

**MINUTES**  
**Board of Finance**  
**Tuesday, September 23, 2008 @ 7:00PM**  
**Norma Drummer Room/Seymour Town Hall**

**Members present: Chairman Trisha Danka, Al Yagovane, Nancy Onofrio, Bill Paecht, Michele Pavlik, and Jim Simpson.**

**Not present: Peter Jezierny.**

**Others present: First Selectman Robert J. Koskelowski, Finance Director Doug Thomas, Assistant Finance Director Tony Caserta, Fire Marshal Paul Wetowitz and Frank Loda.**

**ITEM # 1 - Call meeting to order.**

**Chairman Trisha Danka called the meeting to order at 7:05PM.**

**ITEM # 2 - Pledge of Allegiance.**

**Everyone salutes the Flag and states the Pledge of Allegiance.**

**ITEM # 3 -Seating of Alternates.**

**None at this time.**

**ITEM # 4 - Public Comment.**

**None at this time.**

**ITEM # 5 - First Selectman Comments.**

**First Selectman Robert J. Koskelowski states that although it is only September 23, 2008, he would like the Board to look very seriously about next year's budget. Throughout Town there are many foreclosures and homes are not being built as anticipated in the new developments leading to the Grand List not growing the approximately 2% that it has grown each year. The Town will also be losing sizable income in the next year through the Board of Education. He will be sending memos to each department to try to cut and be conservative when it comes to next years budget, as well as with the money in this year's budget and to warn them to only use what they have. He feels that next year's budget has to be a "No" year and he will not support any new vehicles or large machines for any departments in Town. This year so far there has been over \$20,000.00 in unanticipated expenditures for repairs to Town Buildings. The Finance Department has done a great job in making sure that all departments get purchase orders.**

**He also states that the Town has locked into \$3.50 per gallon for oil in August due to being in the consortium. The asphalt prices per ton have gone from \$59.00 to \$80.00, so there will be no roads being asphalted in the coming year. The Town has been using a new chip sealing system on several roads, which is 25% of the cost of asphaltting, but that cannot be done on every road.**

**He also sent a letter to the Parks Commission and the Board of Education concerning a report he received regarding artificial turf from the Attorney General stating that there have been no testing done regarding any health concerns. He wants them to know that even though many places have artificial turf, he does not believe that the State will be giving any grant moneys for that project.**

Questions have arisen about the Valley Transit District payments, which are mandated by the federal and state governments and are given to the municipalities.

Trisha Danka: States that she plans on having next years budget on the Agenda for the October 2008 meeting. She states that she would like to start the process early this year.

Al Yagovane: Comments on the large amount of bankruptcies and foreclosures in Town and that many large companies are eliminating positions and/or closing down and moving down south.

**ITEM # 6 - Transfers.**

None at this time.

Fire Marshal Paul Wetowitz is here to answer any questions that the Board had at last months meeting concerning the transfer from the Fire Hydrants Account into the Ambulance Account. He also states that he gave Finance Director Doug Thomas a letter stating that he approves of the transfer. Doug will send a copy of the letter to the Board members tomorrow. There are no questions for the Fire Marshal at this time.

Michele Pavlik: Comments that she read an article about Town's being overcharged for street lights by the utility companies and would like to know if anyone has addressed this issue.

Robert J. Koskelowski: States that the Town has addressed this issue last year and had hired a company to get the Town a rebate for a small fee. Doug Thomas states that the Town did receive between \$14,000.00 and \$25,000.00.

**ITEM # 7 - Correspondence.**

- A copy of the official ballot for the referendum for the October 7, 2008 vote for the Chatfield/LoPresti School project.
- Notice for a Community Forum event in Beacon Falls on October 16, 2008 concerning open space.

**ITEM # 8 - Approval of Minutes from August 26, 2008 meeting.**

Motion to approve minutes from the August 26, 2008 Board of Finance meeting.

Motion: Bill Paecht                      Second: Michele Pavlik

Vote: 5-Yes (Trisha Danka, Al Yagovane, Nancy Onofrio, Bill Paecht, Michele Pavlik)    0-No

1-Abstain (Jim Simpson)                      0-Disqualify

**ITEM # 9 - Financial Reports.**

Included in the packet are:

- Board of Education Financial Reports.
- 2007/2008 Town Revenue Report.
- 2008/2009 Town Revenue Report.
- 2007/2008 Monthly Summary.
- 2008/2009 Monthly Summary.
- Long Term Debt as of June 30, 2008.
- WPCA Accounts Receivable 2008.
- Schedule of Water Assessments, year ending 6/30/08.

- Schedule of Property Taxes, year ending 6/30/08.

Doug Thomas Finance Director states that the auditor will begin next Monday on the audit for the Town and Board of Education. Everything is on schedule although he has a few more journal entries to finish. Expenditures for the 2007/2008 year have a surplus of over \$500,000 due to not spending or utilizing funds. But, the 2007/2008 revenues did not come in like they hoped.

The Parks Commission has gotten approval to purchase a new Sand Pro, which was in their budget for this year. The Town will finance the machine, which costs approximately \$6,000.00 per year.

**ITEM # 10 - Other Business.**

None at this time.

**ITEM # 11 - Public Comment.**

Paul Wetowitz, 56 Davis Road: He has had his new Fire Marshal vehicle for 2 to 3 months now and he would like the Board to know that his gas consumption on this vehicle compared to the old vehicle has gone down 1/3. He also states that there are some businesses coming in the near future, which will add to the revenue in his department. They include a shopping center at the old Actors Colony site, the Teddy Bear day care is moving to South Main Street, and Seymour Wrecking has a new building going in. There are also the CVS and Walgreens projects.

**ITEM # 12 - Adjournment.**

Motion to adjourn at 7:34 PM.

Motion: Michele Pavlik

Second: Bill Paecht

Vote: 6-Yes

0-No

0-Abstain

0-Disqualify

Respectfully submitted by,

Deirdre Caruso,  
Recording Secretary