

**TOWN OF POMFRET
BOARD OF FINANCE MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, APRIL 9, 2018 AT 6:30 PM
POMFRET COMMUNITY SCHOOL CONFERENCE ROOM**

In Attendance: Board of Finance members Margie Huoppi, Debi Thompson, Dayna Flath, Jennifer York, Michael Baum, Carolyn Gerrity. Also present – First Selectman Maureen Nicholson, Superintendent of Schools Stephen Cullinan, BOE Chairman Kate Cerrone, Treasurer Cheryl Grist. Agriculture Commission members Jim Rowley and Lance Sistare

- I. Open Regular Meeting** – Meeting opened at 6:35 PM
 - a. Approve Minutes Meetings of March 12 and March 19, 2018 – C.**
Gerrity moved to approve minutes of March 12th. Duly seconded. All in favor. C. Gerrity moved to approve minutes of March 19th. D. Thompson seconded. All in favor.
 - b. Items to be added to Agenda - None**
 - c. Citizen's Participation - None**
- II. New Business**
 - a. Agriculture Commission-Farm Machinery & Equipment Abatement/Discussion and Possible Action** – Jim Rowley and Lance Sistare were present for the Agriculture Commission. This proposal has been reviewed by the Board of Selectman and was voted on favorably to move to the Board of Finance. The Agriculture Commission felt that this abatement would potentially attract more farmers to town. They would like to see Pomfret meet the same farm equipment abatements that are offered in surrounding towns. A report from the Assessor was reviewed that indicated the proposal would have zero financial impact to the town at this time. Discussion. D. Flath moved to approve the proposed additional optional \$100,000 exemption on farm equipment and machinery. C. Gerrity seconded. 5 in favor – D. Flath, C. Gerrity, M. Huoppi, D. Thompson, D. Flath. 1 opposed – M. Baum. Motion passes. This will go back to the Selectmen for an Ordinance and then to a Town Meeting for approval.
- III. Current Business**
 - a. Board of Selectmen Report** – M. Nicholson stated that the Sewer Project has gone out to bid. Bids are due on April 26th. Some discussion regarding administration costs to date. These are reimbursable to the Town from the participants. The TAP grant is in the design phase and type studies are being worked on. An architect is working on the EOC design and the project goes before Planning and Zoning on April 18th.
 - b. Board of Education Report** – K. Cerrone stated that a number of cost savings options are being looked at. EastConn managing the lunch program is one example. Steve is currently attending meetings to identify

additional areas of savings. The BOE received a presentation from EChip at their last meeting regarding health insurance. The program is self-insured and much study would need to be completed to determine any savings. Woodstock Academy is proposing a move from CIAC sports programs to NAPSAC. Parents have expressed much concern regarding this and there will be continued discussion by the Board of Education on options.

- c. **Board of Finance Report** – C. Gerrity provided an update regarding revenues and expenditures to date. An Investment and Tax Report was distributed and reviewed. M. Nicholson distributed an updated Grand List report from the Assessor. Some discussion.

IV. Other Business

- a. **Strategic Planning Committee Report** – C. Gerrity stated that a number of operational areas have been looked at. She is asking both Boards to come back with an idea of what a \$500,000 cut would look like.
- b. **FY 2018/2019 Budget – Discussion/Possible Action** – The Board of Education had distributed a list of possible one-time capital expenses that could be covered by the undesignated fund. M. Nicholson stated there is a one-time road repair item in the capital budget that could be funded. Revenue estimated were distributed with discussion regarding impacts to mil rate and the amount of undesignated money that could best be used to fund capital projects. A Workshop was scheduled for April 16th at 6:30 PM to be held at the Pomfret Senior Center for further discussion and possible action.
- c. **Fund Balance Policy – Discussion/Possible Action** – Tabled to next regular meeting.

V. Correspondence - None

VI. Citizen's Participation - None

VII. Adjournment – D. Thompson moved to adjourn. C. Gerrity seconded. All in favor and meeting adjourned at 9:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie Ryan, clerk

Date approved_____