

**TOWN OF POMFRET  
BOARD OF FINANCE MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY, MARCH 11, 2024 @ 6:30 PM  
POMFRET COMMUNITY CENTER**

**In Attendance:** M. Huoppi, D. Thompson, J. Corey, N. Reingold, K. Sapp, E. Sistare, M. Nicholson, B. Riley, M. Cummings, and R. Wishart

**I. Open Regular Meeting**

- A. M. Huoppi opened the meeting at 6:33 pm.
- B. Approve minutes of February 12, 2024. D. Thompson made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. E. Sistare seconded. All in favor.
- C. Items to be added to the agenda. None
- D. Citizen's Participation - None

**II. New Business – Presentation of Budgets**

- A. Board of Education - M. Cummings presented the Board of Education's proposed FY2025 budget of \$11,443,727, an increase of \$368,300 or 3.3%. The Board had questions about placements for students with special needs, the open speech pathologist position, and the anticipated number of retirees. There is a new state mandate to create an administrator evaluation process. The school put out seven inquiries for a bus contract but had only one response from the current provider M&J, which has agreed to a three-year contract. There was some discussion about the savings from a reduced number of high school students. M. Huoppi expressed concern regarding the large increases in the BOE budget during the last 4 out of 5 years, totaling \$1.3 million dollars. M. Nicholson said Woodstock Academy recently laid off 15 employees, and the number of international students has decreased.
- B. Board of Selectmen – M. Nicholson presented the proposed General Government budget of \$3,370,039, which has an increase of \$33.966 or 1.02%. One of the additions is a line item for a town administrator that would be shared with one or two other towns. The cost of the position would be phased in over four years with a regional performance grant through NECOG.

**III. Current Business**

- A. Board of Education Report – M. Cummings reported the 2023-24 budget is within expectations, and the BOE approved budget transfers at its February meeting. They continue to look for an affordable health insurance plan.
- B. Board of Selectmen Report – M. Nicholson referred to the budget presentation regarding BOS updates.
- C. Board of Finance Report
  - 1. Tax Collector's Report – M. Huoppi said the tax collector reported that more residents are having trouble paying their taxes.
  - 2. General Fund Revenues and Expenditures – No concerns

**IV. Other Business - None**

**V. Correspondence - None**

**VI. Citizen's Participation** – None. M. Huoppi reminded the Board there would be a budget workshop on March 25, 2024, at 6:30 pm.

**VII. Adjournment** – D. Thompson made a motion to adjourn, seconded by E. Sistare. All in favor. The meeting adjourned at 8:55 pm.

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Lynn L. Krajewski, Clerk**

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