

Board of Finance
Regular Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, April 22, 2015
7pm Clifford B. Green Memorial Center

Present: Gene Michael Deary, Ken Dykstra, Sandra Brodeur, Kim Conroy and Melissa Bradley; Recording Secretary; Arrived at 7:05pm; Drew Dionne and Jeff Otto

Also Present: Rick Ives, Joe Voccio, Bill Skene, Patrick Dragon, Stephen Breen, & Lou Brodeur

- 1. Call to Order:** Mr. Deary called the meeting to order at 7:01pm.
- 2. Approve Previous Minutes:** Kim Conroy made a motion to approve the previous meeting minutes. Sandy Brodeur seconded the motion. Sandy Brodeur states the minutes reflect there was not a Board of Education meeting, and that was incorrect. There was a meeting, Jeff was not aware of it. Motion passed 4-0.
- 3. Public Comment:** None
- 4. Selectman's Report:** Mr. Ives reports back in the 80's there were wolf head's stolen off the Isreal Putnam statue. The First Selectman at the time, Maury Bowen, had reproductions made and replaced them. There are two wolf heads going up for auction in Coventry this evening which are possibly the original ones. The State Police are looking into this to see if we can recover them.
- 5. Presentation of Board of Fire Commissioners Budget:** Mr. Skene presents the Mortlake budget. The operating budget did not increase; \$114,150 and the safety equipment stayed the same as well, \$30,775. The ambulance budget is requesting a subsidy from the Town of \$20,000. This is significantly lower from last year because the department is projecting higher income from the calls. There was also a change in the billing company which has made it much more efficient. Pat Dragon presents the East Brooklyn budget to the board. The operating budget was lowered by \$1,090 to \$84,610 and the safety equipment stayed the same at \$16,270. The board would like to see a copy of the budget but is not available for the members this evening. Mr. Ives will send a copy of the budget to members tomorrow. Jeff Otto made a motion to table both budgets until the board receives a detailed budget from East Brooklyn. Drew Dionne seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.
- 6. Auditor Recommendation:** The committee to review the auditor RFP's interviewed O'Connell, Pace, & Company. Kim Conroy noted it was a good presentation and was pleased with them. Sherry Holmes contacted other Town's for references and was pleased with them. They are very

knowledgeable. It was discussed they do not write the management letter, but will give direction and format. Approximately 30% more time will be spent in the first year completing the audit as they familiarize themselves with our procedures and programs. With this added cost, O'Connell, Pace & Company is still cheaper than the bid received by O'Conner Davies. Gene Michel is comfortable with the recommendation from the committee who reviewed the bids. Sandra Brodeur made a motion to accept the audit company contract from O'Connell, Pace & Company and hire them for our auditing services. Drew Dionne seconded the motion. Mr. Dykstra questions if Pomfret does not decide to use them as well. Mr. Ives ensures the cost will be same and there will be separate contracts. The board also suggests the Selectman's office to be clear about the relationship with Pomfret and ensure Brooklyn is protected. Motion passed 6-0.

7. **2014-15 Budget Discussion:** Mr. Ives states there will be approximately \$85,000 coming back from the current budget from expenses and this includes Recreation.
8. **2015-16 Budget Discussion:** None
9. **Liaison Report:** None
10. **Old Business:** None
11. **New Business:** None
12. **Public Comment:** None
13. **Adjourn:** Sandra Brodeur made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Kim Conroy seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 7:55pm.

Respectfully Submitted;

Melissa J. Bradley
Recording Secretary