

**TOWN OF POMFRET  
BOARD OF FINANCE – PUBLIC HEARING  
TUESDAY, APRIL 6, 2010 AT 7:00 PM  
POMFRET COMMUNITY SCHOOL CAFETERIA**

In Attendance: Board of Finance Members John DiIorio, Carolyn Gerrity, Margie Huoppi, Mary Anthony, Ken Kristal. First Selectman James Rivers, Board of Education Chairman Richard Schad, Superintendent of Schools Richard Packman, approximately 60 citizens and interested parties.

- I. Public Hearing** – John DiIorio opened hearing at 7:00 PM.
- a. 2010/2011 Budget Presentation-Board of Education** – Richard Schad provided an overview of proposed budget. It represents a 4.82 % increase over last year, the majority of this increase attributable to Special Education, Health Insurance Cost, and Negotiated Salaries. The Town has supported Capital improvements to the building so the maintenance budget is limited as well as that of books and supplies. He reviewed the budget page by page as presented and then took questions from the public. Peter Mann asked about dollars spent on enrichment and referred to the limited money often spent here contrasted with the money spent on special education. Jane Dion, PCS Principal, stated that enrichment monies aren't mandated and these are the programs that often get cut. A woman stated that the special education offered is essential and that those students aren't offered special services but are receiving a core education. Richard Hall asked about how the teacher/student ratio compares to that of surrounding towns. This answer will be available at Town Meeting. David Flath stated he liked the five-year plan but wondered if the Capital items listed with the General Government budget would not skew some statistics. This is not anticipated. Sherry Kristal commented on the projected deficit for this year. This may not be realized and numbers would therefore improve.
- b. 2010/2011 Budget Presentation-Board of Selectmen** – James Rivers stated this budget represents a 1.15% increase over last year. It is a budget that, like past years, tries to provide something for everyone. He reviewed some of the larger increases and provided an overview of the presented budget. The Town has typically used leverage by using volunteers as well as the talents of staff to improve services. Pomfret has also gone after and received a vast amount of grants. He then asked for questions from the public. Richard Hall asked if there has been a change in tax delinquencies. This has remained flat, if not better than past years. Betty Morin asked if there was a projection of what the mil rate would be if there were no changes to these two presented budgets. John DiIorio estimated between  $\frac{2}{3}$  and  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mil. Richard Hall asked about the Solar panels planned for the PCS roof – is the Town committed to older panels? It is not. Brief discussion regarding what is current regarding this project.

**II. Citizen's Comments** – There were no further comments from the public.

**III. Adjournment** – Hearing was duly adjourned at 8:30 PM

Respectfully submitted,  
Bonnie Ryan, clerk

Date approved \_\_\_\_\_