

**TOWN OF POMFRET
BOARD OF FINANCE
WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, MARCH 23, 2015 AT 6:30 PM
PCS CONFERENCE ROOM**

In Attendance: Board of Finance members Ken Kristal, Carolyn Gerrity, Margie Huoppi, Jorge Martinez, Alyson Aleman, Michael Baum. Also Present: First Selectman Maureen Nicholson, BOE Chair and Vice-Chair Richard Schad, Kate Cerrone.

I. Open Meeting - Meeting opened at 6:36 by K. Kristal.

- a. **Approve Minutes of March 9, 2015** – M. Huoppi moved to approve minutes. J. Martinez seconded. All in favor.
- b. **Discussion/Review of Public Comments received at Budget Forum and the proposed General Government and Board of Education budgets** – Some discussion about expected revenues. The State figures are still unknown at this time. M. Huoppi felt it was a good year to add some resident services. Her preference at this time would be to accept budgets as presented and keep the mil rate flat. If cuts became necessary to keep them modest. There were questions and discussion regarding the funding of the Abington Library as it is not a town-owned facility. Additional discussion regarding the General Government budget regarding the cost of the Fire Marshal and some of the increased line items. Discussion regarding the Board of Education budget and declining enrollment. The Board of Education offered a \$20,000 reduction to their budget. K. Cerrone spoke of the rising security and utility costs. Discussion regarding the administrative increase at the school and why that has increased. K. Kristal was looking for consensus to discuss at the Public Hearing. He would consider a cut of \$20,000 to the General Government budget and \$30,000 to the BOE, with a modest use of surplus. Additional discussion regarding this and other options with the consensus of the Board being to use little to zero amounts from the town surplus to balance the budgets.

II. Citizen's Participation - None

III. Adjournment - Duly seconded and meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie Ryan, clerk

Date approved: Revised and approved 4/13/15