



STATE OF CONNECTICUT – COUNTY OF TOLLAND
INCORPORATED 1786

TOWN OF ELLINGTON

55 MAIN STREET – PO BOX 187
ELLINGTON, CONNECTICUT 06029-0187
www.ellington-ct.gov

BOARD OF FINANCE

JOHN P. RACHEK
Chairman

PEGGY BUSSE
DOUGLAS B. HARDING
DAVID J. OLENDER
BARRY C. PINTO
JOSEPH WEHR

PUBLIC HEARING MAY 12, 2020 MINUTES

Members Present: John Rachek-Chairman, Barry Pinto, Present via Zoom-Peg Busse, Douglas Harding, David Olender, Joseph Wehr

Others Present: Lori Spielman-First Selectman, Tiffany Pignataro-Finance Officer, Selectman Ronald Stomberg; Present via Zoom-Selectman Melinda Ferry, Felicia LaPlante-Asst. Finance Officer, Kevin Kenzenkovic-Temp Finance Officer, Joy Hollister-Human Svs Director, Erin Graziani-Sr. Center Dir, Dustin Huguenin-P&R Director, Mary Bartley-Asst. Dir Recreation, Lisa Houlihan-Town Planner, Susan Phillips-Library Director, Mary Blanchette-Library Board, Timothy Webb-DPW Director, EVFD Chief Jack Rich II, Elizabeth Feldman, Thomas Adams, CLFD Chief Timothy Seitz, EVAC President Peter Hany, Dr. Scott Nicol-Supt of Schools, Brian Greenleaf-Dir. Finance & Opers., Noreen Shugrue, Thomas Palshaw, Julia Connor-Exec. Asst., Lori Smith-Recording Secretary

Call to Order

Chairman John Rachek opened the hearing at 8:00 PM.

Mr. Rachek stated that the budget as published in the legal notice has not been approved yet and it is still being developed. He reviewed the published budget. The Board of Education budget is \$40,691,036 representing a 2.9% increase; General Government is \$21,690,435 representing a 14% increase due to the WPCA being included in the budget beginning this year as directed by the auditors. Funding for the WPCA budget comes from the users. The Capital Outlay budget is \$1,539,870 representing a decrease of 27%. The total budget as presented is \$63,921,341 or an increase of 1.32% after removing the WPCA. The increase in the grand list is 1.27% which leaves a mill rate to fund this at 33.6 mills which is a 1 mill increase over this year. The Finance Office, Board of Education and town staff have worked on reductions to bring this budget in at zero mill increase. On Thursday at budget deliberations the Board of

Finance will bring this budget to a zero mill increase. He thanked the departments for helping to come in with the zero increases and reductions to make this possible.

He then opened it up to questions. There were no specific questions. Dr. Nicol, Superintendent of Schools stated that there were tough decisions made to come to this budget and the he recognized the great partnership between the Town and the Board of Education. He was aware that there were a significant amount of sacrifices made on both sides. The Windermere Building Project is being held back in consideration of taxpayers at this time. The itemized reductions unanimously approved by the Board of Education last week was \$1.33 million and he is confident that the quality of the education will be held. He stated that taxpayers should be proud of their elected officials and staff.

MOVED (HARDING) SECONDED (BUSSE) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING AT 8:25 PM.

MOVED (PINTO) SECONDED (HARDING) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted:



Lori Smith, Recording Secretary