

TOWN OF CANAAN  
BOARD OF FINANCE, SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2022 @ 6:00PM  
TOWN HALL, 108 MAIN STREET, FALLS VILLAGE, CT  
IN PERSON and VIRTUAL MEETING AT:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87547424104?pwd=WHNySGNXN0h3ZU9UeC9OdnZwaDdGUT09>

**Attendees:**

**Board of Finance Members:** Joel Jones, Chair, Steve Dean (via Zoom), Eric Carlson, Corinna Fleming, Dan Silverman and Amy Wynn.

**Board of Education:** Pat Mechare, Chair, Tanya Golden, Maria Bulson, Adam Sher, Theresa Graney. Thomas Mooney, Attorney for the Board of Education, Lisa Carter, Superintendent, Stacey Calo, Principal.

**Selectmen:** Henry Todd, Dave Barger and Greg Marlowe

**Absent:** Alternate David Wilburn.

Meeting was called to order at 6:00PM by Chairman Joel Jones.

Joel Jones thanked the Board of Education for attending and suggesting the two Boards meet to discuss the budget process. Joel also stated the Board of Education is to be commended on the efforts put into the budget process and all are grateful for their diligence in maintaining and creating their budget. The intent of the meeting is to create a mutual understanding by both parties on the budget process and what is expected by the Board of Finance.

The following points were made:

- The Board of Finance (BOF) would like the budget presentation to focus more on the discretionary items rather than those items that are fixed/set (ie, salaries, benefits, etc.).
- The BOF would like to also know what opportunities were not included in the budget due to expense.
- The BOF does not expect any additional work to be imposed on the Board of Education (BOE) in this process.
- Corinna Fleming pointed out that when a member of the BOF asks a question on the budget to one member of the BOE, it is a question to the entire BOE, not just that individual. It was noted the same is relevant when a question is asked of one BOF member.
- The BOF has been invited, and strongly encouraged by the BOE, to attend the budget workshops held by the BOE. Amy Wynn suggested having a rotating schedule of BOF members to attend.
- The BOE will send a notice of their budget workshop meetings to the BOF members in advance.
- The job of the BOF is to understand the municipal and educational budgets for the Town of Canaan in their entirety, and to recommend to Town Meeting a final bottom line which is reasonable and affordable.
- It makes sense to convene the BOF and BOE again in additional Special Meetings as needed to align, as determined by the respective Chairs

Adjournment: **Motion was made by Steve Dean @ 6:34 PM to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Eric Carlson; unanimous.** Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by recording Secretary Denise M Cohn