

BLOOMFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEE

There was a regular meeting of the above referenced subcommittee held on **Tuesday, January 22, 2013 at 5:30 p.m.** in Conference Room #5, Bloomfield Town Hall, 800 Bloomfield Avenue, Bloomfield, CT.

Committee members present were: Deputy Mayor Hypolite, Councilors DeLorenzo, Merritt and Washington

Also present were: Councilor Rivers, William Hogan, Director of Finance, Gerry Paradis – Blum & Shapiro and India Rodgers, Clerk of Council.

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

Town Audit

Mr. Gerry Paradis of Blum & Shapiro gave a brief update of the status of the town audit. The firm review state and federal grants totaling \$5,100,000 for school improvements and education jobs. The FEMA reimbursement from Storm Alfred, October 2011 was \$2,200,000 – 75% reimbursement. This transaction met all requirements of the town charter, which included the net amount specified to be included as a part of another fiscal year. Of the \$18,000,000 expended there were no findings in the report.

The Annual Financial Report issued an “unqualified” opinion, which indicate no problems or errors were found in the audit. The General Fund currently has an unassigned amount of \$11,000,000. The fund is also currently at 14.6% and increase to 16.85%.

It was recommended by the committee and Finance Director to have the auditors return with a mid-year report in late Spring, 2013.

December Financial Report

On the revenue side, the town is favorable with the recent FEMA reimbursement of \$2,200,000, which will flow to overall fund balance. The estimate in funding for FY 2013/2014 from the State of Connecticut is unpredictable at this point. It was also noted that no adjustments to state funding will be made in this current fiscal year budget.

The tax collection rate of on target, approximately 72% has been collected to date this fiscal year. The current tax rate is 98.7%.

On the expenditure side, the town has expended about 50% thus far. The Police Department has their overtime budget under control. The Public Works Department also has Snow & Ice and Utilities under budget control.

Other Business

Deputy Mayor Hypolite began an initial discussion regarding the town's overall fiscal health. There were several inquiries made regarding, how much is an adequate fund balance? Which areas should be earmarked for financing? Review of the pension fund and its return on investments.

There was brief discussion regarding suggestions for utilizing the excess in funds within the fund balance. Mr. Hogan stated that a decision to maintain a certain level, place funds in a capital improvements account, property tax relief for citizens, etc.

It was also noted that any sold capital assets must go into a capital non-recurring account.

Adjournment

It was moved by Deputy Mayor Hypolite, seconded by Councilor Rivers and voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 6:35 p.m.