

**TOWN OF POMFRET
BOARD OF FINANCE MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, MAY 11, 2015 AT 6:30 PM
POMFRET COMMUNITY SCHOOL**

In Attendance: Board of Finance members Ken Kristal, Carolyn Gerrity, Margie Huoppi, Alyson Aleman, Michael Baum. Also present: First Selectman Maureen Nicholson, Selectman Peter Mann. Board Member not present: J. Martinez.

- I. Open Regular Meeting** – K. Kristal opened meeting at 6:31 PM.
 - a. Approve Minutes Meetings of April 13, April 21, and April 27, 2015, and May 7, 2015** – M. Huoppi moved to approve minutes of April 13th. Seconded by C. Gerrity. All in favor. A. Aleman abstained as not present. M. Baum moved to approve minutes of April 21st. M. Huoppi seconded. All in favor. C. Gerrity moved to approve minutes of April 27th. A. Aleman seconded. M. Baum moved to approve minutes of May 7th. A. Aleman seconded. All in favor.
 - b. Items to be added to Agenda** – K. Kristal moved to add to New Business: Review and Possible Approval of Tax Collector's Recommended Transfer of Uncollectible Uncollected Taxes to the Suspense Book. M. Baum seconded. All in favor.
 - c. Citizen's Participation** - None
- II. New Business**
 - a. Discussion & Possible Action: Transfer of remaining BOE Surplus Funds to BOE Non-Lapsing Fund** – K. Kristal motioned to transfer \$56,121.87 from the Designated School Surplus Fund to the new Non-Lapsing BOE Surplus Fund. M. Baum seconded. All in favor.
 - b. Appointment of Auditor for FY 2014/2015** – K. Kristal moved to appoint O'Connell, Pace, & Company P.C. as the auditing firm for fiscal year 2014/2015. A. Aleman seconded. This appointment would represent a significant savings to the Town. K. Kristal was present during the interview with this auditor and felt they were well experienced and he felt it to be beneficial to have fresh eyes on the Town's books. Both Pomfret and Brooklyn have received very favorable recommendations for this firm. Vote on motion: All in favor.
 - c. Review & Possible Approval of Tax Collector's Recommended Transfer of Uncollectible Uncollected Taxes to the Suspense Book** – K. Kristal made a motion to approve the proposal as presented by the Tax Collector. Motion was duly seconded. There was some discussion regarding contacting Probate when taxes are uncollectible due to a death. All in favor, motion passes.
- III. Current Business**
 - a. Treasurer's Report** – Investment report was distributed and briefly discussed. Some discussion regarding the recent proposal to use Morgan Stanley Smith Barney as a depository.
 - b. Tax Collector's Report** - None
 - c. Assessor's Report** - None
 - d. Board of Education Report** - None
 - e. Board of Selectmen Report** – M. Nicholson provided an update on the Sewer Project. An Intent to File and Informational Meeting has been held

for a second application as the first will expire before the project can be completed. The route has also changed and the project cost has increased. The new application may also provide a better interest rate and a better grant to loan ratio for the parties involved. TEEG is actively working toward the added day at the Senior Center. The plan is close the Center in June to allow time and space to complete all updates with a new Grand Opening planned for July 1st. The accounting for Inland Wetlands and Planning and Zoning reflect many old refunds and balances. It has been proposed to transfer the old debt to the budget, wash it off the books, and clear these accounts. The goal is to clear all accounts by the first of June and put a new system into place. She also reported that a number of Tax Sales are coming up that are expected to bring approximately \$100,000 of back taxes to the Town. M. Nicholson also wanted to clarify that the Budget Survey put out by the Selectman's Office was done to try and get some input on the budgets. The proposed survey was sent to K. Kristal and R. Schad, BOE Chair, for comments. Their feedback was incorporated into the survey before it was sent out. The Memorial Day Parade is on May 25th at 10:00 AM. It is in Abington this year. The street flags are all new and will be hung this weekend. The new flags were attached to the poles as a project by a local boy scout group.

f. Board of Finance – Member Reports & Discussion – Nothing new.

IV. Other Business

a. Discussion: Budget Process & General Fund Use – K. Kristal was looking for some Board feedback, ideas, or concerns regarding this process. A. Aleman felt it was worthwhile to have a subcommittee look into Best Practices of General Fund usage. C. Gerrity was willing to work with her on this and M. Baum if his schedule will allow. A. Aleman is willing to chair. Their initial meeting will be held immediately following the Regular Board of Finance meeting in June and a summer schedule will be determined from there. C. Gerrity felt it would be good to provide some public education at the start of the Forum – explaining how calculations are done and how revenues are viewed. M. Huoppi felt it would be nice if more people could be reached.

V. Correspondence- None

VI. Citizen's Participation - None

VII. Adjournment – M. Baum moved to adjourn. M. Huoppi seconded. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:22 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Bonnie Ryan, clerk

date approved_____