

Town of Columbia
FISCAL POLICY BOARD
Regular Meeting Minutes
April 14, 2010
8:30 A.M.
Horace W. Porter School Conference Room

Members Present: Carmen Vance-First Selectman, Jonathan Luiz-Town Administrator, Francine Coss-Superintendent, Earnest Sharpe-FIPAC Chairman, Bev Ciurylo-Interim Fiscal Manager, Paula Belekewicz-Board of Education Member

Others Present: William Mulcahy-Board of Education Member

Staff Present: Karen Johnson-Superintendent's Secretary

I. Call to Order

B. Ciurylo called the April 14, 2010 Fiscal Policy Board meeting to order at 8:40 a.m.

II. Approve Regular Minutes of March 10, 2010

C. Vance **MOVED** and E. Sharpe **SECONDED** to approve the March 10, 2010 regular meeting minutes as presented.

MOTION CARRIES: 5-0-1

C. Vance, J. Luiz, F. Coss, E. Sharpe, B. Ciurylo VOTED FOR THE MOTION
P. Belekewicz ABSTAINED

III. Correspondence

Mr. Luiz handed out 2009 Town Annual Reports for Board of Education members.

IV. Old Business

A. Fiscal Manager Interviews – Mr. Luiz reported of the 43 applications received, 4 applicants will be interviewed on April 21st. Financial officials from Mansfield, Tolland, and Colchester will be joining Columbia's Town Administrator and Superintendent on the interview panel.

B. Department of Education Appeal – Ms. Vance reported the selectmen are waiting to hear from the Town attorney regarding the request to waive MER requirements. Discussion of appropriation to the Board of Education contingent upon decreased enrollment, the right to appeal this law and possible penalty costs were discussed.

V. New Business

A. Pay-As-You-Go Trash Removal – Mr. Luiz reported the Board of Selectmen have approved a six month trial period pay-as-you-go trash removal system effective September 1st. Ultimately, this new method of trash removal will go to a town vote.

B. Board of Education Projections – Mrs. Coss reported the school district has been conservatively under spending. As the school year wraps up there are two salary issues that could impact the budget: 2 employees have not been paid within their contracted time and another employee is going on a long-term family medical leave and there will be additional costs to maintain the integrity of the educational program. The cost of the Lebanon contract legal expenses will not be incurred in this budget year.

C. Public Budget Hearing – Members discussed the format for the April 21, 2010 Budget Hearing, clarification of the Board of Education gross budget subtotal taking into account ARRA funds and the availability of the budget document on the town website and at the town library.

VI. Fiscal Department

VII. Audience

VIII. Other

IX. Adjournment

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

MOTION CARRIES: 6-0

Next meeting: May 12, 2010

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Johnson, Superintendent's Secretary