

**NEW FAIRFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION
NEW FAIRFIELD, CT**

The New Fairfield Board of Education held a special meeting on Tuesday, April 19, 2022, at 5:00 p.m. virtual meeting via Zoom.

MINUTES – April 19, 2022

PRESENT: Dominic Cipollone (Chairman), Kathy Baker, Tim Blair, Greg Flanagan, Amy Johnson, Kimberly LaTourette, Samantha Mannion, Ed Sbordone and Stephanie Strazza

ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Superintendent of Schools Dr. Pat Cosentino, Assistant Superintendent of Schools Julie Luby, Director of Business and Operations Dr. Richard Sanzo, Consolidated School Principal Rob Spino, Selectman Khris Hall, BOF Chairman Wes Marsh and BOF member Cheryl Reedy

Director of Business and Operations Dr. Richard Sanzo explained the procedure for the virtual meeting and noted that this virtual meeting is available to everyone including members of the public.

I. CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Dominic Cipollone called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. He noted that the purpose of this meeting was to discuss the need to revise the budget that was proposed for the 2022-2023 fiscal year.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. INFORMATION/ACTION ITEM- 2022-2023 BUDGET REVISION

Superintendent of Schools Dr. Pat Cosentino spoke of the need to revise the budget that was approved for the 2022-2023 fiscal year. She noted that there is a deficit of approximately \$348,000 from the budget that the BOE approved in February and presented to the BOF in March. She spoke of the need to alert the BOF of this issue and noted that this is in addition to the approximately \$300,000 of attrition that needs to be met.

Director of Business and Operations Dr. Rich Sanzo gave a brief description of three areas that are causing significant pressure on the budget. They include VoAg tuition due to increased students attending the program, changes in special education expenses, and increases in transportation expenses.

Dr. Sanzo presented two options for revision with the only difference between the two was to eliminate the \$125,000 special education contingency. Members of the BOE asked questions about the options and the revised budget and many members expressed concerns regarding the possibility of eliminating the special education contingency. There was a brief discussion of the process if the BOE needed additional money in the middle of a budget year.

MOTION: Ed Sbordone made a motion to recommend to the full Board of Education the approval of a revised 2022-2023 Board of Education's operating budget in the amount of \$43,322,686, an increase of 4.35%, which includes the presented option #1 increase of \$344,934, and the previously approved 2022-2023 Board of Education's debt service and capital budget in the amount of

\$6,008,810, an increase of 58.38% for a total amount of \$49,331,496, an increase of 8.87%. Kathy Baker seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Kathy Baker, Tim Blair, Dominic Cipollone, Greg Flanagan, Amy Johnson, Kimberly LaTourette, Samantha Mannion, Ed Sbordone and Stephanie Strazza

Chairman Dominic Cipollone noted that this revision will be sent to the BOF but noted that the BOF by State Statute is not obligated to act on this revision in any way.

The members of the Board of Education thanked Dr. Sanzo for his very detailed explanation of the budget.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Dominic Cipollone made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:34 p.m. Kimberly LaTourette seconded the motion. **IN FAVOR:** Kathy Baker, Tim Blair, Dominic Cipollone, Greg Flanagan, Amy Johnson, Kimberly LaTourette, Samantha Mannion, Ed Sbordone and Stephanie Strazza

Respectfully submitted,
Suzanne Kloos