs to tell Stop & Shop to stop using plastic bags. Pay increase should be reinstated for part-timers.

Kerry McKeegan – 258 Putting Green Road...Leaf pickup does not work. Why not have high school seniors help the seniors as part of the community service they must do to graduate..

Marilyn Lord – Driftwood Lane...restore education budget; support the Senior Center and recycle efforts.

Audrey Pujoris – Jean at the Senior Center does a wonderful job in bringing in money. Leaf pickup and plows do a great job. Think of the Seniors; think of the children.

Richard White – 619 White Plains Road...Every August and September a teacher and classroom is added to accommodate class size. BOE seems to go to great lengths to maintain class size. The First Selectman budget seems to reject their efforts. TAG, AP, after school programs are all important. Request that the BOF full restore BOE budget.

Tim Dolan – 138 Chestnut Hill Road...Chairman of Clean Energy Task Force. They are trying to encourage the town to save on energy usage and take advantage of funding provided by State Federal Programs. In 2005 Town Council passed a resolution obliging the town to become a clean energy community. In order to obtain this status it agreed to purchase 20% of its energy from mobile sources. To fulfill its commitment and qualify as a clean energy community Trumbull would need to make a voluntary purchase of 13% of its clean energy by 2010, the remaining 7% will come automatically from the State's Renewable Portfolio Standard. We recommend that the town purchase Green E Certified Recs. We have assumed a price of \$2 per Rec and the upfront cost will be \$2,860. Therefore, we are requesting that a line item be added to the budget in the amount of \$3,000 to purchase these Recs in order to gain at least 16,000 worth of tangible assets.

Lisa Zelinsky – support Senior Center budget and BOE budget. Wants what is best for the children.

Tammy Belar – Shelton resident - requests restoration of education budget.

Michael Rafferty – restore education budget.

Sliva – 27 Brewster Place...Trumbull has an excellent education system Restore the education budget.

Rose Dial – 9 Clifford Street...If taxes continue to go up will not be able to stay in Trumbull.

Lainie McHugh – Fresh Meadow Road...We have lost our sense of community. Education is the foundation of the community.

Dr. Jason Oberland – 134 Beechwood Avenue...Children should have mandatory after school activities.

Laura Hider – substitute teacher...restore the education budget. We need to combine the two maintenance departments. Board of Education should just concern themselves with the children.

Keith Gafferty – 91 Lake Avenue...Trumbull has a great education system. Restore the education budget.

Kathy McGannon – 59 Jackson Drive...Look at the impact of what is cut. It is going to have devastating impact on education – maybe not this year but years down the line. It takes years to get back what is cut.

Fran Pepurold – 10 Trailwood Lane...You need to consider the students. Restore education budget.

Meeting adjourned at 11:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Bokine, Clerk