

**TOWN OF POMFRET
BOARD OF FINANCE MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, MAY 8, 2017 AT 6:30 PM
POMFRET COMMUNITY SCHOOL CONFERENCE ROOM**

In Attendance: Board Members Ken Kristal, Carolyn Gerrity, Michael Baum, Margie Huoppi, Jorge Martinez, Debi Thompson. Also present: First Selectman Craig Baldwin, Superintendent of Schools Stephen Cullinan, BOE Chair Kate Cerrone, Tax Collector Pam Gaumond, Treasurer Cheryl Grist. Also present: Maureen Nicholson

- I. Open Regular Meeting** – K. Kristal opened meeting at 6:30 PM
 - a. Approve Minutes Meetings of April 10, 2017** – C. Gerrity moved to approve minutes of April 10th. M. Baum seconded. All in favor. K. Kristal moved to approve **minutes of May 1st**. J. Martinez seconded. All in favor with M. Baum, M. Huoppi, and C. Gerrity abstaining as not present.
 - b. Items to be added to Agenda** - None
 - c. Citizen's Participation** – M. Nicholson asked about a meeting scheduled for May 16th. The Public Hearing on the budgets has been scheduled for that date at 7:00 PM at Pomfret Community School. The Annual Town Meeting date has not yet been determined.
- II. New Business**
 - a. Possible Approval – Recommended Transfer of Uncollectible Uncollected Property Taxes to the Suspense Book** – The Suspense List as submitted by the Tax Collector was reviewed and briefly discussed. J. Martinez moved to approve as presented. C. Gerrity seconded. All in favor.
- III. Current Business**
 - a. Treasurer's Report** – C. Grist reported that all looks good. The STIF rates have been somewhat higher than they've been in the past.
 - b. Tax Collector's Report** – Tax Collector's report distributed and discussed briefly.
 - c. Assessor's Report** - None
 - d. Board of Education Report** – K. Cerrone reported that the BOE was notified by the State on Friday that the second Excess Cost installment has been reduced by over \$45,000. At this point the reduction should not affect what has been planned for the current year but will reduce any anticipated turn-back funds to very little, if any.
 - e. Board of Selectmen Report** – C. Baldwin reviewed a number of State monies that have not yet been paid this fiscal year and the possible impacts on the budget. He has been unable to receive confirmation from Hartford that these funds can be expected. Other revenue lines have been collected higher than planned which will make-up for some of this loss if the funding is not received.

f. Board of Finance – Member Reports & Discussion – None at this time.

IV. Other Business

- a. Discussion/Possible Action - Proposed General Government & Board of Education 2017/2018 Budgets** – K. Kristal reviewed points discussed in the past including 1.5% reserve, discussion with BOE regarding what cuts to their budget would look like, small grand list growth, and use of general fund. Revenues to be expected from the State are still unknown. K. Cerrone reviewed three areas within the BOE budget where they could take potential cuts and still avoid negative impacts to students. K. Kristal made a motion to request the Board of Education cut \$100,000 from their proposed 2017/2018 budget. M. Baum seconded. All in favor. K. Kristal asked the Board for thoughts regarding cuts to the General Government budget. There were no immediate suggestions and he stated that his feeling was that since the proposed General Government budget was below the current year that he was not inclined to ask for reductions at this time.
- b. Discussion of Future Meeting Dates** – The Board of Finance will plan to hold a Special Meeting immediately after the Public Hearing to discuss public input and possibly approve budgets.

- V. Correspondence** – K. Kristal stated that the Selectmen’s office has invited the Board to March in the Memorial Day parade.
- VI. Citizen’s Participation** – M. Nicholson asked if the Board had considered presenting scenarios to the public with regard to level funding, proposed Governor’s budget, and somewhere in the middle.
- VII.** Baum moved to adjourn. C. Gerrity seconded. Meeting duly adjourned at 7:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie Ryan, clerk

Date approved_____