

**RECEIVED**

*By Darlene Brady at 2:03 pm, May 08, 2024*

## **Board of Finance Regular Meeting**

Friday May 3, 2024 6:00 pm

**Present-**Nancy O'Dea-Wyrick, Casey Cogut, Tegan Gawel,

**Zoom-** Jason Wright, members of the public

**Public and Invited Guests-** Marty Lindenmayer, Jenn Duncan, Barbara Herbst, Lynn Worthington, Glenn Snachez, Debbie Deveau, other members of the public

Ms O'Dea-Wyrick called the meeting to order at 6:07 pm.

Quorum for Town Hearing established

Pledge of Allegiance recited

**Acceptance of Agenda- Motion by Mr Cogut, to accept the agenda**  
**Motion by Ms Gawel to add suspense list after the hearing** approved unanimously

### **Budget Hearing**

1.First Selectman Lindenmayer presented the Selectmen's Budget, highlighting different items

2. BOE Chair Jenn Duncan presented the BOE budget

### **QUESTIONS**

1. Mr Wright asked about drivers on the regional budget increase. Ms Duncan said budget is based on the # of students

2. Ms O'Dea-Wyrick asked how many voters were there with the early voting. Therese Duncan said there were 57. Asked if the other 2 towns that the assessor works for also contributed to her health insurance? Mr Lindenmayer responded NO. Ms O'Dea-Wyrick also asked if the compost program was successful. Answer-yes

3. Joe Agli asked if the KCS resource officer listed as staff? Ms Duncan said no it is a separate line (#14) and is listed as non-certified personnel
4. Mike Gawel asked how many students are at KCS? Ms Duncan reported as of March there is 195 at KCS and as of October '23 there were 37 at Housatonic
5. Mat Starr questioned the BOF about the \$700,000 that was allocated to the streetscape project. He spoke about the revaluations that were done recently and the increase in taxes. Mr Starr asked Mr Lindenmayer about the opt out stipends (health insurance) and that he felt the opt out amount was too high. Did not agree with the discretionary allotment. Part time employees getting benefits? Questioned if Selectman had gotten any more info on EMS staffing.
6. Joe Agli asked BOS what the repair costs in the budget are for? Mr Lindenmayer reported a boiler system was just put in, carpets, painting, parking lot and outdoor lighting (poor). Also asked where the annual report was. Was informed that we just got the auditors report. Mike Gawel asked about the rural transit and what it was exactly. Asked why not use leftover sand/salt instead of keeping the money in the budget. He also asked about the fire department and hearing rumors that they were folding and what would happen to the building and vehicles if that were to happen.
7. (didn't get name) asked about the mill rate

**Motion by Mr Cogut, seconded by Ms Gawel to close the hearing at 7:15pm** approved unanimously

**Reconvene BOF meeting at 7:15**

### **Discussion on Public Comments from Hearing**

Ms Herbst reported that there had been a \$10,000 increase on the budget since it was printed so the grand total now was \$15,699,245

**Motion by Mr Wright seconded by Mr Cogut to move the budget of \$15,699.245 to the town 2 weeks from tonight, May 17 2024 at 7 pm** approved unanimously

**Streetscape Resolution-**

**Motion to wave the reading of the resolution (street scape) by Mr Cogut, seconded by Mr Wright** approved unanimously

**Motion to accept the resolution by Mr Cogut, seconded by Mr Wright** approved unanimously

RESOLUTION AMENDING THE KENT STREETSCAPE IMPROVEMENTS RESOLUTIONS TO OPTIONALLY USE TOWN FUNDS INSTEAD OF BONDS.

WHEREAS, on May 16, 2019, the Town adopted the resolution entitled “Resolution

Appropriating \$2,925,000 For Town of Kent Streetscape Improvements And Authorizing The

Issue Of \$2,925,000 Bonds Of The Town To Meet Said Appropriation And Pending The Issuance

Thereof The Making Of Temporary Borrowings For Such Purpose” (the “Streetscape Resolution”)

providing that the Town issue bonds to finance its portion of the cost of the Project in an amount

up to \$2,925,000;

WHEREAS, on May 20, 2022, the Town adopted the resolution entitled “Resolution

Appropriating \$2,352,525 For Town of Kent Streetscape Improvements Phase II And Authorizing

The Issue Of \$2,352,525 Bonds Of The Town To Meet Said Appropriation And Pending The

Issuance Thereof The Making Of Temporary Borrowings For Such Purpose” (the “Phase II

Resolution”, and together with the Streetscape Resolution, the “Original Resolutions”) providing

that the Town issue bonds to finance its portion of the cost of the Project in an amount up to

\$2,352,525;

WHEREAS the Town of Kent (the “Town”) received and secured grants for the Project(s)

and the Town’s portion of the cost of Phase I and Phase II of the Project is now determined to be

\$1,800,000; and

WHEREAS the Town would like the option to use Undesignated General Fund money

over a seven-year appropriation to finance the \$1,800,000 instead of issuing all or a portion of the authorized bonds.

WHEREAS, the Board of Selectmen of the Town recommended to the Board of Finance

the below resolutions.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF FINANCE:

Section 1. That the Original Resolutions are amended to provide that the Town may

use Undesignated General Fund moneys to finance its portion of the Phase I and Phase II Project

in the amount of up to \$1,800,000 instead of issuing bonds.

Section 2. That all other provisions of the Original Resolutions shall remain in full

forces and effect as of the date of adoption of this Resolution by the Town.

**Motion by Ms Gawel, seconded by Ms O’Dea-Wyrick  
To Create a new capital project called “HAZARDOUS  
TREE REMOVAL OR TRIMMING for nonutility-related  
hazardous branches, limbs, and trees on municipal  
property or within a municipal right-of-way”  
pursuant to C.G.S. § 7-535 through 7-538 and  
Public Act 23-124. The appropriation for this capital  
project shall be \$20,792.13 for FY ’24 and be  
reimbursed by State grant funding as authorized  
through the LoCIP Grant Program – Fiscal Year**

**2024 and forward (Funds will be disbursed by June 30th and an annual expense**

**report will be due from the municipality or borough by September 1st.)**

Approved unanimously

**Motion by Mr Cogut, seconded by Ms Gawel**

**To increase capital project called “Town Hall (AC,pkng lot, generator, boiler)” by \$41,425 to be reimbursed**

**by State grant funding as authorized through the**

**LoCIP Grant Program – Fiscal Year 2024 and**

**forward (Funds will be disbursed by June 30th and an annual expense report will be due**

**from the municipality or borough by September 1st.)**

Approved unanimously

**Tax Collector**

Presented the suspense list

**Motion by Mr Wright, seconded by Mr Cogut to accept the Suspense List** approved unanimously

Will meet after the town vote on May 17, 2024

**Motion to adjourn by Mr Cogut at 7:44**

Next meeting- May 17, 2024 @ 7 pm

*Minutes are not considered final until approved. Please check the ensuing meeting minutes for corrections/changes.*

Bonnie Donzella

Board Clerk

