

**TOWN OF POMFRET
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2010 AT 7:00 PM
POMFRET TOWN HALL**

In Attendance: Board Members James Robbins, Gary Kendall, Richard Galante, and Raymond McCarraher,

Not in attendance: Board Member Elizabeth Cartier; Alternates Kevin Vernon, Barry Jessrun, Allison Gardner, ZEO Ryan Brais, and James Rabbitt, AICP.

I. REGULAR MEETING – J. Robbins opened the regular meeting at 7:10 pm.

1. Seat Alternates – None
2. Citizen's Comments - None
3. Items to Add to Agenda – None
4. Approve Minutes of December 28, 2009 –G. Kendall made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. R. Galante seconded the motion. It was approved unanimously.

II. CURRENT BUSINESS –

1. Approval of Budget – At the beginning of this item, the clerk informed the Board that the First Selectman had mentioned to her the previous day that the Legal Services item line had been reduced on the budget submitted. At this point, J. Robbins said that with the approval of the Board, he would call J. Rivers and request something in writing as to what was cut and why. R. Galante asked if we had received anything from the Selectmen regarding this. J. Robbins said no. He also said that he had received written communication from the Selectmen asking that all commissions consider submitting a level-funded budget. He mentioned that this board had overspent the Legal Services once in regards to the Great Woods case, but for other years, they came no way near spending what was appropriated. R. Galante asked how much was actually spent for that case. J. Robbins said it was just under \$5000 for Great Woods. G. Kendall said it looks like we were budgeting \$1000 a year for this line item. J. Robbins was curious as to what the line item was cut to. At this point, J. Robbins made a motion to approve the budget level-funded as written (in front of the board). R. McCarraher seconded the motion. There was open discussion regarding the budget. The consensus was to send the Selectmen the board's recommendation and have them tell us what they're going to do. R. Galante thought it was a good idea to keep at least \$1000 in this line item. G. Kendall mentioned how much had been previously budgeted, during the time of the Great Woods situation. He felt that although \$4000-\$5000 isn't needed, he thought that \$2000 would be a reasonable and good amount. He felt it would be better to have it and not end up using it. R. Galante supported the budget with the line item being \$1000. If more is required,

then the Town will have to come up with it. J. Robbins mentioned that the reason the budget was so high before was due to the estimate and recommendation made by Atty. Zizka, so the budget was augmented to \$4000. We ended up winning the case, so the whole \$4000 wasn't spent. But, the Town should recognize that we could have a court case come up. Again, the consensus was to submit a level-funded budget. R. Galante called for the vote. There were four yes and zero no votes. It was approved unanimously. They will send the level-funded budget to the Selectmen and they can do as they will with it and then give us an explanation as to why they cut it.

III. ADJOURNMENT – A motion was made by G. Kendall to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by R. Galante. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:28 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn L. Krajewski, Clerk

Date approved: _____