

**MONROE TOWN COUNCIL AND BOARD OF FINANCE
Monroe, Connecticut**

Joint Budget Workshop Session

**Wednesday
February 22, 2016
6:30 PM
Monroe Town Hall
Council Chambers**

A Joint Budget Workshop Session was held on Monday, February 22, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Monroe Town Hall.

Present: Chairman Frank Lieto
Vice-Chairman Enid Lipeles
Councilmember Nicholas Kapoor
Councilmember Phyllis Kansky
Councilmember Kenneth Kellogg
Councilmember Dee Dee Martin
Councilmember Sean O'Rourke
Councilmember Kevin Reid
Councilmember Terry Rooney

Also Present: First Selectman Stephen J. Vavrek

BOARD OF FINANCE MEMBERS PRESENT: Mike Manjos, Ron Bunovsky, Heidi Meade, Debra Dutches, John Ostaszewski, Christine Rigby, Carl Ferraro, Ted Quinlan

Chairman Lieto called the Joint Budget Workshop Session to order at 6:33 p.m.

Chairman Lieto called for a recess at 6:34.

Mike Manjos, Chairman Board of Finance called the Budget Workshop Session back to order at 7:25 p.m.

Mike Manjos does not think the role of Finance is to pick projects, but the role is how to pay for projects. He discussed a schedule of long term bonded debt and capital lease obligations and he would like to see a steady line with a fairly aggressive payout schedule with 5 million next year and 9.5 million coming off of debt. He also stated if the Masuk field project gets approved, it will be bonded. Mr. Manjos also noted there are four (4) projects of significance; Chalk Hill Middle School, the Fire Department proposal, EMS, and Town Hall. He would like to see Town Council prioritize in order.

Councilmember Martin inquired about the Stepney School roof and was told it is noted on the agenda for next year.

Chairman Lieto noted he was anxious to get the Fire Departments together with their needs and where they are headed for the future. He also noted EMS is getting closer to a more defined range.

Councilmember Kellogg stated his Strategic Workshop meetings are basically on needs assessment, not having sites (some potential), accommodate structure, and then get plans for construction. He noted new construction can be a 4-5 million dollar project. He also stated the project consists of what is needed, not what is wanted.

All members discussed projects by funding source with each department from the Capital Improvement plan.

Councilmember Kellogg also handed out a draft report on the Chalk Hill Middle School from discussions held from the Strategic Planning Committee. He noted Chalk Hill is a priority, and the biggest issue with the school is that it was not modernized.

Councilmember Kapoor also spoke about funding.

There being no further questions, Mike Manjos adjourned the meeting at 8:35 p.m.