

**TOWN OF SOMERS
BOARD OF FINANCE
July 27, 2020
7:00 PM
Lower Level Conference Room**

1. Call To Order

Kathy Devlin called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm.

2. Members Present

In attendance were Michael Parker, Kathy Devlin, Joe Tolisano, and Bill Meier. Also, in attendance was CFO Michael Marinaccio, Assistant Finance Director Brian Wissinger, Superintendent Brian Czapla, and First Selectman Bud Knorr.

3. BOE Update

Superintendent Brian Czapla updated the Board on their current, subject to change, re-opening plans. The Board of Education's plans were submitted to the State of Connecticut on July 24. It includes 3 different plans and a final plan has not been decided yet. Joe Tolisano complimented the Superintendent on the plan and thinks it is a solid plan all around.

4. Selectmen's Update

First Selectman Bud Knorr addressed the Board on a recent issue involving salary administration. Bud Knorr stated that he will return any raise that was given to him and any bonus that was given to him.

Bill Meier questioned the regular salary line item and why there was no increase in that line item though there were salary increases for the employees in that line item. Meier also is concerned with a lack of transparency and is concerned that this is a conflict of interest.

Mike Marinaccio replied that the budget was created and approved on all of the proper levels.

Kathy Devlin wants more detail in the future so that the Board has a better understanding of the budget.

Michael Parker stated that he feels there has been a reduction in the information that the Board of Finance has received over the years in regards to the budget.

Kathy Devlin asked about transfers and the frequency of them.

5. CFO Update

Brian Wissinger updated the Board on the end of Fiscal Year numbers and anticipated a \$640k return to fund balance for year ending June 30, 2020. Wissinger also updated the Board on the various State grants monies received during the year.

Bill Meier asked about an overage in General Government.

Kathy Devlin asked about the PILOT payment.

Marinaccio informed the Board that the tax department has collected just over \$10 million for Fiscal Year 2021. The Town is just behind last year's collection rate which can be attributed to COVID-19. Marinaccio gave the Board an update on the bonding calendar and the status of the bond issuance in October. The anticipated cash amount for bonding is \$9.5 million. There is an anticipated premium of \$750k.

Meier asked why we would take such a large premium.

Tolisano asked about BAN issuance. Marinaccio clarified that BANs have been issued and this bond issuance will be to finance the BANs long-term.

6. Transfers/Appropriations

Meier raised some questions in regards to transfers. Meier read a draft letter to the Board.

Bill Meier made a motion to send the letter read to the Board of Selectmen, seconded by Kathy Devlin.

There was much discussion about the requests made in the letter and how the Board would like to handle the issue.

Michael Parker made a motion to amend the motion on the floor to defer action on the letter until after the First Selectman has provided his explanation, seconded by Joe Tolisano. The vote was 2-2; Joe Tolisano and Michael Parker voted yes. Bill Meier and Kathy Devlin voted no. The motion failed.

The original motion was called to vote.

Bill Meier withdrew his original motion, seconded by Kathy Devlin.

Bill Meier made a motion to table the proposed transfers until a later meeting, seconded by Michael Parker. There was no discussion and a unanimous decision followed.

7. Other Business

There was no other business.

8. Approval of Minutes

There was no vote on the minutes as there was no voting majority available for either set of minutes.

9. Adjournment

Michael Parker made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 pm, seconded by Joe Tolisano. There was no further discussion and a unanimous decision followed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brian Wissinger

MINUTES ARE NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVAL AT A SUBSEQUENT MEETING

Video of this meeting can be found at

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCitLJypaGg5rGsVVbsUYK8A>