



## THE TOWN OF WOODBRIDGE BOARD OF FINANCE MEETING MINUTES THURSDAY, MARCH 2, 2023 6:00 PM

A virtual Board of Finance Meeting for the Town of Woodbridge was held on Thursday, March 2, 2023 via WebEx at 6:00 pm

Link to YouTube recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lcx3Y4DNTYo&t=2s>

**BOF PRESENT:** Chairman, Matthew Giglietti; Vice Chair, Susan Jacobs; Tom Handler;  
Dwight Rowland; Ellen Scalettar

**ALSO PRESENT:** First Selectman, Beth Heller; Administrative Officer / Director of Finance, Anthony Genovese, Assistant Administrative Officer, Karen Crosby

Chairman Matthew Giglietti called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

Matt reported that the Board of Selectmen recommended a budget of \$57,012,678 which would have a mill rate of 45.95 a 4.98% tax increase. Matt reported that he spoke to Tony and asked him to take a look at some accounts like electric and some other accounts. The sheet of additional recommendations would result in a 3.38% tax increase. Tony also reported that we are using the budget process to appropriate the ARPA funds. Originally the funds were for projects in the business district but the Board of Selectmen is now recommending that \$1,000,000 be split among three other projects.

Items on the list were:

Revenue - Interest Income

A possible future adjustment could be the building permits due to the Toll brothers project

Capital Budget:

Road Work, Bridge & Waterways, Equipment Repair, Equipment Reserve

Operating Budget:

Woodbridge Bd of Ed - \$208,240

Police Officer - \$105,000

Town Healthcare - \$20,000

Retiree Healthcare - \$10,000

Amity Bd of Ed - \$122,746

Town Clerk – General Prof Svc - \$2,000

Info Systems – Phone/Internet - \$4,000

Contingency - \$25,000

Animal Control - \$3,000

Recreation – Part Time Seasonal - \$20,000

Fire Dept – Repair & Maint – Equip - \$5,000

Fire Dept – Electric- \$4,000

Fire Dept – Capital - \$3,000

Fire Dept – Tires - \$2,000

Fire Dept – Gear - \$5,000

Discussion on the Woodbridge Bd of Ed reduction \$75,000 for STEAM teacher and a para and healthcare and payroll taxes, plus an additional \$50,000. The Board would like more information regarding the discussion regarding the amount added back to the budget by the Board of Education.

Susan asked about the staffing levels of pre-COVID and what they are now. Tony stated that on the Town side, we are getting back to pre-COVID levels.

Ellen asked if more information regarding the dollars that the Board of Education added to the budget. The reduction of the requested additional police officer was discussed. Ellen suggested the Board look at the other items as these are the big items before the Board.

Ellen asked Tony to get some numbers regarding the fitness center – cost and enrollment. Matt stated that the Board can't tell Recreation what programs to run. We can cut them a certain amount and they can cut where they want and run the programs they want.

Tom stated that he thinks the Board would like more information regarding the Beecher budget and the Amity budget, and information regarding the fitness center.

Discussion on the Town fitness center or use the JCC that has better equipment and trainers available. The Amity Board of Ed has not approved their budget so the number with Amity may change due to what the Amity Finance Committee has recommended.

Tom asked Matt if the Woodbridge Board of Selectmen or Board of Finance has given a certain percentage increase for Amity. Matt said that it is up to the Amity Finance Committee to come up with the recommendation.

Matt asked Tony to get more information for the next meeting on the road paving budget, the WBOE budget and the amount that the board of education added, as well as the number of positions the WBOE added last year, the fitness center information including how many paying members there are.

Tony informed the board that a \$900,000 decrease gets to 3% tax increase, \$1.4M decrease gets a 2% tax increase and a \$1.8M decrease gets a 1% tax increase.

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Crosby

Karen Crosby  
Assistant Administrative Officer