

**TOWN OF POMFRET
BOARD OF FINANCE MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, APRIL 8, 2019 AT 6:30 PM
POMFRET COMMUNITY SCHOOL CONFERENCE ROOM**

In Attendance: Board of Finance Members Margie Huoppi, Michael Baum, Carolyn Gerrity, Dayna Flath, Jennifer York, Debra Thompson. Also present: First Selectman Maureen Nicholson, Superintendent of Schools Stephen Cullinan, BOE Chair Kate Cerrone, PCS Principal Susan Imschweiler, Selectman Ellsworth Chase and citizens Peter Mann, Jill Corey.

- I. Open Regular Meeting** – M. Huoppi opened meeting at 6:34 PM.
 - a. Approve Minutes Meeting of March 11 and March 18, 2019** – C. Gerrity moved to approve minutes of March 11th. D. Thompson seconded. All in favor. C. Gerrity moved to approve minutes of March 18th. D. Thompson seconded. All in favor.
 - b. Items to be added to Agenda** – M. Huoppi moved to add Appointment of Auditor for FY 2018/2019 to Other Business as item a. Duly seconded and all in favor.
 - c. Citizen's Participation** - None

- II. New Business**
 - a. Community Outreach Fund – Possible Approval of Library Request Marketing Seed Money/Expansion Project** – M. Nicholson stated that the Library Board has initially requested this seed money in their proposed 2019/2020 budget request. She felt this would be a good use for some of the Community Outreach Fund money. Funds will be used for promoting and initial fundraising of the library expansion. Some discussion. The Board felt they would like additional information and the Library Director will be invited to the next meeting.

- III. Current Business**
 - a. Board of Selectmen Report** – M. Nicholson stated that she is looking into new street flags for Memorial Day. They need to be replaced every few years and while there is some money in the budget there is not enough. She was looking into replacing half in one year and the other half the following year. The cost for 45 flags and 45 poles would be about \$1600.00. She is requesting that this be considered from the Community Outreach Fund. E. Chase stated that the Lions may also have some money available for this purpose. J. York moved to approve the expenditure of \$1600 from the Community Outreach Fund for 45 street flags and 45 poles. D. Thompson seconded. Five in favor: M. Huoppi, C. Gerrity, D. Flath, J. York, D. Thompson. One opposed: M. Baum. M. Nicholson went on to report that the sewer project is moving along. There have been some drainage and well issues but things are moving forward. The septic system is going in under the library parking lot. This has been a significant savings from the quotes received for tying into the septic system. NDDH has approved the septic plan and the new parking lot should begin to be paved next week.

- b. **Board of Education Report** – S. Cullinan provided a written report that addressed some of the questions that the Board had last month. This reviewed some of the events scheduled and donations received and some areas of expense. The report was reviewed and briefly discussed. There was some further discussing regarding negotiations for health insurance rates and Woodstock Academy costs.
- c. **Board of Finance Report** – The revenue and expense reports were briefly reviewed.

IV. Other Business

- a. **Appointment of Auditor FY 2018/2019** – C. Gerrity moved to appoint King, King and Associates as auditor for the FY 2018/2019. D. Flath seconded. All in favor.
- b. **FY 2019/2020 Budget Discussion and Recommendation** – M. Huoppi distributed a chart with options for consideration regarding the proposed budgets. With the preliminary revenues these budgets represent a 2.27 mill increase as they currently stand. She also outlined an option that incorporated cuts to both budgets and use of some undesignated fund money that would reduce the increase to .76 mill. Discussion regarding use of undesignated fund, cuts of all but contractual increases, and options they had to consider. D. Flath moved to recommend a cut of \$150,000 from the Board of Education budget and \$50,000 from the General Government budget. D. Thompson seconded. This seems to meet indications from the budget surveys and further discussion of undesignated fund use can be had after the public hearing. Five in favor: M. Huoppi, C. Gerrity, D. Flath, J. York, D. Thompson. Opposed: Michael Baum. Motion passes.
- c. **Confirm Public Hearing Date** – J. York moved to schedule the Public Hearing regarding these budgets on Monday, April 29, 2019 at 7:00 PM at the Pomfret Community School. D. Flath seconded. All in favor.

- V. **Correspondence** – C. Gerrity submitted a letter of resignation effective with the close of this meeting. They will be moving out of town. The resignation was accepted with regret. Carolyn has served on the Board for 14 years.

- VII. **Citizen's Participation** – Peter Mann stated he was present as the Republican Town Committee Chair and wished to thank Carolyn Gerrity for her years of service to the town. He wished to recommend Jill Corey as her replacement on the Board of Finance and offered her letter of interest and resume. The Board will take this under consideration and possibly advertise the position as well. Kate Cerrone offered her thanks to Carolyn for her years of service and thanked the Board for careful consideration of budgets during these difficult years and increasing cuts from the State.

- VIII. **Adjournment** – M. Baum moved to adjourn. J. York seconded. All in favor and meeting duly adjourned at 8:04 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Bonnie Ryan, clerk

date approved_____