



# THE TOWN OF WOODBRIDGE BOARD OF FINANCE MEETING MINUTES THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2023

A Virtual Board of Finance Meeting for the Town of Woodbridge using Webex was held on Thursday, February 16, 2023 at 6:00 pm

Link to YouTube recording: <https://youtube.com/live/2JdCXrJm3fE?feature=share>

**PRESENT: BOF PRESENT:** Chairman, Matthew Giglietti; Vice Chairman, Susan Jacobs Tom Handler;  
Donavon Lofters; Ellen Scalettar

**ALSO PRESENT:** First Selectman, Beth Heller; Administrative Officer/Director of Finance,  
Anthony Genovese; Gaye Mastrianna

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

## PUBLIC COMMENTS - None

## ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER / DIRECTOR OF FINANCE REPORT

Tony reported on revenues and expenditures through January, 31, 2023 with an estimated year end budget surplus of 650,000 which is roughly 14.6% of the fund balance. Interest income alone makes up 300,000. We are at a rate of 4.5% which should stay at this rate for some time.

## **Revenue**

Intergovernmental revenue had a slight surplus of 23,000, due to additional state municipal revenue of 180,000, however, there is a shortfall in special education excess cost, which essentially cancel each other out. We received 23,000 in opioid settlement funds. First settlement was for manufacturers, the second was distributors, and a third settlement from pharmacies. The funds need to be used for opioid treatment, and awareness programs. Human Services is looking into ways to use these funds.

**Expenditures** We are doing well with the natural gas expenditures. The rate has increased; however, the usage is much lower due to the warmer weather. The current rate is locked in for 30 months.

Waste Management - We are still in a deficit of about 50,000 due to increased cost of the solid waste tonnage, however, it is mostly due to recycling. We pay 99.00 a ton to get rid of our recycling. The old rate was 37.00 a ton. Costs continue to increase as the state struggles keeping recycling plants opened. Our contract runs through 2024.

Amity - Amity has a surplus of 363,000 from 6-30-22 due to, approved budget being 134,000 higher than what was voted on, and secondly, they will be reducing one of our payments by the surplus amount of 230,000.

Governor's budget update - We are up a few hundred thousand dollars due to increase in motor vehicle grant. As mill rate increases the grant increases to offset the difference. We have received 1,000,000 and this

has increased to 1,300,000. Also, there is a 120,000 Municipal Stabilization grant of 120,000 which has been changed to a revenue sharing account, which means that we would receive the funding if the state is doing well.

WBOE – financial report. Reported in liaison reports.

**Funding requests**

<b>2223-19</b>	Allocation .....	<b>\$61,365</b>
TO:	CNR – Pool and Gym	302-5150/57410/filter
FROM:	Recreation PT Seasonal	17,000 1510-00/50320
	Pool & Gym PT Maintenance	21,365 1515-00/50330
	Pool & Gym Maintenance supplies	8,000 1515-00/55130
	CNR Pool & Gym Improvements	15,000 302-5150/57500/POOL

Motion by Matthew Giglietti and second by Ellen Scalettar to approve funding request as presented.

Vote: Aye: Giglietti, Scalettar, Jacobs, Lofters, Handler  
 Naye: None

**FIRST SELECTMAN’S REPORT**

Beth reported that she was pleased that the Board of Selectman voted unanimously to approve the funds to replace the pool filters as a line item transfer within the Recreation Commission’s budget. She commented that the Beecher Road School pool is an asset to our community providing a vast range of programs for the community. The pool provides a recreational outlet and opportunity for the continued health and well-being of all community members.

Beth reported that she was asked by the Woodbridge Board of Education chair, Lynn Piascyk to appoint a member of the Board of Selectman and a member of the Board of Finance to the newly created Beecher Road School, “Enrollment, Instructional Needs, and Space Planning Ad Hoc Committee”, to review and address the implications of increasing enrollment at the school. She has asked BOF member Susan Jacobs, and BOS member Joe Crisco to join this committee. The committee will also consist of a cross section of district projections, programmatic and instructional needs, and staffing configurations. They will make a report to the Woodbridge Board of Education, at its September meeting.

Beth reported the Ad Hoc Dispatch Committee for the Police and Fire Departments continues to work with our consultant Michael Boucher. The District Animal Control has regional services (Woodbridge, Bethany and Seymour) and there is momentum to regionalize the Town’s emergency dispatch services, so this committee will begin to explore regional options. Beth is also putting together a small committee to review potential consultants to assist the BOS with a review of the plan for a proposed RFP for the former CCW property. This group will be made of Selectman David Vogel and Paul Kuriakose, Tony Genovese, and Beth Heller.

Final notes – the Preliminary Budget Hearing will be at the Amity High School Auditorium on April 24<sup>th</sup> and the Annual Town Meeting will be at the Amity High School Auditorium on May 15, 2023 – both starting at 7:30 p.m.

### **LIASON REPORTS**

Matthew Giglietti reported on the Amity budget. Orange has reported that they will support a .4% increase and Bethany will support a 0% increase, so it looks like the budget will be adjusted, and not do well at referendum. Dr. Byars reported that the 20% of Orange 8<sup>th</sup> graders were not attending Amity, therefore increasing the Woodbridge portion, having to make up the difference. He will keep us posted on where this goes. Donovan Lofters reported on the Amity audit. The Amity surplus is 711,000 which will be taken by the towns as a credit to their allocations. He also commented that the self-insurance was discussed. At year end Amity had a 12% reserve, and the auditors suggest having a 25% reserve, which is 3 months of unclaimed expenses.

Tom Handler reported that the Woodbridge Board of Education Finance committee projected a surplus of 340,000, The Superintendent is asking the board to vote on transferring 77,000 to get behavioral technicians. These would be from an outside service, due to not being able to hire adequate teaching assistants for the classrooms. This would leave a 260,000 projected surplus. They continue to work on the budget. He commented that the new superintendent seems to be working very well with the Board of Education.

The Board of Finance voted (Giglietti/Handler) unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 6:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gaye Mastrianna

Gaye Mastrianna  
Payroll and Benefits Admin.