

**TOWN OF POMFRET
BOARD OF FINANCE MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, APRIL 11, 2016 AT 6:30 PM
POMFRET COMMUNITY SCHOOL CONFERENCE ROOM**

In Attendance: Board of Finance members Ken Kristal, Carolyn Gerrity, Jorge Martinez, Alyson Aleman, Margie Huoppi, Michael Baum. Also present: First Selectman Craig Baldwin, Selectman Donna Smith, Superintendent of Schools Stephen Cullinan, and JoAnn Baldwin.

- I. Open Regular Meeting** – K. Kristal opened meeting at 6:30 PM. He noted that the March 23rd minutes were also available to be approved.
 - a. Approve Minutes Meetings of March 14, 2016** – M. Huoppi moved to approve. J. Martinez seconded. All in favor. C. Gerrity moved to approve the Audit Presentation minutes of March 23, 2016. M. Huoppi seconded. C. Gerrity noted that the final sentence should indicate the auditor recommended percentage. It was also requested that the discussion regarding prioritizing recommendations made by the auditors should be noted. C. Gerrity moved to approve with revisions. M. Baum seconded. All in favor. M. Huoppi moved to approve the Public Forum minutes of March 23, 2016. J. Martinez seconded. All in favor. C. Gerrity moved to approve the minutes of March 23rd regarding the Sewer Agreements. M. Huoppi seconded. A. Aleman stated that she would like the minutes to state that if PCS system should ever fail the Town would be required to tie-in to an existing system.
 - b. Items to be added to Agenda** -None
 - c. Citizen's Participation** - None
- II. New Business** - None
- III. Current Business**
 - a. Treasurer's Report** - None
 - b. Tax Collector's Report** - None
 - c. Assessor's Report** - None
 - d. Board of Education Report** – S. Cullinan stated that there are two fuel tanks located at PCS that may need consideration. Pressure tests have been done on them recently and while the expectation is that these tanks will pass they are nearing the end of their expected life-span. Planning for replacement could be a consideration within the next 5 years. The larger of the two could be considerable in replacement cost but no realistic figures are determined at this point.
 - e. Board of Selectmen Report** - C. Baldwin provided a report regarding the Wappaquoi Bridge project. Some of the stone wall will need to come down in order to place retaining walls but the stones will be marked and the wall reconstructed exactly as it currently stands. A detour will go into place right after the close of school in June with signage at the top of Pomfret Hill and at each intersection. A best truck route will be posted as

well. The Sewer Agreements have been finalized and a signing is planned for this Thursday. The bid process will begin shortly after this. The Woods Hill Road Solar Farm is moving forward. Information is being collected on how this will be assessed. This is a private landowner project without Town involvement. The proposed solar farm on town owned land is still on hold as the State is not yet ready to move forward.

- f. **Board of Finance – Member Reports & Discussion** – C. Gerrity provided a brief update of revenues and expenses to date.

IV. Other Business

- a. **Review and Possible Approval of Transfer as Requested by Treasurer's Office** – C. Gerrity moved to approve transfer as requested by the Treasurer's office. J. Martinez seconded. The use of this money for repair at the Old Town House was previously approved by the Board. All in favor.
- b. **Possible Approval: Transfer of Uncollectible Taxes to Suspense Book** M. Huoppi moved to approve as presented the movement of uncollected taxes to the Suspense List as requested by the Tax Office. C. Gerrity seconded. All in favor.
- c. **Discussion: Proposed General Government and Board of Education Budgets for FY 2016/2017** – C. Baldwin stated that the Board of Selectmen approved a revised budget at their recent meeting. Health insurance came flat instead of the projected increase and there was some payroll reductions in the tax and assessor office. This resulted in an additional \$30,741 in reductions bring the General Government budget to an overall reduction of \$41,926 over last year. S. Cullinan stated that the Board of Education insurance cost was still not confirmed. A meeting is scheduled on Thursday and the anticipation is that the Board will be able to further reduce the Education budget with the hope that it will be brought to zero. There was further discussion regarding the anticipated reductions in State funding and the impact of the recent Revaluation and reduction in the Grand List. A Public Hearing on the proposed budgets is scheduled for Thursday evening, April 28, 2016 at 7:00 PM, Pomfret Community School.

- V. **Correspondence** – One email has been received with comments regarding possible mil increase and declining State funding. It was distributed to the group.

VI. Citizen's Participation - None

- VI. **Adjournment** – M. Baum moved to adjourn. J. Martinez seconded. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Bonnie Ryan, clerk

date approved_____