

**Board of Finance
Special Meeting**

**May 19, 2020 6:30 PM
Zoom Meeting ID 873 0696 5291**

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TOWN CLERK

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:32 pm. Present via Zoom were Chairman Francis Moriarty, and members David Walsh, Anthony Pellegrino, Matthew McKenney and Steve Geryk. Upon motion of Mr. Geryk and seconded by Mr. Pellegrino, the Board voted unanimously to seat alternate Richard Shuck for absent member Sal Titus. A quorum was established.

Also in attendance via Zoom were First Selectman Mary Mitta, Selectman John N. Locke, Selectman Richard F. Hartenstein Jr., Board of Education Chair Sonya Shegogue, Board of Education Members Laura Lybarger and Jennifer Davis. In addition, present via Zoom were Chief Financial Officer Lisa Baxter, Superintendent of Schools Steven Moccio and Business Manager Diane Peters.

2. The Board reviewed the budget materials as finalized by the Boards of Selectmen and Education in accordance with the Board of Finance vote of May 12, 2020. (attached)

First Selectman Mitta reviewed the reductions the Board of Selectmen made to their submitted budgets. Discussion was held on the thermal projects, reduction in capital building, and the impact on other areas.

Superintendent of Schools Moccio reviewed the budget reductions for the Board of Education. He stressed that there are many unknowns on how the schools will reopen and what requirements will be ordered by the State Board of Education. Further discussed were the gas, oil and diesel accounts, transportation costs, technology needs, and other resources that may be needed following a plan to reopen.

No comments were received by members present on the Water Pollution Control Facility budgets or the Service District budgets.

Further discussion and comments were heard from members of the Board of Selectmen and Board of Education regarding the mill rate, any stimulus monies which may be allocated by the federal government, and the budget approval process in accordance with Governor Ned Lamont's Executive Order 71.

The course of action outlined detailed that the budget information would be uploaded to the Town of Stafford website shortly with instructions to Stafford residents and

taxpayers to allow for public feedback via email or regular mail, in lieu of a public hearing. Questions/comments received for a particular department will be forwarded to the First Selectman (town matters) or Superintendent of Schools (school matters), Richard Hartenstein (WPCF matters) and Erin Kirchhoffer (Service District matters) for distribution to the respective boards.

Following approximately one week, the Board of Finance will convene and review public comments. At that time they will vote to approve the Town of Stafford budget, the Water Pollution Control Authority budget and the Service District budget.

After approval of budgets, the Board of Finance will vote to set the mill rates for the Town of Stafford and the Service District for FY 2020-2021. Additionally, there will be other motions to consider for the collection of taxes, as are traditionally approved at the Annual Town Budget Meeting.

3. A motion to adjourn by Mr. Geryk, and seconded by Mr. Pellegrino, was approved unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:19 pm.

Respectfully submitted:


Erin Kirchhoffer
Recording Secretary

(attachments)

The video recording of the meeting is posted to the Town Website www.staffordct.org.

MILL RATE
TOWN OF STAFFORD
Tax projection FY 2020/2021
Grand List Total \$792,799,063

REQUESTED EXPENDITURES	1st Public Hearing BUDGET
General Government Budget	10,603,597
Stafford Public Library Budget	565,632
Debt Service Budget	2,256,675
Board of Education Budget	28,289,798
Total	41,715,702
ANTICIPATED REVENUES	
General Government Revenue	3,244,326
Board of Education Revenue	9,588,907
Additional Revenue Tax Collector	1,265,000
Cash Balance Fund	-
Transfers In	-
Excess Cost Grant Fund	250,000
Town Aid Road	-
Town Improvement Fund	150,000
Other Funds	90,000
Adjustment for uncollected taxes	(500,000)
Abatement	(65,000)
Total Revenue	14,023,233
FY 2020/2021 Taxation (Expenditures less Revenue)	27,692,469
Current Mill Rate 34.93 * Adjusted Taxable Grand List	27,692,469
Deficit	(0)
Increase in mill rate	(0.00)
FY 2020/2021 Mill Rate needed	34.93