

**SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
COLUMBIA BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Monday, March 27, 2017 – 8 am
Adella G. Urban Administrative Offices Conference Room
323 Route 87, Columbia, CT**

Members Present: First Selectman Carmen Vance; Deputy Selectman Steven Everett; Selectman Robert Hellstrom.

Also Present: Town Administrator Mark Walter; Finance Director Beverly Ciurylo.

CALL TO ORDER: C. Vance called the meeting to order at 8:04 am.

1. C. Vance and S. Everett shared with R. Hellstrom what occurred at the FiPAC meeting on Wednesday, March 22, 2017:
 - 1) Per the charter, the responsibility for deciding to bond and what to bond rests with the BOS.
 - 2) FiPAC is supportive of bonding.
 - 3) FiPAC will not support a 3.6 mill increase.
2. General discussion:
 - a. Only bond for long term assets and not projects such as, vehicle or equipment purchases which only have a life expectancy of 10 or 15 years.
 - b. Plan for only a 6% contribution to the teacher retirement since that issue is pending.
 - c. Since the Town's General Fund is still very healthy, the Town should plan on taking enough out of the general fund to keep the mill rate under two.
3. C. Vance MOVED that the BOS propose to the Town residents that we bond two major projects: rec park improvements and the construction of a new public works garage totaling approximately 5.4 million, the exact figure to be determined by the Financial Advisor. MOTION CARRIED 3:0.
4. C. Vance MOVED that the BOS propose that all four major projects (salt shed, beach, old firehouse and school bleachers) be included in the capital budget and that \$365,000 be taken out of general fund to reduce the mill rate increase to under 2 mills. MOTION CARRIED 3:0.
5. C. Vance MOVED to ADJOURN at 8:34 am and the MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully submitted by Carmen L. Vance