



TOWN OF OLD SAYBROOK
Board of Finance

302 Main Street • Old Saybrook, Connecticut 06475-1741

BOARD OF FINANCE VIRTUAL AND IN-PERSON
MEETING MINUTES FOLLOWING REFERENDUM

May 11, 2021

BOF Attendant Members

David LaMay, Chairman
Carol Rzasa, V. Chairwoman
Tom Stevenson
Barry O'Neill
Rick Swan
Paul Carver
Bruce Carlson

Absent Members

In Attendance

Carl Fortuna, First Selectman
Lee Ann Palladino, Finance Director; Treasurer

Chairman LaMay called the meeting to order at 8:20 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance:

Chairman LaMay led the pledge.

3. Roll Call: All members present

4. Set Mill Rate – Treasurer Discussion of the FY2021 -2022 Budget

Ms. Palladino noted that the purpose of this discussion is to recommend that the Board of Finance approve a mill rate for the budget fiscal 2021 – 2022 of 20.05. Assuming passage at referendum, the Town's budget for FY22 will be \$47,187,717, or a \$167,291 increase over last fiscal year's budget.

By way of background the current mill rate for FY21 is 20.05 and therefore the recommended mill rate of 20.05 would remain flat versus last fiscal year. During the budget process the Town reviewed its mill rate calculation (attached) and slightly revised the prior method by becoming more precise and transparent.

The grand list of October 2020 was certified on January 31, 2021 at \$2,307,709,895, a \$7.4 million increase over grand list 2019. Grand lists are modified on a regular basis given assessment appeals, court settlements and other lawful corrections. As of May 10, 2021, the modified Grand **List of October 2020** now stands at \$2,300,303,745, with the main driver in this change associated with the assessment appeals process.

From the modified grand list of May 10, 2021, the following assessment adjustments in the amount of \$12,319,202, or \$247,000 in revenue reductions, were made against this list:

- Court settlements in the amount of \$50,000. All outstanding suits have been reviewed, and it is assumed that they may reduce future tax revenues by \$50,000.
- Fire Fighter Abatement in the amount of \$56,000. This amount is based on last fiscal years abatement amount to volunteer firefighters.
- Elderly Tax Relief in the amount of \$90,000. This amount was approved by the Board of Finance.
- \$51,000 of additional certificates of corrections is also assumed for the period of May 10, 2021 until September 30, 2021.

The modified assessed value encompassing the above referenced reductions is \$2,287,984,543. The Town assumes a 99% collection rate against this value, which would further reduce the assessment value to \$2,265,104,698. The budget amount of \$47,418,717 less local revenues of \$1,769,000 equate to the tax levy of \$45,418,717.

A motion made by Ms. Rzasa, seconded by Mr. Swan to approve a mill rate of 20.05 for the fiscal year 2021- 2022 based upon a tax levy of \$45,418,717 and the Grand List of October 2020. Motion passed unanimously.

5. Adjournment:

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Carlson at 8:27 p.m., seconded by Mr. Swan and was so VOTED unanimously.

Submitted:

Gerri Lewis