



TOWN OF COLUMBIA  
**Fiscal Policy Board**  
**November 4, 2015**  
Horace W. Porter School Conference Room  
**8:30 a.m.**

**Members Present:** Bev Ciurylo-Finance Director, Lol Fearon-Superintendent, Kerry Hoffman-Board of Education Chairperson, Natasha Nau-Town Administrator, Earnest Sharpe-FiPAC Chairman, Carmen Vance-First Selectman

**Others Present:** Lisa Napolitano-Board of Education Member

**I. Call to Order**

**Mrs. Ciurylo** called the November 4, 2015, Fiscal Policy Board meeting to order at 8:34 a.m.

**II. Approve Regular Meeting Minutes of September 9, 2015**

C. Vance **MOVED** and E. Sharpe **SECONDED** to approve the September 9, 2015 meeting minutes as presented.

**MOTION CARRIES: 6-0**

**III. Approve 2016 Fiscal Policy Meeting Dates**

Mrs. Ciurylo confirmed that the second Wednesday of each month at 8:30 a.m. is still a good day/time for meetings.

E. Sharpe **MOVED** and C. Vance **SECONDED** to approve the 2016 Fiscal Meeting dates as presented. Meetings will continue to be scheduled for the second Wednesday of each month at 8:30 a.m.

**MOTION CARRIES: 6-0**

**IV. Correspondence – none**

**V. Old Business**

- a. **2014/15 Year End – Mrs. Ciurylo** reported the combined BOS/BOE 2014/15 surplus is \$358,088.35. All transfers have been approved. The 06/30/15 unaudited fund balance is \$3,607,323.75. For the 2014/15 school year, the Hot Lunch program ran in the black without a BOE supplement. **Mr. Sharpe** asked if MBR has changed. **Ms. Vance** explained there has been discussion that might add some flexibility to MBR.

**VI. New Business**

- a. **2016/17 Budget Process and Timeline – Ms. Nau** reported the Public Budget Hearing originally scheduled for April 20 has been changed to April 27, the Annual Town Budget Meeting will be May 24.
- b. **Tri-Board Meeting Date** – The Tri-Board meeting with Board of Selectmen, Board of Education and FiPAC members is scheduled for Wednesday, December 16, 2015 at 7:30 p.m.
- c. **2015/16 Expenditure Review – Mr. Fearon** explained that there have been huge unanticipated special education costs this school year. Unplanned-for circumstances such as a costly IEP for a high school student new to the district, additional residential tuition placements and transportation have all impacted this year's budget. Special education tuition and transportation costs have been encumbered resulting in a possible \$223,000 deficit. A soft freeze is in effect. A number of magnet school students have returned to Porter and there has been some high school movement resulting in a possible cost savings. The superintendent is looking at IDEA and ECS for savings.

- VII. Fiscal Department – Mrs. Ciurylo** reported the auditors have been in the office this week, the ED001 audit will be scheduled and the department is gearing up for the budget season.

**VIII. Audience**

**Mrs. Napolitano** will miss BOE Chairperson **Mrs. Hoffman**. Fiscal Policy Board members thanked Kerry for her service to the Town and children of Columbia

**IX. Adjournment**

E. Sharpe **MOVED** and N. Nau **SECONDED** to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 a.m.

**MOTION CARRIES: 6-0**

*The next meeting will be December 9, 2015 @ 8:30 a.m. in the H. W. Porter School Conference Room.*