

**TOWN OF POMFRET
BOARD OF FINANCE
MINUTES – BUDGET WORKSHOP
TUESDAY, APRIL 18, 2006 AT 7:00 PM
POMFRET TOWN HALL**

In Attendance: Board Members – Maureen Nicholson, Carolyn Gerrity, John DiIorio, Tony Emilio, Margie Huoppi. Others present-Jim Rivers, First Selectman, Richard Schad, Chair Board of Education, Lou Mager, Superintendent of Schools, Sandra Ahola, Pomfret Community School Principal, Sue Black, BOE, Linda Jolly, Joe Miragliuolo, Lisa Dyer. Board of Finance not present – Peter Mann

- I. Open Meeting** – Meeting opened at 7:00 PM by Maureen Nicholson.

- II. Board of Selectmen – Budget Discussion** – Jim Rivers stated there have been no changes other than discussion of the school parking lot. It has not been included in the budget, but can be added if the Board desires. Discussion. Money that may be available from the STEEP grant won't be confirmed until the end of April. The current surplus is approximately \$50,000.00. Sherry Grist will be asked to a future meeting to explain the surplus and how it works. There was a general consensus among the Board to see the school parking lot shown in the budget under the assumption that it would need to be agreed to by the Board of Education. A date for the Town Meeting was discussed with May 15th looked at as a possible date.

- III. Board of Education – Budget Discussion** – Richard Schad stated that the accounting error that the Board identified at the last meeting was not there. They do not yet know from the State what may be forthcoming as a heat abatement, but the State is recommending some funding. He stated that the BOE disagrees with the cut that was recommended at the last Board of Finance meeting. It was also felt that the impact of any cuts made now would not be seen by the public. The Board has worked to present a sound budget that represents what it costs to run the school and a cut won't represent that. Discussion. The Board of Finance had been expecting a revised budget this evening. The need to consider the impact to budget if State money does not come in was also discussed. Margie Huoppi stated that if she were on the BOE she would support this budget, but as a member of the Board of Finance did not feel the town would pass it. Discussion regarding Public Hearing that is scheduled for Monday, April 24, 2006. It was decided that both budgets will be presented as originally proposed with Board of Finance recommendations stated. The Board of Education can explain the impact of any cuts and this will allow for public feedback.

- IV. Adjournment** – John DiIorio made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Tony Emilio. Meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Bonnie Ryan, clerk

date approved _____