



**Town of Ridgefield**  
**BOF Unapproved Meeting Minutes**  
Tuesday, March 31, 2026  
DRAFT Final

**I. Call to order**

BOF Chair Mike Rettger called the Board of Finance meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 31, 2026 in the Town Hall Large Conference Room. Members Mike Rettger, Dave Ulmer, Greg Kabasakalian, Andrew Okrongly, Joe Shapiro present.

Others Present: Rudy Marconi, First Selectperson; BOS member Maureen Kozlark; Kevin Redmond, Controller; Dr. Susie Da Silva, Superintendent of Schools; Cory Gillette, Assistant Superintendent; Dr. Elizabeth Hannaway, Assistant Superintendent of Special Services; Jill Browne, RPS Director of Finance; Karen Dewing, RPS Director of Personnel; John Paradiso, BOE Vice Chair; Christine More, BOE Secretary; BOE members Rachel Marino, Robert Martire and Angela Rice.

**II. Change in Order of Agenda Items**

**Motion** by Mr. Rettger to amend the second item in the agenda, discussion of and voting on various budget components, to take them in this order: use of budget surplus and fund balance; capital budgets for the Town and the schools; BOS Town operating budgets consisting of the Town operating budget which includes debt service followed by the budget for roads and ADA improvements; and then BOE operating budget; seconded by Mr. Ulmer. All in favor.

**III. Use of Fund Balance**

**Motion** by Mr. Okrongly to approve the use of \$1,450,000 from the unassigned fund balance in the calculation of the required tax revenues in the FY 2026-2027 budget, based on an expected current year budget surplus of that amount, seconded by Mr. Ulmer. All in favor.

#### **IV. Proposed Capital Budget**

**Motion** by Mr. Shapiro to approve an amended capital budget for FY 2026-2027, reduced by \$60,000 to reflect the removal of the PZC capital item request, in the resulting amount of \$15,894,310, seconded by Mr. Rettger. Approved 4-1 with Mr. Rettger, Mr. Ulmer, Mr. Okrongly and Mr. Shapiro voting in favor and Mr. Kabasakalian voting against.

#### **V. Town Operating Budget Including Debt Service**

**Motion** by Mr. Ulmer to approve the proposed Town Operating budget of \$55,096,440 for FY 2026-2027, which includes the proposed Town operating expenditures of \$46,227,045 and the proposed debt service budget of \$8,869,395, and which is exclusive of roads, seconded by Mr. Okrongly. Approved 4-1 with Mr. Rettger, Mr. Ulmer, Mr. Okrongly and Mr. Shapiro voting in favor and Mr. Kabasakalian voting against.

#### **VI. Roads Operating Budget**

**Motion** by Mr. Ulmer to approve the roads and ADA improvements portion of the Operating budget in the amount of \$2,246,900 for FY 2026-2027, seconded by Mr. Okrongly. All in favor.

#### **VII. BOE Operating Budget**

**Motion** by Mr. Rettger to approve BOE operating budget in the amount of \$123,800,000 for FY 2026-2027, seconded by Mr. Ulmer. Approved 4-1 with Mr. Rettger, Mr. Ulmer, Mr. Okrongly and Mr. Shapiro voting in favor and Mr. Kabasakalian voting against.

#### **VIII. Adjournment**

**Motion** to adjourn at 7:45 p.m. by Mr. Ulmer, seconded by Mr. Okrongly. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted by  
Mia Belanger