

**TOWN OF POMFRET - BOARD OF FINANCE  
SPECIAL MEETING/BUDGET WORKSHOP MINUTES  
MONDAY, MARCH 25, 2024 @ 6:30 PM  
COMMUNITY CENTER**

**In Attendance:** M. Huoppi, D. Thompson, J. Corey, N. Reingold, K. Sapp, M. Nicholson, M. Cummings. **Absent:** E. Sistare

**I. Open Special Meeting/Budget Workshop** – M. Huoppi opened the meeting at 6:31 pm

**II. New Business** – None.

**III. Current Business**

**Evaluation and discussion of proposed General Government and Board of Education budgets** – M. Huoppi said over the past five years, the BOE budget has increased over 3% four out of the five years, for a total of \$1.3 million. In ten years, the budget has increased \$1.6 million, while enrollment has dropped approximately 90 students. This year's requested increase of 3.3% (\$368,300) does not reflect the savings from the drop in high school enrollment. She felt the town cannot sustain this kind of increase every year and recommended cutting the budget \$92,448 (decrease in high school tuition). Discussion followed. D. Thompson has examined previous budgets and noticed there were line items that were clearly underspent. The BOE has repeatedly returned unspent money at the end of the fiscal years. M. Huoppi would rather not overtax the residents only to have money returned. She noted that if the BOE or BOS need funds for unanticipated expenses, they can come to the BOF for a special appropriation.

The General Government budget modest increase of 1.02% (\$33,966) was discussed. Some members felt the increase was justified and no cuts were necessary. Others questioned the line item for a town administrator, as well as continuing to fund the Abington Social Library and Pomfret Historical Society. There were also questions about the recreation director's salary. M. Huoppi will forward questions to M. Nicholson.

**IV. Citizen's Comments** – none.

**V. Adjournment** – D. Thompson made a motion to adjourn. J. Corey seconded. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:01 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn L. Krajewski, Clerk

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_