

**Board of Finance  
Town of East Windsor  
11 Rye Street  
East Windsor, CT**

**MINUTES OF BUDGET WORKSHOP – SPECIAL MEETING  
Wednesday, April 13, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.**

These minutes are not official until approved at a subsequent meeting.

Members Present: Jack Mannette, Danelle E. Godeck, Kathleen Pippin,  
Jason Bowsza, and Marie DeSousa  
Members Absent: Robert Little  
Alternates Present: Jamie Daniel and Thomas Baker  
Alternate Absent: None  
Others: Denise Menard, Richard Pippin, Catherine Cabral, Chief Edward  
DeMarco and other townspeople  
Press: None

Chairman Jack Mannette called the Budget Workshop Special Meeting to Order at 7:02 p.m., in the East Windsor High School, Board of Education Meeting Room, 70 Main Street, East Windsor, Connecticut.

Chairman Jack Mannette explained to the Board that he had sent an email to all Board Members and to Ms. Catherine Cabral, Treasurer, requesting updated reports from the last meeting on April 7, 2010. Ms. Cabral gave to all Board Members the revised reports from the last meeting entitled, “FY 2010-2011 Projected Revenue Proposed 4-13-10”, “FY 2010-2011 Projected Revenue – 2%”, “Town of East Windsor Other Post-Employment Benefits Funding Alternatives”, and “Tax Percentage Budgeting Based on New Grand List”. Ms. Cabral explained each report in detail to the Board explaining each scenario and the projected bottom line of each scenario. The first sheet compared the current budget versus the proposed budget as presented. This sheet shows a tax increase of approximately 15.59% and a mill rate increase of 3.5163. The second sheet compared the current budget versus the charter driven budget of a 2% increase. The tax increase of approximately 10.89% and a mill rate increase of 2.3676. The third sheet discussed the post-employment benefits funding alternatives and the fourth sheet discussed projected tax revenues figures based on the new grand list and different budget scenarios.

A lengthy discussion was held among the Board Members and Ms. Catherine Cabral regarding the reports. Mr. Mannette inquired the new proposed budget, which includes the health insurance premium savings is in the amount of \$33,733,850 or an increase of 15.59%. He asked if any of the Board Members had any questions or comments regarding the reports which were just reviewed. No response was made.

A discussion was held among Ms. Marie DeSousa and Ms. Catherine Cabral regarding the charter driven 2% increase report, since the health insurance premium was lower than anticipated, why the tax percentage increase is slightly higher. Ms. Cabral explained the accounting due to the recent agreement to budget tax revenues at 99.5%. The half of the percent which has been decreased in the revenue side has to be added to the mill rate to make up the difference. An email was sent to Ms. Leslie Zoll of Blum and Shapiro inquiring how to calculate the figures using the 99.5%. Ms. Zoll recommended that total revenue at 99.5% and adding the remaining half of a percent to the mill rate.

Ms. Marie DeSousa inquired with First Selectwoman Denise Menard if she had received a response from the bargaining units regarding furlough days. Ms. Menard indicated she has not yet received any responses and is still waiting.

Chairman Jack Mannette indicated that Board Member Robert Little is not in attendance and Mr. Thomas Baker is in attendance and should be appointed as an alternate member.

It was **MOVED** (Bowsza) and **SECONDED** (Godeck) and **PASSED** (U) that Mr. Thomas Baker be approved as an alternate.

Chairman Jack Mannette inquired if there were any more proposals to discuss. No response was made. Mr. Jason Bowsza inquired if another meeting will be scheduled after the public hearing to discuss the public input before the budget will be sent to referendum. Mr. Mannette confirmed another meeting will be scheduled.

Mr. Jason Bowsza entertained a motion that the proposed budget in the amount of \$33,733,853 be put forth for consideration at a public hearing. Ms. Marie DeSousa inquired as to the Board of Education meeting on Thursday, April 15, 2010 wherein discussions of early retirement and health insurance premiums are on the agenda and the possibility of decreases in their proposed budget. Ms. Danelle Godeck suggested the possibility of those decreases being incorporated after the public hearing. Mr. Mannette indicated the legal notice for the public hearing has to be done no later than Friday, April 16, 2009 and requirements for that notice include the approved budget amount.

An additional discussion was held among Board Members regarding the presentation of the budget proposals at the public hearing. Mr. Mannette indicated he will be putting the presentation together and he will have all of that information at the next Budget Workshop Meeting on April 14, 2010 to discuss with the Board. He indicated he will discuss the Board of Education and Board of Selectman budgets separately. The discussion continued between Mr. Mannette and Ms. Godeck regarding types of charts and what information should be included in those charts.

It was **MOVED** (Bowsza) and **SECONDED** (Godeck) and **PASSED** (U) that the proposed budget in the amount of \$33,733,853 be put forth for consideration at a public hearing to be held at 7:00 p.m. at the East Windsor Middle School.

A discussion was held among the Board Members regarding upcoming meetings and referendums. The next Budget Workshop Meeting is scheduled for April 14, 2010 wherein it will be discussed how to present the proposed budget at the public hearing. The Board has a Regular Meeting scheduled for April 21, 2010 to discuss monthly business and the presentation of the proposed budget at the public hearing. The public hearing is scheduled for April 26, 2010 and it was suggested an additional Budget Workshop Meeting should be scheduled for April 27, 2010 to discuss the comments and input of the public before the putting forth the proposed budget to referendum vote on May 11, 2010. Another Special Meeting has been scheduled for May 12, 2010, a day after the referendum to discuss the results. However, the second scheduled referendum of May 25, 2010 and third referendum of June 8, 2010 does not give the Board enough time to have a meeting between the second and third referendum. Mr. Mannette inquired if the budget fails three times, the charter calls for a 2% increase; what is the sole purpose of the Board of Finance to adopt the budget by June 15, 2010. First Selectwoman Denise Menard indicated the charter was not clear and she would inquire with the charter revision attorney for an answer.

Some Board Members felt it was premature to discuss what will happen if the budget does not pass at the referendums. It was felt the proposed budget is what the town needs to sustain current services.

It was **MOVED** (Bowsza) and **SECONDED** (Godeck) and **PASSED** (U) that the Board of Finance adjourns the April 14, 2010 Budget Workshop Special Meeting at 8:03 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Denise M. Piotrowicz  
Recording Secretary