

**TOWN OF POMFRET
PUBLIC FORUM MINUTES
FY 2011-2012 PROPOSED GENERAL GOVERNMENT & BOE BUDGETS
THURSDAY, MARCH 31, 2011 AT 7:00 PM
POMFRET COMMUNITY SCHOOL CAFETERIA**

In Attendance: Board of Finance Members John Dilorio, Carolyn Gerrity, Margie Huoppi, Michael Baum, Mary Anthony, Ken Kristal. First Selectman James Rivers, Board of Education Chairman Richard Schad. Approximately 65 citizens and interested parties.

- I. **Open Forum and Board of Finance Opening Remarks** – J. Dilorio opened the forum at 7:00 PM. He stated the Board was looking for input from the public before they took any action on the budgets. There are additional meetings and workshops after tonight that are open to the public as well. In absence of objection he would appoint Walter Hinchman to chair this meeting.

- II. **Board of Selectmen – Initial Presentation of Proposed General Government Budget – Comments and Questions from Public** – J. Rivers provided an overview of the General Government budget. He outlined changes that were made. The General Government budget is presented at \$2,293,338 which represents a decrease of forty-two dollars or a 0% increase from last year. A few comments were made by the public, generally happy with the 0% and asking the Selectmen to hold this budget at no increase.

- III. **Board of Education – Initial Presentation of Proposed Board of Education Budget – Comments and Questions from Public** – R. Schad provided an overview of the Board of Education budget. He ended with some brief comments regarding all-day Kindergarten. This has not yet been mandated but it is on the horizon. The school can accommodate in the upcoming year with no increase for it in their budget. The Board

of Education budget is presented at \$9,358,080 which represents an increase of \$436,670 or a 4.89% increase from last year. There were a few comments from the public in support of all-day Kindergarten. A number of citizens made comments requesting the Board of Education present their budget at 0% increase. There was some further discussion. The Board of Finance will be reviewing these budgets at their regular meeting of April 11, 2011 at 6:30 PM at PCS, a workshop is scheduled for April 27, 2011, and the Public Hearing on the budgets is tentatively scheduled for May 4, 2011. All of these are open to the public.

IV. Adjournment – Meeting was duly adjourned without objection at 9:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie Ryan, clerk

Date approved _____