TOWN OF EAST HADDAM
Board of Finance
Special Meeting Minutes
June 24, 2025
Municipal Office Building – Room 1 & 2
Via Zoom and YouTube Live

Participating:
Board of Finance Members:
William Barney
Joseph Corbett
Todd Gelston
Harvey Thomas

Absent:
Board of Finance Members:
Maureen Goff
Eric Kolasinski

Others: Valerie Belles, Finance Director
And other members of the public

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Gelston called the meeting to order at 9:38 p.m. and reviewed the agenda. The attendees said the pledge of allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Gelston called the Board's attention to the following meeting minutes.

a. June 2nd Special Meeting Minutes

Motion made by Mr. Barney to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting as written. Mr. Corbett seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved. Motion carried.

b. June 9, 2025 Special Meeting Minutes

Motion made by Mr. Barney to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting as written. Mr. Corbett seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved. Motion carried.

2025-2026 BUDGET

a. Discussion and Potential Adjustments Following the Public Hearing

Mr. Gelston asked the board to continue discussion on the 2025-2026 budget. Mr. Corbett asked to remain consistent with the current budget proposal and to move it forward as is.

Mr. Thomas agreed to Mr. Corbett's suggestion to move the budget forward as proposed.

b. Guests & Audience Comments

None

c. Vote to Send Budget to Town Meeting

Motion was made by Mr. Barney, to present to the Annual Budget Meeting scheduled to be called by the Board of Selectmen for July 8, 2025 at 8:00 pm at the Municipal Office Complex a total budget of $44,258,614.00 based on the Grand List as of October 1, 2024 of $1,190,802,955.00. The budget would require an increase over the 2024- 2025 budget of 8.8% in expenditures, a mill rate increase of 1.30 mils, and a 4.4% increase in tax revenues. Mr. Thomas seconded the motion, and it was passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

a. Grant Acceptance – Eightmile River Watershed Conservation Commission
Ms. Belles discussed the intent of the grant and answered other questions about the motion.

Motion was made by Mr. Barney to accept the grant from Eightmile River Wild & Scenic Coordinating Committee in the amount of $5,260 for the development of educational curriculum combining field study with digital programming at Nathan Hale-Ray Middle School, (revenue account 33050-43000 G3701 and expense account 33055011-58820 G3701) and the Town of East Haddam and to recommend that the Board of Selectmen schedule a Town Meeting for approval. Mr. Corbett seconded the motion, and it was passed unanimously.

b. Gift Acceptance – Haslam Memorial Foundation – Summer Camp Programs

Motion was made by Mr. Barney to accept a gift in the amount of $1,000 from the Haslam Memorial Foundation for Park and Recreation Summer Camp Programs (revenue account 28045-44709-R1099.

Mr. Thomas seconded the motion, and it was passed unanimously.

c. Rescind – 6/9/2025 Transfer request – BOE Capital – Interior lighting repairs

Motion was made by Mr. Barney to rescind the June 9, 2025 motion made by Mr. Barney for the BOE Transfer request to authorize a transfer totaling $17,421.98 from the following closed BOE projects' Capital Account 33250013-58926: $812.50 from C0317 - HS Stage Curtain; $3,010.00 from System Wide Painting - C0258; $11,800.00 from HS Track Equipment - C0304; $27.00 from System Wide Radios – C0324; $399.62 from MS Exterior Basketball Court – C0204; $76.82 from HS Hot Water Systems – C0306; $1,536.55 from HS Field Storage Building – C0331, and $125.72 from HS Boiler Replacement – C0077 to the Elementary School Lighting Repair – C0341, and to request that the Board of Selectmen schedule a Town Meeting for approval. Mr. Thomas seconded the motion, and it was passed unanimously.

d. Transfer request – BOE Capital – Interior lighting repairs

Motion was made by Mr. Barney to authorize a transfer totaling $17,788.21 from the following closed BOE projects' Capital Account 33250013-58926: $812.50 from C0317 - HS Stage Curtain; $3,010.00 from System Wide Painting - C0258; $11,800.00 from HS Track Equipment - C0304; $27.00 from System Wide Radios – C0324; $399.62 from MS Exterior Basketball Court – C0204; $76.82 from HS Hot Water Systems – C0306; $1,536.55 from HS Field Storage Building – C0331, and $125.72 from HS Boiler Replacement – C0077 to the Elementary School Lighting Repair – C0341. Mr. Thomas seconded the motion, and it was passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Mr. Barney to adjourn the meeting at 9:57 p.m. Mr. Goff seconded the motion, and it was approved by a unanimous aye vote. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
/s/
William Barney
Secretary