

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

**MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING,
BUDGET WORKSHOP
April 19, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.**

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

Members Present: Jack Mannette, Danelle Godeck, Robert Little, Marie DeSousa,
Jason Bowsza, and Kathleen Pippin
Members Absent: None
Alternates Present: None
Alternate Absent: Jamie Daniel and Thomas Baker
Others: Catherine Cabral
Press: None

I. Call to Order

Chairman Jack Mannette called the Special Meeting – Budget Workshop to Order at 7:01 p.m., at the Broad Brook Library; Broad Brook, CT.

II. Appointment of Alternates

Chairman Jack Mannette indicated that all Regular Members are in attendance, Alternate Member, Jamie Daniel and Alternate Member Thomas Baker were unable to attend this meeting.

III. Budget Presentations

Mr. Mannette wanted the Board to review the suggested changes to the Board Selectman's budget from prior workshops. The document inaccurately reflected incorrect dollar amounts to the Senior Center Printing (from \$100.00 to \$250.00) and from Tax Relief (from \$10,000 to \$10.00). The Board went back to prior minutes and agreed the dollar amounts were incorrect and needed to be adjusted. Mr. Mannette will be updating the document. The two items associated with Fund 8 will be discussed later in the meeting.

Ms. Godeck informed the Board of her conversation with BOE Chairman John Pica Sneeden. She asked if the monies requested were tied to meeting the recommendations tied to Accreditation. She was informed the increases to the BOE budget were contractual. Any reduction in the proposed budget could impact the staffing

and could affect the schools Accreditation. A lengthy discussion was held regarding the Board of Education budget.

Discussion was held amongst the Board about putting forth a budget that will be passed at the first referendum. Mr. Mannette stated the voters have spoken and will not approve anything more than a 0% increase. Ms. Godeck stated the Board is doing their best to present a budget to keep current services and also to keep taxes low. She also stated that 0% may not be obtainable. With costs going up in gas, benefits, etc., the Town also incurs those increases and needs additional funds to pay. She stated that nobody wants to pay additional taxes but it's reality to keep the town moving forward. Mr. Mannette stated people just can't afford it. Ms. Godeck's response, unfortunately we live in a high tax state and taxes provide the town the majority of their revenue. There are State and Federal programs to assist Farmers, Disabled and Elderly individuals with their taxes.

The next subject reviewed was the \$16,000 taken from the Fund 8. This line is for GASB which has to be paid every year to Millman. Ms. Cabral had a conversation with our Auditor to get a better understanding of our risks if we remove these monies. She provided the Board understanding of Fund 8 and unused balances.

Ms. Cabral was unable to provide additional information on CIP as the Board of Selectman were meeting/approving at their meeting this evening. Mr. Mannette stated until we receive the Capital Improvement budget from Ms. Menard, we can't continue. The Board agreed that we will need to revisit at our Special Meeting on Wednesday, April 20th

VI. Adjournment

Mr. Little made a motion to adjourn the April 19, 2011 Special Meeting. The meeting ended at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Danelle E. Godeck
Board of Finance Member (Secretary)