



THE TOWN OF WOODBRIDGE BOARD OF FINANCE MEETING MINUTES THURSDAY, APRIL 20, 2023

A Virtual Board of Finance Meeting for the Town of Woodbridge using Webex was held on Thursday, APRIL 20, 2023, at 6:00 pm

Link to YouTube recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gXbLEA92Uwk>

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

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

Chairman Matthew Giglietti called the meeting to order at 6:11 pm

PUBLIC COMMENTS – NONE

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER/DIRECTOR OF FINANCE REPORT

Tony reported on revenues and expenditures through March 2023, with an estimated year end budget surplus of \$816,067. The current Town budget includes an allocation from fund balance of 400,000. Increase to fund balance at year end is projected to be \$416,067. Fund balance at 6/30/23 is estimated to be \$8 million dollars, or 14.93% of annual expenses.

REVENUES –

Interest income – due to increasing rates, interest income is projected to generate a surplus of \$340,000. The interest rate on our earnings is currently 4.95%. When the budget was adopted in May, the rate was 0.80%.

Intergovernmental Revenue – Intergovernmental revenue is projected to generate a surplus of \$33,092. The Town received \$183,037 from the State of Connecticut MRSA (municipal revenue sharing account). This was not anticipated during the budget process. There is an anticipated shortfall of \$194,000 in special education excess cost grant funds reported by the Woodbridge Board of Education. The Town received \$23,456 in opioid settlement funds.

EXPENSES

Finance Department – Due to staff reorganization, the finance department is projected to experience a surplus of \$17,000.

Building Official – The building official is projected to experience a surplus of \$15,000 primarily due to savings in part time wages.

Waste Management – Waste Management is projected to experience a deficit of approximately \$40,000. This is due to both the solid waste tonnage and recycling, due to tip fees. Solid waste tonnage disposed at the transfer station is increasing compared to our budget estimate. The town charges a fee to offset this cost when delivered by haulers. Recycling costs have also increased due to tip fee increases. The recycling tip fee depends on the market for recycled products, which has significantly deteriorated.

HUMAN SERVICES – Human Services is projected to experience a surplus of \$10,000 due to savings in part time wages.

AMITY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT – Amity Regional School District budget will experience a surplus of \$363,043 for two reasons. Two failed referenda – the Town will contribute \$134,046 less to Amity in fiscal year 2023, than budgeted. The March payment was reduced by an additional \$228,997 which represents Woodbridge’s portion of Amity’s fiscal year 2022 surplus.

Funding request

2223-25 Allocation **\$22,000.00**
Request for funding to – Natural Gas

Motion by Matthew Giglietti and second by Tom Handler, to approve funding request as presented.

Vote: Aye: Giglietti, Scalettar, Jacobs, Lofters, Handler, Rowland

Naye: None

Funding request

2223-26 Allocation **\$55,000.00**
Request for funding to – Center Building project

Motion by Matthew Giglietti and second by Dwight Rowland, to approve funding request as presented.

Vote: Aye: Giglietti, Scalettar, Jacobs, Lofters, Handler, Rowland

Naye: None

Funding requests

2223-27 Allocation **\$4957.40**
Request for funding (donation) – for two benches

Motion by Matthew Giglietti and second by Donavon Lofters, to approve funding request as presented.

Vote: Aye: Giglietti, Scalettar, Jacobs, Lofters, Handler, Rowland

Naye: None

MINUTES

Motion by Matthew Giglietti to approve the minutes of the March 16, 2023 Board of Finance meeting, as presented and Second by Susan Jacobs.

Vote: Aye: Giglietti, Lofters, Handler, Rowland, Scalettar, Jacobs,

Naye: None

LIAISON REPORTS -

WBOE – The Woodbridge Board of Education is projecting a year end surplus of approximately \$80,000, as of February 2023.

FIRST SELECTMAN’S REPORT

Beth reported that Earth Day was coming Saturday 4/22, and she wanted to let everyone know about 2 local events here in Woodbridge. The Town library will host Rid Litter Day this year. Bags and maps could be picked up at the library on April 22nd between 10 am and 5 pm. Additionally, the Beecher Road School Green Team will host the 3rd annual Free-Cycle Clothing event from 8:30 am to 1:30 pm at the BRS South Assembly room.

The Senior Center will be completed in just a few months having used State and Federal funding for almost the entire project. The Old Firehouse project has also received State and Federal funding and architectural plans are moving ahead. The sidewalk project is also moving ahead with State funding. The next building that needs renovations in the Town Center, is the Center Building. We are moving ahead with the Gym renovation with a \$500,000 STEAP grant coupled with a portion of the ARPA funds. The rest of this 100-year-old building, which houses the Police Department, the Human Services Department, and the Childcare Center needs remodeling and upgrades to conform with State standards, and the rest of the building needs new heating, ventilation, and cooling along with other energy efficiency upgrades. Beth thanked the board for approving the funding for architectural services. She will then be able to seek grant funding for the project.

In December of 2021, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency revised the Lead and Copper Rule (LCR) with new regulations intended to protect public health. Based on those revisions, the Regional Water Authority (RWA) will be launching a new project in the coming months as they begin to look at water connections from RWA mains onto private properties. They will reach out to residents who utilize the public water system via mailings. This project will not involve those who utilize wells. The Regional Water Authority has already begun to inventory accounts and will, with homeowners’ assistance, evaluate infrastructure on private properties. Stay tuned for more information as the RWA rolls out this new program. Amity Budget Referendum will be held Tuesday, May 2, from 6 am to 8 pm at the Center. Absentee ballot applications are available by request at the Town Clerk’s office, or on line.

Motion by Matthew Giglietti to adjourn the meeting at 6:28p.m. Second by Dwight Rowland.

Vote: Aye: Giglietti, Lofters, Handler, Rowland, Scalettar, Jacobs

Meeting adjourned at 6:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gaye Mastrianna

Gaye Mastrianna
Payroll and Benefits Admin.