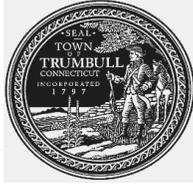


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**FINANCE COMMITTEE BUDGET HEARING  
MINUTES  
March 22, 2010**

The Finance Committee 2010-2011 Budget Hearing of the Town Council was called to order by Chairman Robert Pescatore, Jr. at 7:03 p.m. All present joined in a moment of silence and the pledge of allegiance.

Members Present: Tony Scinto, Debra Lamberti, John DelVecchio, Robert Pescatore, Jr., John Rotondo (arrived at 7:13 p.m.) and Jane Deyoe.

Also Present: Finance Director, Maria Pires.

**Education:**

Superintendent of Schools Ralph Iassogna, Chairman of the Board of Education Mr. Ted Lovely, Assistant Superintendent of Schools Gary Cialfi, Business Administrator Steve Sirico and BoE Director of Technology Jeff Hackett were present to present the Education budget. Also in attendance were Dr. Vespy and several board members.

Mr. Lovely explained that the BoF had voted to restore \$750,000 to the Education budget. Mr. Lovely and Mr. Iassogna explained that the \$750,000 restored will have a big difference in the budget. Mr. Iassogna understood the economic climate and is proud of the Trumbull School System. Currently there are 820 BoE staff positions, 540 of which are teachers, 49 secretaries, 70 custodians and maintenance and the para professionals are rising in number, (the para-professionals are primarily with special needs' students). 26 pink slips have been distributed to teachers to date, CT State Statute requires notice must be given by April 1<sup>st</sup> if there is a possibility of not renewing non-tenure teachers. It is a complex determination process, it decided upon certification and seniority as to who will receive the notice. Mr. Iassogna warned of a funding cliff if the stimulus money goes away, stimulus money was meant to supplement not supplant.

Mr. Lovely explained up to this point in the budget process many "things" have been eliminated from the budget and if the \$750,000 is not restored, there are not many more "things" that could be eliminated. Without the \$750,000 that jeopardizes people/positions. Education ended at 8:00 p.m.

The Chair called a recess at 8:02 p.m.

The Chair called the hearing back to order at 8:06 p.m.

**Technology:** (8:07 p.m.)

Matthew Altieri and Matthew Heffern were present to present the Technology budget. Mr. Altieri explained that Services & Fees contractual equal \$83,810. The department has requested that Capital Outlay be increased \$20,000 representing the 2007 Microsoft licensing agreement. The converter has already been installed, the licensing is necessary for the software, 5 copies has been bid (80 users). The State bid was the winning bid at \$20,000. The department has implemented a 5 yr replacement cycle explaining that corporations use a 3 yr. cycle. The department is currently working with the administration on looking at fiber optic and will be going out to bid. The Director of Technology position still exists although it has been an unfunded position. The department's 2010-2011 objectives are as listed: Microsoft licensing, network – server room redesigned (there are cooling issues) and are running low on electricity. The Chair requested that the Technology infrastructure detail be forwarded to him 30 days from this hearing. Technology ended at 8:30 p.m.

**Emergency Management:** (8:31 p.m.)

Director Lt. Ron Kirby and Deputy Director William Chiarenzelli were present to present the Emergency Management budget. The main function of the department is to prepare for the unknown and to coordinate with the state and implement all mandates. Policies are coordinated with a regional office. They are working with the public works department, a new generator is to come soon. Cots have been received from the state through a grant, there is enough to go to each of the departments, and to take care of people and all of the first responders. The BoF had reduced this budget (salaries overtime) by approximately \$1,000, Lt Kirby stated that overtime had been incurred when a person had been out on medical last year. He would expect that reduction would be fine for the upcoming fiscal year. Emergency Management ended at 8:44 p.m.

**Fire Marshal:** (8:45 p.m.)

Fire Marshal Megan Murphy was present to present the Fire Marshal & Fire Hydrant budgets. Ms. Murphy explained that there are significant construction projects taking place in Trumbull currently, they are as follows: Westfield Expansion, beginning with the dining area first, Home Depot and the Trumbull High school renovation. The department completed 921 inspections last year. They have stepped up the business inspections considerably, therefore reducing the number of calls significantly. The challenge for the department is that have 2 ½ inspectors on staff, there are two full-timers that cover the whole town 24/7. The department needs to replace 2 computer towers; one is 6 years old and the other 7 years old. The department also does a significant amount of printing; the printer is over 9 years old and needs to be replaced. The amount of calls has decreased as a result of the extensive amount of fire preventions programs that are conducted throughout the schools and community.

**Fire Hydrant:** The fire hydrant section of the budget represents a bill from Aquarian and is a non-negotiable item. Fire Marshal & Fire Hydrant ended at 8:53 p.m.

**Town Council:** (8:54 p.m.)

Ms. Pires, Director of Finance was present to present the Town Council Budget. Services & Fees clerical, represents the salary paid to the town council clerk. Acct. # 522202 represents the fee for the audit and acct. #545501 represent all the legal notices published for the town council. Town council ended at 8:55 p.m.

**Trumbull Nature Commission:** (8:56 p.m.)

Ms. Pam Georgas was present to present the Trumbull Nature Commission. The enrollment has tripled to date. The Nature Commission has expanded school programs, special needs programs have been added, a playground had been donated and installed, and have received a \$10,000 grant from the U.I. for the solar panels, which will be installed on their building. There is \$3,000 for general maintenance but is combined with general maintenance out of the public works budget Trumbull Nature Commission ended at 8:59 p.m.

**Ethics Commission:** (9:00 p.m.)

Ms. Pires, Director of Finance was present to speak to this account. This represents clerical only, notice of meetings and minutes by the clerk (Ethics Commission ended at 9:01 p.m.)

**First Selectman:** (9:02 p.m.)

First Selectman Timothy Herbst was present to present this budget. The objective is to prepare and approve a fiscally responsible 2010-2011 budget while maintaining services for all residents.

Mr. DelVecchio left the hearing.

The First Selectman salary represents a 3% decrease; the office staff reduced a full time position to a part time position. Gratis health insurance policies was removed from the town

Mr. DelVecchio returned to the hearing at 9:03 p.m.

First Selectman Herbst added that bringing the town's technology to current standards is on-going; the GIS system is on its way currently. First Selectman ended at 9:05 p.m.

**Probate:**

Ms. Pires, Director of Finance was present to speak to this account. 53.6% of Probate funding is Trumbull's share, which equals \$13,309.

Probate ended at 9:06.p.m.

**Elections:** (9:06 p.m.)

Mr. William Holden Registrar was present to present the Elections budget. Mr. Holden explained this budget is comprised of 2 part time registrars and 2 part time assistant registrars. There are 7 districts represented in local elections while there are 10 districts at the state and federal level. Additional personnel are needed on all election days; that number fluctuates depending which type of election it is. The increase represented in the budget is due to computer glitch in the Munis system, it had dropped a number (\$42,195) the BoF identified the glitch and restored it to the services & fees ancillary line item. Elections ended at 9:21 p.m.

**Finance:** (9:21 p.m.)

Ms. Pires, Director of Finance was present to present the Finance budget. The department consists of 9 employees total, there are currently two vacancies included in the total. Ms. Pires will be restructuring the department; combining the 2 vacancies and the public works controller and as upcoming retirements takes place the department will further its restructuring. This will result in an approximate \$25,000 reduction. Finance ended at 9:26 p.m.

**Board of Finance:** (9:26 p.m.)

Ms. Pires, Director of Finance was present to present the Board of Finance budget. This budget represents a full time internal auditor and clerical fees. Board of Finance ended at 9:27 p.m.

**Board of Assessment Appeals:** (9:27 p.m.)

No one present to speak to this item.

**Purchasing:** (9:28 p.m.)

Ms. Pires, Director of Finance was present to present the Purchasing budget. This department includes one full time position, legal notices, professional development and assn. dues. Purchasing ended at (9:28 p.m.)

**Human Resources:**

The Chair noted that Ms. Meier had forwarded all requested information to the committee prior to this meeting.

**Employee Benefits:** (9:29 p.m.)

Ms. Pires, Director of Finance was present to present the Employee Benefits budget. This represents a projected increase to the pension noting that this was a good step for the town.

There being no further business to discuss upon motion made by Mr. DeVecchio, Jr., seconded by Ms. Deyoe the Finance Committee 2010-2011 Budget Hearing of the Town Council adjourned by unanimous consent at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Margaret Mastroni,  
Town Council Clerk