

MAYOR
DAVID R. MARTIN



RICHARD FREEDMAN
CHAIR
MARY LOU T. RINALDI
VICE CHAIR
SAL GABRIELE
DAVID KOORIS
KIERAN M. RYAN
DUDLEY N. WILLIAMS
TEL: (203) 977-4699
FAX: (203) 977-5030

BOARD OF FINANCE

STAMFORD GOVERNMENT CENTER
888 WASHINGTON BOULEVARD
P.O. BOX 10152
STAMFORD, CONNECTICUT 06904-2152

MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF FINANCE HELD ON MAY 21, 2018

Pursuant to Sec. 6-20-2 of the City of Stamford Charter, Chair Richard Freedman and Vice-Chair Mary Lou Rinaldi called a special meeting of the Board of Finance for the specific purpose of:

AGENDA

1. In accordance with Sec. 8-30-10 of the *City Charter*, to set the Mill Rate for the City of Stamford for Fiscal Year 2018-19.

Attendees: Board of Finance Members Richard Freedman, Mary Lou Rinaldi, Sal Gabriele (arrived at 6:27 p.m.), David Kooris, Kieran M. Ryan and Dudley N. Williams. Also present were, OPM Director Jay Fountain, OPM Assistant Director Lee Berta and OPM Management Analyst David Villalva.

Chair Freedman opened the meeting at 6:06 p.m. citing its purpose as noted above.

Mr. Freedman began the discussion of setting the mill rate by asking Mr. Fountain to provide any recommendations. Mr. Fountain responded that there were two adjustments recommended by the Mayor's Office and Budget Office. The first adjustment being with the Youth Programs line (1047), which did not include an item in its request when the budget was sent in. The recommendation is for an \$180,000 increase in the budget from \$507,047 to \$687,047. The second recommendation is for a \$120,000 additional revenue adjustment to the PILOT – Italian Center and Mead School line (1050).

The Board then proceeded to amend proposed revenue, contingency and reserve items.

Revenues

Mr. Freedman made a motion to increase the Youth Programs line (1047) by \$180,000 which was left out of the budget. This will increase the budget from \$504,047 to \$687,047. The motion was seconded by Mr. Williams and the Board voted unanimously 5-0-0 to approve the increase.

Mr. Freedman also made a motion to adjust the PILOT – Italian Center and Mead School (1050) revenues with an additional increase in revenue of \$120,000 – from \$0 to \$120,000. The motion was seconded by Ms. Rinaldi and the Board voted unanimously 5-0-0 to approve the increase.

On a motion by Mr. Freedman, seconded by Mr. Kooris, the Board voted unanimously to reduce Building Permit fees (0114) by \$550,000 from \$5,550,000 to \$5,000,000.

Mr. Freedman made a motion to reduce the Conveyance Tax (1010) by \$1,000,000 from \$5,500,000 to \$4,500,000. The Board voted unanimously to approve this motion.

Due to the fact that Member Gabriele was unable to be at the meeting until 6:30 p.m., Chair Freedman suggested holding action on contingencies until his arrival. He asked if there were any items that members wished to discuss in the meantime. Mr. Ryan took the opportunity to discuss different aspects of the contingencies

Mr. Gabriele arrived at the meeting at 6:27 p.m. and Contingencies were discussed.

Contingencies

Mr. Kooris made a motion to increase the contingency \$1,600,000, from \$4,900,000 to \$6,500,000. Mr. Williams seconded the motion. Before a vote was taken, Mr. Ryan made a motion to amend the above motion to increase the contingency \$400,000, to hire more parks police and provide more funding to local agencies providing services to the homeless, from \$4,900,000 to \$5,300,000. Mr. Gabriele seconded the motion. The amended motion failed by a vote of 2-4 (Messrs. Freedman, Kooris and Williams and Ms. Rinaldi opposed).

The original motion to increase the contingency \$1,600,000 was then voted upon. It passed 4-2 with Messrs. Gabriele and Ryan opposed.

Reserves

Mr. Freedman made a motion, seconded by Mr. Kooris, to increase the Mill River TIF and Board Member Dudley Williams excused himself from the room at 6:58 p.m. The motion was to increase the Reserve for the Mill River TIF by \$50,987, from \$2,961,036 to \$3,012,023. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Freedman made a motion, seconded by Mr. Kooris, to amend the above amount and to increase the Reserve for the Mill River TIF by \$50,993, from \$2,961,036 to \$3,012,029. The amended motion passed unanimously.

At this point, Board Member Williams returned to the meeting.

A motion was made by Mr. Freedman, seconded by Mr. Kooris, to reduce the Reserves (uncollected) by \$27,361. The Board voted unanimously to approve this motion.

Setting the Mill Rate

On a motion by Mr. Freedman, which was seconded by Mr. Williams, the Board then agreed by a vote of 4-2-0 (with Messrs. Gabriele and Ryan opposed), to leaving the Motor Vehicle property tax rate at 27.25 mills, with no increase this year.

Mr. Freedman then read into the record the resultant changes in the Mill Rate after all of the above changes. This resulted in an average Mill Rate of 25.28 and an average tax increase of 1.94%, which is detailed below and set forth in the accompanying resolution.

Tax District "A"	25.53 mills
Tax District "B"	25.08 mills
Tax District "C"	24.45 mills
Tax District "C/S"	24.82 mills
Personal Property District	25.53 mills
Motor Vehicles	27.25 mills

The Board then voted on a motion by Mr. Freedman, which was seconded by Mr. Kooris, to set the above Mill Rate. The motion passed with a vote of 4-2 with Messrs. Gabriele and Ryan opposed.

Mr. Freedman thanked everyone for their effort and called for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:19 p.m. Ms. Rinaldi made the motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Mr. Williams and unanimously passed by the Board.

Cynthia R. Winterle

Cynthia R. Winterle
Clerk of the Board

Enclosure

cc: Mayor David Martin
Michael Handler, Director of Administration
Kathryn Emmett, Director of Legal Affairs
Jay Fountain, Director of OPM
Matthew Quinones, Board of Representatives

Lyda Ruijter, City and Town Clerk
David Yanik, Controller
Clemon Williams, Director of Human Resources
Jon Fontneau, Police Chief
Kris Engstrand, Pres. Stamford Police Assoc.