

TOWN OF POMFRET
BOARD OF FINANCE – PUBLIC HEARING AGENDA
TUESDAY, MAY 7, 2013 AT 7:00 PM
POMFRET COMMUNITY SCHOOL CAFETERIA

In Attendance: Board of Finance Members Ken Kristal, Carolyn Gerrity, Margie Huoppie, Michael Baum, Alyson Aleman, Jorge Martinez. Also present – Members of the Board of Selectmen, Board of Education, Staff, and approximately 35 citizens and interested parties.

- I. **Open Session** – Ken Kristal opened Public Hearing at 7:00 PM

- II. **General Government and Board of Education Fiscal Year 2013/2014 Budget Review** – K. Kristal presented slides giving an overview of these budgets. He also provided the revenue projections as known at this point. A question was posed regarding full day Kindergarten and how keeping it at a half day could provide a cost savings. This would require a reduction in staff. Bill Hull asked about the fund balance and stated that he would advocate for a flat or minor increase only this year. Michael Baum stated that the Board has used some of the fund balance in past years to lighten the load to the taxpayers. Quassett Road resident stated that she felt these were great budgets and would advocate full-day kindergarten. The town needed to look to the future when deliberating. A number of people issued agreements to this statement. Kate Cerrone, Vice-Chairman of the Board of Education stated that the BOE has reinstated in their budget some of the funding that had been put on parents this past year – such as field trips and school sports. Pam Lewerenz asked about a contingency plan if the State revenues do not come in as planned. K. Kristal stated they would then have to look to more funding from the fund balance or go to the taxpayers for a special appropriation. Tony Emilio asked if there were additional revenue to the Town on the horizon from the Interstate Reliability project or the Sewer project. Maureen Nicholson stated that those figures have not been projected at this time. Maria Sangiolo asked if some of the past surplus used was for Open Space. C.Gerrity stated that some of that money was used toward the Open Space project. Linda Rich asked about the status of the Building Inspector line. K. Kristal stated that it had not changed and the Board did not plan to alter it. John Folsom stated he would advocate for using \$100,000 from the surplus and keeping the mil increase at .67 K. Kristal asked for a show of hands regarding the use of \$100,000 or \$50,000 or \$0 from the surplus and the corresponding mil increase. Most present were in favor of using \$50,000 which would indicate a mil increase of about .81
There were no further comments or questions.
- III. **Adjournment** – Moved and duly seconded. Public Hearing adjourned at 7:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Bonnie Ryan, clerk

date approved_____