

**LEBANON BOARD OF FINANCE**  
**Special Meeting - Via Zoom/phone.**  
**February 28, 2023 - 7:00 pm**  
**Board of Education 2023-24 Budget Presentation**  
**MINUTES**

A recording of this meeting is posted on the Town website.

Recording Begins.

**Members Present:** Liz Charron, Chair; Meghan Scott, Vice Chair; Diane Malozzi, Secretary; David Scata, Gregg Lafontaine.

**Alternates Present:** Mike Nintean

**Members Absent:** Philip Johnson, **Alternates:** Haley Messier, AJ Dunnack.

**Others Present:** Andrew Gonzales, School Superintendent; Sarah Haynes, Board of Education Chair; Brian Green, Board of Education Budget Committee.

**1.0 Call to order.**

A quorum being present L. Charron called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

M. Nintean to sit for P. Johnson.

L. Charron stated the protocols for the meeting. She asked that everyone raise their hand in order to be recognized to speak and to refrain from using the chat feature as it does not comply with Freedom of Information statutes.

**2.0 Discuss the Board of Education, (BOE), FY 2023-24 operating, capital, and revenue proposed budgets. After discussion there will be an opportunity for public input.**

Andrew Gonzales, Sarah Haynes and Brian Green walked through the highlights of a Power Point presentation of the FY 2023-24 education budget. Highlights included: staffing, capital, IT and facilities.

Board of Finance members expressed their appreciation of the information given to help understand the proposed budget and asked questions. A. Gonzales would like to see meetings with the BOF in the future for long term capital discussions.

L. Charron opened the meeting to public comment.

- Carol Ann Vining, 27 First St.: Said she has children in the school system and says the BOF needs to increase the BOE budget due to inflation. The BOE needs competitive salaries to bring in the best teachers.
- Mark Makovich, 784 Beaumont Highway: He said the BOE budget is too low and the funding level needs to be increased.
- Sheree Swenson, Leonard Bridge Rd.: Said she supports the budget as presented. Asked that the more be added for capital requests and beyond. And said she supports a tax increase.

*M. Scott, BOF, responded; as a reminder, the BOF can only respond to what is actually requested and has no authority to add to budgets.*

- Rachael Archer, 340 Trumbull Highway: Said she supports the BOE budget as presented and cutting other budget areas to afford the support and increasing the mill rate if needed for the BOE.
- Carrie Schwartz, 83 Levita Road: Supports the BOE budget as presented.
- Bethany Zimnoch, Beaumont Highway: Supports the BOE budget as presented. She asked if there is a breakdown of the out-of-town tuition allocation rather than the total

given.

*L. Charron explained that further detail will be given at the budget hearing, but every dollar of revenue from education tuition goes to education.*

- Justine Spielman, 650 Waterman Road: Supports the BOE budget as presented. Would like to see a clarification of how revenue dollars are spent.

### **3.0 Adjourn**

L. Charron thanked the participants for adhering to the meeting protocols, resulting in a smooth meeting. She advised the participants of upcoming meetings and hearings regarding the budget.

L. Charron adjourned the meeting at 8:47pm.

Recording ends.

Respectfully submitted,  
Diane Malozzi, Secretary, Board of Finance  
March 3, 2023

*Please see the minutes of subsequent meetings for the approval of these minutes and any corrections hereto.*