

March 28 2012

The Board of Finance held a special meeting on this date at the Police Department meeting room. Members present were Glenn Frishman, Chairman; Andrew Rines, Secretary; John O'Brien; Bryan Bentz, Dudley Wheeler and Sandy Grimes. Also present Maryanna Stevens, Director of Finance; First Selectman Ed Haberek, Town and Board of Education staff and residents.

Chairman Frishman called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

### **Suspense List**

Tax Collector Gisela Harma provided the suspense list for the members review. These are uncollectable property taxes. After a brief discussion Mr. O'Brien made a motion to accept the suspense list to be transferred to the suspense tax book. Mr. Grimes seconded the motion and voting was unanimous. Mr. Frishman signed and dated the suspense list.

Assessor Marsha Standish provided for the members the October 1, 2011 Net Grand List as adjusted by the Board of Assessment Appeals. The 2011 Grand List of \$3,188,057,519 shows an increase of .689% over the October 1, 2010 Grand List.

At this time, Chairman Frishman questioned Bill King, BOE Operations Manager about the status of the CIP item Well Drilling for MMS Field Irrigation. Mr. King replied that a letter has been sent to Aquarion asking for assistance with water to help irrigate the field. To date there has been no response.

Jason Jones, Technology Director was present to address questions regarding the CIP item District Phone System Upgrade. Mr. Jones reported that the current system is almost 20 years old. At this time it has to be reset every morning. Calls have been frequently lost which has concerned parents of students. There are seven buildings in the district and he would like to upgrade the high traffic areas at least, particularly the High school and Middle schools. The Schools currently use Alert Now, a PBX system. The proposal is for a new system. The fiber optics work that has been completed was for the network. Mr. Jones replied that a minimum amount to start would be \$60,000, which would move forward as a lease purchase like the Town Hall upgrade.

**Budget deliberations**

At this time after briefly reviewing budget adjustments made at the March 21<sup>st</sup> meeting, Mr. Frishman asked the members for their target budget to send to voters. Mr. Grimes stated that he would like a mil increase of .40. He would like to take more from fund balance and make cuts to the Board of Education.

Superintendent of Schools stated that 94% of the BOE Budget is contractual. Mr. O'Brien agreed that the BOE 4% is too high. He would like to see a mil increase of between .40 and .50.

After discussion the following adjustments were made:

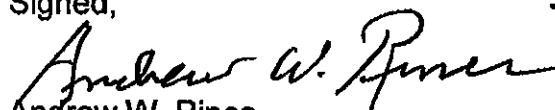
<b>Schedule of Capital Improvements</b>	
Reclaim and Repave Hewitt Road	Cut \$100,000
<b>TOTAL CIP CHANGES</b>	<b>TOTAL ( 100,000)</b>
<b>Board of Education</b>	
	Cut \$156,215
<b>TOTAL BOE CHANGES</b>	<b>TOTAL (156,215)</b>

The proposed 2012-13 budget currently stands at a mil rate of 16.10, which is a .47 increase over last year. Messrs. Bentz, O'Brien, Frishman and Wheeler felt this an appropriate budget to send to Public Hearing. Mr. Grimes was in support of a .40 increase and Mr. Rines supported a .50 increase.

Mr. Frishman called for a motion to send a budget in the amount of \$56,983,696 to a Public Hearing with a mil rate of 16.10. Mr. Bentz approved the motion, Mr. O'Brien seconded the motion. Messrs. Frishman, Rines and Wheeler approved the motion while Mr. Grimes abstained.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Wheeler made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Grimes seconded the motion and the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Signed,



Andrew W. Rines

Secretary

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