BOARD OF FINANCE

Town Hall
5866 Main Street
Trumbull, Connecticut 06611

Board of Finance/Finance Board of the Town Council Meeting
Council Chambers, Trumbull Town Hall
Public Hearing
Approved Minutes
March 12, 2026
7:00 pm

Call To Order
Board of Finance Chair, Ms. McHugh, opened the Public Hearing at 7:00 pm followed by a moment of silence. Encouraged attendees to sign up to speak on any topic in the budget.

Present

Board of Finance
Lainie McHugh, Chair
Paul Timpanelli
David Galla
David Pia
Massimo Mallozzi
Michael Colohan
Nathan Tinker
Vincent DeGennaro

Finance Committee of the Town Council
Nicole Satin
Mary Isaac

Also Present
Maria Pires, Director of Finance
Kathleen McGannon, Chief Administrative Officer
Cindy Katske – Chief Administrative Officer

Ms. McHugh opened the meeting by reading the procedures for the Public Hearing. Trumbull residents are allowed to speak. Encouraged everyone to speak on anything in the budget. Each speaker is required to state name, full address and will be given three minutes to address the Board of Finance. As of tonight, there have been no cuts to the education budget. The Board of Education budget is looked at as a line item in the overall Town budget. Once the final allocation is given to the Board of Education, the Town Council, Board of Finance, and First Selectman have no control over any line item or how the money is allocated. Remain active in the process and let the Board of Education know what your priorities are, as well.

Electra Ferriello, 138 Putting Green Road

- Hopes the Town Council and the BOF will provide a higher allocation to next year's budget.
- Fears the impact on students with the proposed cuts.
- Hopes the decision will be to increase the budget.

Charly Misner, 73 Stoneleigh Road

- Asked for support with no changes.
- Student at Hillcrest and is worried what will happen if the after school activities are cut.
- Wants basketball to stay.

Jennifer Claydon, 232 Beacon Hill Road

- Agrees with Electra and also supports the basketball program.
- Spoke regarding the staff and administrations expertise.
- Spoke regarding the proposed cuts to afterschool programs.
- Urged the Board to strongly consider approving the proposed BOE budget.

Kathryn Psarofagis, 24 Topaz Lane

- Would be happy if the Board went up a little bit in their budget approval.

Tina Facey, 16 Settlers Ridge Road

- Spoke on her reasons for moving to Town.
- Feels cuts to the budget will not maintain the current level of teaching.
- Urged the Board to consider increasing the funding for the schools.

Kate Engeldrum, 58 Inca Drive

- Fully supports the proposed budget presented by the BOE.
- Spoke on Special Education programs.
- Supports the budget even if it necessitates a tax increase. Cutting would be a short-sighted move.

Tyler Page, 29 Sunset Avenue

- Supported what prior speakers said.
- Spoke on reasons for moving to Town.

Lauren Amiott, 66 Kent Lane

- Echoes everything prior speakers said.
- Is in full support of the budget.
- Spoke on Special Education programs.

Sara Fallon, 62 Saxony Drive

- Spoke on reasons for moving to Town.
- Requested the Board fully fund the proposed budget.

Bolu Adewumi, 35 Enclave Drive

- Spoke on reasons for moving to Town.
- Spoke on Special Education programs.
- Urged the Board to fund the proposed budget.

Denis Shpits, 32 Edinburg Lane

- Requested the school budget to be fully funded even if it raises taxes.
- Spoke on Special Education programs and SEPTA.
- Consider the potential effects of the cuts by not funding the schools.

Karen Rupp, 50 Colony Avenue

- Spoke on the values of education, retention of staff and student impact.

- Urged the budget be fully funded for the schools.

Rachelle Giordano, 11 Winhall Lane
- Spoke about following the budget process; current budget request addresses modest investment.
- Urged the Board to fully support the BOE request.

George Matthew, 22 Stella Street
- Spoke about Special Education and the quality of the school system.
- Urged the Board to fund the proposed BOE budget as it is fully aligned with the vision necessary to keep the school working at the same level.

Dana Lamber-Monaco, 212 Sterling Road
- Spoke as a senior citizen with an adult special needs child looking to leave Trumbull. Retrofit home to accommodate needs.
- Cannot afford a tax increase. Will be forced to leave.
- Tax increase would not allow families who want to live here, to be able to purchase homes.

Camilla Bork, 1435 Huntington Turnpike
- Spoke on the school system and support given to her children.
- Is sympathetic with those opposed to the tax increase, but fully supports the funding of the proposed budget.

Sara Boras, 25 Doris Street
- Advocate for the schools; need to access programs.
- Urged the BOF to fund the BOE budget.

Melissa Farrow, 59 Barnswallow Drive
- Spoke of reasons for moving to Trumbull.
- Urged the Board to fully fund the proposed budget. Closing school early and cancelling programs would be devastating.

Jessica Miller, 79 N. Stowe Place
- Spoke of reason for moving to Trumbull.
- Requested the Board fully fund the proposed BOE budget as it stands.

Dana Aponte, 29 Horseshoe Drive
- Advocate for approving the BOE budget.

Dan Geraghty, 4 Merrill Road
- Spoke on the school system and the impacts of cuts.
- Increase taxes; would like the Board to exceed the request of the BOE.

Irene Diciccio, 42 Skating Pond Road
- Please fund the BOE budget.
- Spoke on Special Education programs.
- Consider the 4% increase and the impact it will have on the children.

Jenny Zambrano, 32 Edinburg Lane
- Spoke on Special Education programs.
- Do not sacrifice quality but start a blueprint of what we want in our community.

Katie Lynch, 130 Oldfield Road
- Spoke on staff cuts
- Losing teachers means losing experience

ChouChou Tackie, 82 Francis Street
- Echoed what prior speakers said.
- Spoke of the great Trumbull schools and her experience in the corporate world with regard to the loss of experience.
- It is imperative to approve the BOE budget.
- Suggested forums to come up with solutions to the funding problem.

Laura Arena, 15 Old Coach Lane
- Noted most people at the meeting are asking for support for the BOE budget.
- Willing to increase taxes to have the school system we want to have.
- Encouraged the Board to increase the funding for the BOE.

Carla Psarofagis, 16 Wendover Road
- Spoke on the school system with regard to staff, teachers.
- Does not want higher taxes but fully supports the BOE budget.

Evan Farr, 105 Twitchgrass Road
Ms. McHugh acknowledged his statement and noted the following:
- Expressed concern about the accumulating tax pressure on the residents over the next several years.
- Be aware of a 4% increase in this year's budget.
- 10-15% residential tax-burden shift due to revaluation.
- Anticipating 2% per year in baseline cost growth.
- Significant additional increases required to cover long-term debt service associated with the capital plan.

Ms. McHugh noted several other emails were received by the Board from residents.

Sarah Hart, 72 Colony Avenue
- Spoke on reasons for moving to Trumbull.
- Spoke about her concern for the teachers.
- Raise taxes to secure our children's futures.

Alanna Stein, 32 Finchwood Drive
- Fully supports the BOE budget.

Vickie Tola-Shelby, 112 Hilltop Drive
- Spoke about the teachers.
- Increase taxes if necessary.

Stacey Powell, 112 Teller Road
- Costs are high and everyone is spread thin.
- Fully fund the BOE budget to continue to provide the great education in Trumbull.

Stacey Zarrelli, 210 Beacon Hill Road
- Spoke on the Special Education programs.

- Fully supports the BOE budget.

Seeing no additional speakers, Ms. McHugh closed the hearing at 8:41 pm. The next Public Hearing will be held on Saturday, March 21 at 10:00 am at Madison Middle School.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Crandall
Acting Clerk