

Town of Columbia
FISCAL POLICY BOARD
Regular Meeting Minutes
July 14, 2009
8:30 A.M.
Columbia Meeting Place

Members Present: Donald Cianci-First Selectman, Nelson Petrone-Board of Education Chairperson, Jonathan Luiz-Town Administrator, Francine Coss-Superintendent, Earnest Sharpe-FIPAC Chairman

Members Absent: Bev Ciurylo-Interim Fiscal Manager, Carol Coley-Board of Education Vice Chairperson

Staff Present: Karen Johnson-Superintendent's Secretary

I. Call to Order

Jonathan Luiz called the July 14, 2009 Fiscal Policy Meeting to order at 8:36 a.m.

II. Approve Minutes of June 9, 2009

J. Luiz **MOVED** and E. Sharpe **SECONDED** to approve the June 9, 2009 minutes as presented.

MOTION CARRIES: 3-0-2

D. Cianci, J. Luiz, E. Sharpe VOTED FOR THE MOTION

N. Petrone, F. Coss ABSTAINED

III. Correspondence - None

IV. Old Business

A. Superintendent/Board of Education – Mrs. Coss has met with Mrs. Ciurylo to address the Board of Education finance department needs and feels confident expectations will be met in a timely manner.

B. Finance Office Software – Mr. Luiz explained that due to this week's turbulent thunder storms, the finance office server is inoperable. A new server has been ordered to handle the finance department and town hall. BMSI training has been scheduled. Future use of on-line purchase orders and time sheets will monitor line item balances in real time.

C. School Parking Lot – the law firm representing New Alliance Bank has approved the fencing plan. Mr. Cianci will sign off on the bank's letter so construction may begin.

D. 457 Retirement Plan – the finance office is addressing school administrator's taxes paid/deferred compensation.

E. Modular Building – the vacant superintendent office space will be used by the town rec department.

F. Mansfield Agreement – has been approved and signed at town meeting through June 30, 2010. Once the revised charter has been approved, a fiscal manager will be hired.

G. Budget Figures – committee members discussed legal costs for the recent lawsuit and diesel fuel liquidation contract costs.

H. PK Playscape – installation will begin today and a ribbon cutting will take place at the start of the new school year.

V. New Business

A. DEP Letter – wells within 1,000 feet of Collins Garage are being tested.

B. Stimulus Funding – Mr. Sharpe asked Mrs. Coss to inquire about the process that will be used by the federal government for ECS reimbursement to the Board of Education.

C. IRS Findings – The meeting date has been changed to 7/23/09 at 9:30 a.m.

D. Teacher Contract – a 1 year extension has been negotiated and approved by the teachers' union and Board of Education. A 2.75% general wage increase with no increase in stipends has been agreed upon. The document will be filed with the town clerk.

E. Fiscal Department – this topic will be added to future Fiscal Policy Board agendas.

VI. Charter Revision Discussion – Mr. Cianci informed members the Charter Revision Commission has finished its work and the document is now in the Board of Selectmen's hands. A public hearing will be held next week.

VII. Audience

VIII. Other

IX. Adjournment

E. Sharpe **MOVED** and D. Cianci **SECONDED** to adjourn the meeting at 9:40 a.m.

MOTION CARRIES: 6-0

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Johnson, Superintendent's Secretary