

**TOWN OF POMFRET  
BOARD OF FINANCE MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2016 AT 6:30 PM  
POMFRET COMMUNITY SCHOOL CAFETERIA**

In Attendance: Board of Finance Members – Ken Kristal, Carolyn Gerrity, Margie Huoppi, Michael Baum, Jorge Martinez. Also present – First Selectman Craig Baldwin, Tax Collector Pam Gaumond, citizen John DiIorio. Board member not present-Alyson Aleman.

- I. Open Regular Meeting** – K. Kristal opened meeting at 6:30 PM.
  - a. **Approve Minutes Meetings of June 13, 2016** – C. Gerrity moved to approve minutes of June 13<sup>th</sup>. M. Baum seconded. All in favor.
  - b. **Items to be added to Agenda** – M. Huoppi moved for a discussion regarding Longmeadow road work and possible financial impact and Jorge Martinez moved for a discussion regarding the Bid process. In favor to add both to New Business.
  - c. **Citizen's Participation** – John DiIorio stated that he was present due to the many calls and comments he has received from Longmeadow residents. He wanted to stress to the Board that this was not a small issue, it will not go away, and the Board should be active in remediation. He asked the Board to take the issue seriously, ensure transparency, and to look into the bid process. There could be significant financial impacts to the Town. John has information on the product that was used on the road and he will submit that to the Board in writing for future discussion. There was some additional discussion by the Board. K. Kristal stated that they would welcome any information that John could provide.
- II. New Business**
  - a. **Longmeadow Discussion** – K. Kristal stated that the role of the Board of Finance regarding this matter should be clarified. Their involvement should be with regard to financial impact and the need for future funding. M. Huoppi felt that a chronology of how the project came about would be helpful and the concern of the Board would be with funding. M. Baum stated that he did not feel it was the job of the Board of Finance to question decisions made by the Selectmen or any other Board. The role of the BOF was to look at finances. If additional funding is needed with regard to this project it would be the Selectmen that would request that funding from the Board of Finance. There was some discussion with agreement that the focus of this Board should be with financial impact.
  - b. **Bid Process Discussion** – There was some discussion regarding the bid process and the role of the Board of Finance. The Board does not oversee this process or get involved with bid postings for any town purchases. Their involvement would only come should additional funding be required.

### **III. Current Business**

- a. Treasurer's Report** – Investment report reviewed and briefly discussed.
- b. Tax Collector's Report** – Tax Collection report reviewed and briefly discussed.
- c. Assessor's Report** - None
- d. Board of Education Report** – K. Kristal stated that the Board has new leadership. Kate Cerrone is the new Chairperson. Richard Schad still sits on the Board. He also stated that A. Aleman attended the last BOE Meeting but there was nothing to report.
- e. Board of Selectmen Report** - C. Baldwin provided some background regarding the Longmeadow project. The product that was used is an approved product, it has not been banned. It has been confused with sealants that have been banned in some areas. He does have an engineering firm conducting studies in an effort to address concerns of the residents. This is not a sealant – which stays on top, but a rejuvenator – which penetrates and heals the roadway. The MSDS sheet on the product does state that coal tar when cured is inert. The plan from the beginning has been to put an overlay on the road at a future date. The product was evaluated and the Highway Department was consulted before the work began. All indications were that this was a good product, used by the EPA, Disney, and other entities although it is relatively new in the Northeast. Longmeadow was picked because of the age of the road. This rejuvenator, along with the overlay, will produce a new road at a fraction of the cost.

The Sewer Project is moving forward. Bid packages should be ready this winter with spring construction planned. The Hankin easement is still in the works. The draft agreement with Putnam has been reviewed by the two Towns and a recent meeting was held with Doug Cutler, Putnam's Town Administrator.

The DOT work replacing Wappaquoi Bridge was completed a week early and Route 44 is now open. The EOC Requirements Committee is ready to start. Also, Eversource has been helpful in working with the Town regarding roadside trees that need attention. If Board members hear of any tree problems please contact the Selectman's Office.
- f. Board of Finance – Member Reports & Discussion** – C. Gerrity reported that the FY 2016 ending reports look good. These numbers are still unaudited but monies should be available to add to the general fund.

### **IV. Other Business**

- a. Audit Recommendation Update/Discussion** – Copies of possible Whistle Blower and Conflict of Interest copies, as received from the auditors, was distributed to the Board. K. Kristal asked the Board to review for discussion at the next meeting. The Selectmen's Office has been working on a policy regarding physical inventories and departments have all been updating the inventory lists for their areas. C. Gerrity has

been working on the Fraud policy but has not received the information from the auditors as yet.

**V. Correspondence - None**

**VI. Citizen's Participation - None**

**VII. Adjournment** – J. Martinez moved to adjourn. M. Baum seconded. All in favor and meeting adjourned at 8:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie Ryan, clerk

Date approved \_\_\_\_\_