

**TOWN OF POMFRET
BOARD OF FINANCE
MINUTES-REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, JULY 10, 2006 AT 7:00 PM
POMFRET TOWN HALL**

In Attendance: Board Members-Maureen Nicholson, Tony Emilio, Carolyn Gerrity, John DiIorio, Peter Mann, Margie Huoppi. Others present-Richard Schad, Chair BOE, Richard Packman, Superintendent of Schools. Andy Renkiewicz, Windam Land Trust, Ford Fay, Citizen.

- I. **Open Regular Meeting** – Meeting opened at 7:00 PM by Maureen Nicholson
 - a. **Approve Minutes, Meetings of May 8 and May 18** – Margie Huoppi made a motion to approve the minutes of May 8 and May 18. Peter Mann seconded. Tony Emilio noted that in the minutes of May 8 under Unfinished Business, Item a there is a quote attributed to him that should be attributed to John DiIorio concerning use of funds in school expansion fund. All in favor to approve minutes with correction.
 - b. **Items to be added to Agenda** – Maureen Nicholson stated she would like to add Andy Renkiewicz, Loos Property Purchase under New Business. Richard Schad stated he would like to have added BOE, Contingency Request. M.Nicholson made a motion to add both items. John DiIorio seconded. All in favor.
 - c. **Citizen’s Participation** – None

- II. **Unfinished Business** – None

- III. **Current Business**
 - a. **Treasurer’s Report** – None
 - b. **Tax Collector’s Report** – Report distributed to Board. No action.
 - c. **Assessor’s Report** – None
 - d. **Board of Selectmen’s Report** – M. Nicholson stated there is no report. Jim Rivers is on vacation. She did speak with him earlier and he said the Town is in the middle of annual audit and everything looks good so far. Bonnie Ryan will be replacing Joyce Albro as Selectman’s clerk when Joyce retires.
 - e. **Board of Education Report** – Maureen Nicholson introduced Richard Packman, Superintendent of Schools, replacing Lou Mager. Richard Schad stated that the last BOE meeting was on June 28th. A Technological Plan was approved as well as a Health and Wellness Plan. There was much community involvement in developing both. The BOE also said farewell to Lou Mager at that meeting. There has been a date change for the next meeting to 7/19 at 5:30 PM at the school. Most of the meeting will be dedicated to school space and safety. The ’05-’06 budget will be closed out in August. There currently looks like there may be a couple of thousand left over. The BOE approved the plan for the parking lot improvements. Jim Rivers is currently working on it, still needs to get zoning approvals. Richard Packman stated the new 7th grade teacher has been hired as well as new office staff, all as planned within budget. They are still searching for a Spanish teacher. The insurance reimbursement has come in for the spring computer outage. BOE has been surveying oil prices. The pre-school tuition has gone up a small amount. All who entered lottery were accommodated. There are a few currently on a waiting list who moved to town later.

IV. Other Business

- a. **Tax Collector's Certification-Poll Verification** – A phone poll of the Board was taken last month to approve Tax Certification transferring uncollectible uncollected property taxes to the suspense book. The vote was unanimous to approve.

V. New Business

- a. **Discussion – Review of Budget Process** – Tabled to next meeting.
- b. **Loos Property Purchase** – Andy Renkiewicz was present for the Windham Land Trust. They were approached by Dave Loos to purchase a 44.7 acre parcel off of Wright's Crossing Road. Two appraisals have been done – one coming in at \$275,000.00 the other at \$300,000.00. The price is \$285,000.00. Bafflin has given a commitment of \$100,000.00 toward the purchase. Windham Land Trust has also applied for a DEP Grant that will pay between 45% and 50% of the appraised value. The property encompasses what is called the duck marsh. There are 3 endangered bird species living on the property. The property is not all wetlands but a large amount of it is. The Windham Land Trust would like to request up to \$50,000.00 from the town to use toward the purchase of this property. Discussion. The Board will look at request again at next meeting after the Selectmen have looked at it. No action taken.
- c. **BOE Contingency Request** – Richard Schad stated they were requesting \$14,000.00 for two maintenance items: a. Magnetic devices for doors to meet fire code. B. Renovate the primary wing bathrooms. They were requesting an additional \$2500.00 to start renovation of office furniture. Total amount requested to use out of contingency fund into next year's Operating Budget is \$16,500.00. So moved by Peter Mann. Seconded by Carolyn Gerrity. All in favor.

- VI. Correspondence** – Marien and Co. has submitted an agreement of duties concerning the audit. Copy is available for review. Maureen will sign and return the original. Surveys were also distributed to be completed by Board Members and returned to Marien.

- VII. Citizen's Participation** – Ford Fay presented a Norwich Bulletin article concerning the purchase of the Loos property. He also distributed a memo and some mapping concerning the same. Discussion.

- VIII. Adjournment** – M. Nicholson stated that the August meeting will be cancelled. Next meeting to be held September 11, 2006. Peter Mann moved to adjourn. Seconded by John DiIorio. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie Ryan, clerk