

**BOARD OF FINANCE  
Public Budget Hearing  
April 14, 2020**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Lainie McHugh called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.. via zoom virtual on-line conference. All those present joined in the Pledge of Allegiance. The Chair asked that we join in a moment of silence; our hearts go out to Therese Keegan, our internal auditor, who lost her husband suddenly on Sunday, those in our community taken by Covid-19, and those who need our prayers for healing.

**ATTENDANCE**

Members present / absent from the Board of Finance:

**PRESENT**

Michael Barker  
Elaine Hammers  
Marty Isaac  
Lainie McHugh  
Steve Choi  
Paul Timpanelli  
Marc Mascola – Alternate  
Christine El Eris – Alternate

**ABSENT**

Vincent DeGennaro – Alternate

Also present:

Kathleen McGannon, Chief Administrative Officer; Cynthia Katske, Chief Administrative Officer; Daniel Schopick, Esq., Town Attorney.

Before we start, I want to acknowledge the numerous e-mails received in support of the BOE budget and the specific line items such as kindergarten paraprofessional support and TAG program.

Danielle Troy  
Kimberly Moore  
Anne Meyer Rosa  
Sofia Gulino  
Cara Logan  
Laura Yarusavage  
Michele Molloy  
Jacqueline Blackmore  
Ann Martorana

Paige Adamsky  
Jennifer Crawford  
Matthew Bracksieck  
John Mastrianni  
Mary Santilli  
Pete Yarusavage  
Sara Barthel  
Laura Coughlin  
Liz Parenzan

Beth Byers  
Amanda Cook  
Rachel Dustin  
Kory Buswell  
Deidre Cerulli  
Courtney Forde  
Ruth Fontilla  
Emma Balter

Thank you for your comments, all of which have been forwarded to the full board.

We, as a whole, find ourselves in unprecedented times. In the best of times, it is challenging to balance the wants and needs of our community with our ability to pay for them. I want to remind all, that by state statute, the BOF only decides on the total allocation that we can afford to give to the BOE. We have no control over how the BOE will choose to use that money. You will need to remain involved to ensure they spend your tax dollars in a manner that reflects how you wish our school system to look both in regards to curriculum and staffing.

Unfortunately, the town is in a far different place than even 6 weeks ago when the FS delivered her budget to our board. We find ourselves facing potentially significant revenue shortfalls. Many of the issues and impact to the economy are unknown at this time, yet, we will need to plan for them responsibly. Please know, that while I cannot speak for the entire board, I can assure you we hear your concerns and will do our best to see that we weather this storm and come out on solid footing.

Tonight is another opportunity for us to hear your concerns regarding the 2020-21 fiscal budget. Please make sure that your comments are related to the budget and kindly limit to 3 minutes. Board members will not directly respond to your comments during this hearing.

You may request to speak by "raising your hand" using the button at the bottom of your screen. If you are joining us by telephone, you may raise your hand using \*9.

Those who raise their hands will be automatically placed in Queue and called in order. When invited to speak, you will need to click on the un-mute request that pops up on the screen. If you are on the phone, you will use \*6.

Please clearly state your name and address for the record.

John Matrianni  
TEA president

Comment: Please do not cut the Board of Ed request.

Sara Goeprfrich  
105 Saxony Drive

Comment: Please do not cut the Board of Ed request.

Jennifer Burke  
40 Highridge Rd

Comment: Please do not cut the Board of Ed request.

Joe Martini  
16 Solar Ridge Rd

Comment: Please do not cut the Board of Ed request.

Frank Squicciamaro  
15 Echo Hill Rd

Comment: Please do not cut the Board of Ed request.

Sara Harper  
4858 Madison Ave

Comment: Please do not cut the Board of Ed request.

Ruth Fontilla  
42 Lewis Street

Comment: Please do not cut the Board of Ed request.

Kathleen Fearon  
38 Sherman Ave

Comment: Please do not cut the Board of Ed request.

April Lang  
5584 Main Street

Comment: Please do not cut the Board of Ed request.

Ann Marie Astiles  
20 Mulberry Street

Comment: Please do not cut the Board of Ed request. (via chat message feature. Unable to connect via audio)

By unanimous consent the meeting adjourned at 7:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:



Phyllis C. Collier – Board of Finance Clerk