



**TOWN OF FRANKLIN  
BOARD OF FINANCE (BOF)  
FRANKLIN TOWN HALL  
7 MEETINGHOUSE HILL ROAD  
FRANKLIN, CT  
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES  
Tuesday, August 31, 2017, 7:30 p.m.**

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1. Call to Order: Chairman Richard Handfield called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

**Members Present:** Vice Chairman Veronica Calvert, Thomas Craney, Richard Handfield, Patricia Osten, and Richard Weingart. **Members Absent:** Sue Dombrowski. **Alternate Members Absent:** Niels Jeppesen, Roland Mihok, and Wesley Crawford.

**Also Present:** Board of Education Chairman Peter Calvert

2. Business:

- a. Discussion and Action on FY 17-18 Budget:

The Board of Finance [BOF] is working through the latest budget information from the Governor's Office as well as information provided by CCM and COST. BOF reviewed various financial scenarios in preparing for a fiscally responsible 2017-18 Budget for the Town. BOF discussed the current strained financial condition of the Town as a direct result of the inability of the State to pass their budget. There is great concern about the potential for major revenue reductions from the State of Connecticut and the negative affect that would be felt by the Town.

Making things even more difficult is the existence of the Board of Education [BOE] Minimum Budget Requirements (MBR) as required by the State, in that, the BOF cannot allocate a lower budget for the BOE than the previous year unless there is a reduction in the number of students from the previous year.

Mr. Peter Calvert was present to discuss the Board of Education [BOE] FY 17-18 Budget. The BOE has also been reviewing the potential for a major reduction in State Educational Cost Sharing [ECS]. This reduction would be so significant that the BOE is looking at any and all options in order to continue to operate the Franklin Elementary School. Options included, but are not limited to, regionalization, considerable Staff reductions, combinations of classes, and considerable cuts in overall curriculum.

**MOTION #1 (08-31-17):** made by Vice Chairman Calvert SECONDED BY Patricia Osten that the Board of Finance authorize a spending freeze for Fiscal Year 2017-18, in that, all discretionary spending be frozen effective September 1, 2017; and authorize Vice Chairman, Veronica Calvert, to compose and forward correspondence to all Departments and Boards and Commissions informing them of such

**VOICE VOTE: UNANIMOUS;**

**MOTION CARRIES**

**MOTION #2 (08-31-17):** made by Chairman Handfield SECONDED BY Richard Weingart that the Board of Finance schedule a Special Meeting Tuesday, September 26, 2017, 7:30 p.m.

**VOICE VOTE: UNANIMOUS;**

**MOTION CARRIES**

3. Adjournment

**MOTION #3 (08-31-17):** made by Tom Craney SECONDED BY Richard Weingart that the Board of Finance adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

**VOICE VOTE: UNANIMOUS;**

**MOTION CARRIES**

Respectfully submitted  
Sherry Pollard