

**TOWN OF POMFRET  
BOARD OF FINANCE  
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, MAY 3, 2016 AT 7:00 PM  
PCS CONFERENCE ROOM**

In Attendance: Board of Finance members Ken Kristal, Carolyn Gerrity, Michael Baum, Alyson Aleman, Jorge Martinez. Also present: First Selectman Craig Baldwin, Superintendent of Schools Stephen Cullinan. Board Member not present: Margie Huoppi

**I. Open Meeting** - K. Kristal opened meeting at 7:00 PM.

**II. Current Business**

- a. Discussion and Possible Action – Use of General Funds in balancing 2016/2017 budgets** – Combined budgets have come in at a decrease of over \$116,000. Discussion regarding options of what could still be done toward keeping taxes flat in light of the reduction in the Grand List. Further discussion regarding the undesignated fund and it's balance over 10% of the budget. There was a comfort level in using some of the balance to level the mil rate. C. Baldwin asked about a long-term strategy beyond the current year. The Board consensus was to consider use of the undesignated fund year over year when in excess of 10% in order to keep the mil rate level.

**b. Discussion and Possible Action – Determination of Tax**

**Reserve/Collection for 2016/2017 budgets** – Review and discussion of reports from Tax Collector. Collections in Pomfret are typically high and consideration was given to increasing the collection rate to 98.5% or 99%. C. Baldwin stated that in discussions with the Tax and Assessor's office there is concern with this higher collection rate which is not typically reached. He also noted that Prior Taxes and Interest revenues are falling due to a number of larger, past-due accounts having been collected. Further discussion with the consensus being to change the collection rate by a small amount and use some of the undesignated fund that is in excess of 10%. The combination of the two should provide a mil increase in light of the reduced grand list and overall keep taxes level.

A. Aleman moved to increase the collection rate to 98.5%. J. Martinez seconded. There was no further discussion. All in favor. None opposed.

K. Kristal asked for a motion to use \$128,000 from the undesignated fund in order to mitigate the mil impact. So moved by A. Aleman. C. Gerrity seconded. There was no further discussion. All in favor. None opposed. The result should be a mil increase of 1.36 that will work with the higher collection rate in order to adjust for the reduced Grand List.

**III. Citizen's Participation** – C. Baldwin stated that the State revenues are still in flux and asked the Board to not rule out delaying a determination of the mil rate until it is known what the Town can expect in State revenue. The Board will consider a possible delay up until early June dependent upon when the State acts. Board of Finance regular meeting still scheduled for Monday, May 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:30.

**IV. Adjournment** – M. Baum moved to adjourn. J. Martinez seconded. All in favor and meeting duly adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bonnie Ryan, clerk

date approved\_\_\_\_\_