

Town of Columbia
Financial Planning and Allocation Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, August 17, 2016 - 7 pm
Adella G. Urban Administrative Offices Conference Room
323 Route 87, Columbia, CT. 06237

Members Present: Chairman Earnest Sharpe; Vice Chairman Jeff Viens; Judy Ortiz; Kelley Peck; Todd Shepard; Dean Toepfer; Richard Szegda.

Also Present: First Selectman Carmen Vance; Finance Director Bev Ciurylo; BOE Chair David Crim; Ann Dunnack.

1. **Call to Order:** E. Sharpe called the meeting to order at 7 pm.
 2. **Pledge of Allegiance:** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
 3. **Audience of Citizens:** None.
 4. **Approval of Minutes:**
 - 4.1 **Approval of FiPAC July 20, 2016 Meeting Minutes:** J. Viens MOVED to approve the FiPAC meeting minutes of July 20, 2016. J. Ortiz SECONDED the MOTION and it CARRIED 6:0:1 with K. Peck abstaining.
 5. **Correspondence:**
 - 5.1 **Ordinance #8-13 entitled "Land Acquisition Fund":** E. Sharpe told FiPAC that he met with C. Vance and M. Walter to discuss approval process required to withdraw funds from the Land Acquisition Fund to purchase Open Space. He explained that approval from the BOS, FiPAC, Planning and Zoning and Town Meeting must take place. If FiPAC chooses NOT to approve the requested purchase, then the BOS may motion to move the purchase request to be approved at a Town Meeting with the use of funds from the Town's General Fund. There was also discussion on the different funds for Land Purchases. B. Ciurylo stated that there are three accounts: the Land Acquisition account which is in the Capital Budget, the Open Space Fund and the Community Investment Account which consists of monies collected by the Town Clerk from recording land records. She stated that this third fund is to be used for Capital projects including but not limited to land purchases but not necessarily for Open Space purchases.
- K. Peck arrived at 7:12 pm.
- 5.2 **Statute 10-222. Appropriations and Budget**
 - 5.3 **BOS Regular Meeting Minutes of 7/19/16**
 - 5.4 **BOE Regular Meeting Minutes of 7/7/16**
 - 5.5 **BOE Special Meeting Minutes of 7/11/16**
 - 5.6 **BOE Regular Meeting Minutes of 8/1/16**
 - 5.7 **Fiscal Policy Meeting Minutes of 7/13/16**

6. Old Business:

- 6.1 Non-Lapsing Education Account:** Discussion regarding the creation of a non-lapsing education account ensued. J. Viens stated that he feels if said account is created that it should only be used for unanticipated special education costs. R. Szegda disagreed, stating that feels there may always be unanticipated expenses that are not going to always pertain to special ed. K. Peck agreed, stating that she feels there may be equally important emergencies that arise. M. Walter stated that it may be a good idea not to make the account too stringent so it can be used for unanticipated expenses. C. Vance asked if monies from the non-lapsing account could be used towards future BOE budget increases requests, if they should occur. Discussion followed.

Discussion regarding the proposed Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) from the BOE ensued. E. Sharpe stated that he does not feel a MOA is necessary. K. Peck will draft a Resolution regarding the creation of a non-lapsing education account for FiPAC to review and vote on at its September meeting. The draft Resolution will include who has approval over expenditures from proposed non-lapsing account, amount, purpose of said account, etc. B. Ciurylo stated that if FiPAC can make a decision at its September meeting on whether or not a non lapsing account will be created, that would be ideal because the auditors are scheduled for mid October.

M. Walter followed up with K. Peck regarding her question at the last FiPAC meeting concerning insurance health exchange for employees. M. Walter stated that at least 95% of all employees must utilize the exchange or the town could face heavy penalties because we are considered a large employer. He also explained that if health exchange were to become an option, it would need to be accepted by the Union as well.

7. New Business:

- 7.1 Transfers:** None.

- 8. Next Meeting:** The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 21, 2016 at 7 pm.

- 9. Adjournment:** T. Shepard MOVED to ADJOURN at 8:19 pm and the MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully submitted by Kimberly A. Bona.