

Unapproved

**BOARD OF FINANCE MEETING
SALEM TOWN OFFICE BUILDING
SPECIAL MEETING
MARCH 24, 2011 - 7:00 P.M.**

PRESENT:

TJ Butcher
Eckart, C.
Griggs, J.
Householder, G.
Preston, G.
Traylor, R. (Alternate)
Weinschenker, W.

ABSENT:

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Weinschenker called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS - N/A
SEAT ALTERNATE IF NEEDED - N/A

AGENDA:

1.) REVIEW/ACT ON BUDGET REQUESTS FOR 2011/2012 FY.

A. Tabled Items:

The BOF agreed to start with the revenue items that were tabled.

- Department #91 - General Property Taxes: (See Revised Worksheet)

M/S/C (Preston/Griggs) to approve Dept. #91 General Property Taxes, **in the** amount of \$10,597,645 which is based on the 2010/2011 mil rate, for presentation at public hearing.

Approved Unanimously

- Department #96 - Revenue From the use of Town Money

M/S/C (Preston/Griggs) to approve Dept. #96, Revenue from the Use of Town Money, in the amount of \$20,191, for presentation at public hearing.

Approved Unanimously

- **Board of Education**
- Chairman Weinschenker polled the BOF members concerning BOE's 2011/2012 budget year. The overall sentiment of the members was that adding additional teaching staff when enrollment is on a downward trend would be hard to explain. All BOF members were concerned about the \$181,000 grant received for the 2011/2012 budget year, which the BOE would use to hire a new teacher. The question asked by C. Eckart to D. Kung was "what would the budget amount be if the school did not receive the \$181,000 grant?" D. Kung could not give a direct answer to this question.
- Chairman Weinschenker asked the BOF to look at the finance page. It was stated, that to balance the budget as it stands right now, we would need to take \$752,418 from the Undesignated Funds. If the mil rate increases to 26.287(a 1.78 increase), no additional amount would be needed from Undesignated Funds.
- The original request by the BOE for the 2011/2012 was \$10,044,963. G. Householder made a motion to decrease the School's budget by approximately \$94,000.

**M/S/C (Householder/Preston) to approve the Board of Education 2011/2012 Budget, in the amount of \$9,950,000, for presentation at public hearing.
Approved Unanimously**

FINALIZE BUDGET FOR PUBLIC HEARING:

The BOF reviewed all items in the Capital Department. The following Capital item was revised from the February 12th regular BOF meeting:

- GLVFCO Tanker/Pumper was not endorsed by the BOF. The members felt that because this truck has low mileage it would be wise to maintain this equipment on an as needed bases. Chief James Savalle informed the BOF that the Tanker/Pumper has been on the 10 year Capital Plan for many years, and this piece of equipment has been pushed back every year. Chief

Savalle felt this equipment is needed. The Fire Company agreed that this is a big expense for one year, and suggested to finance this purchase over seven years. The cost of all safety equipment increases every year. First Selectman Lyden stated that he did not think the Town needed to purchase a new Tanker/Pumper in the 2011/2012 year. He suggested that the BOF appropriate \$10,000 for plow and suspension on F350 Service Truck #127.

M/S/C (Preston/TJ Butcher) To change the GLVFCO Tanker/Pumper original request of \$485,000 to Service Truck #127 Plow/Suspension in the amount of \$10,000, for presentation at public hearing.

Approved Unanimously

- Chairman Weinschenker informed the BOF that he had the School Building Renovation expense added to the Capital Department. He explained that work would more than likely start in the 2011/2012 fiscal year and that some money should be appropriated in this budget.

M/S/C (Preston/Griggs) to approve \$300,000 for the BOE School Renovations, Dept. #930 School Building Renovation, for presentation at the public hearing.

Approved Unanimously

- **BOE Abatement Tile/Carpet Replacement and Traverse Wall**

M/S/C (Householder/TJ Butcher) to approve \$79,933 for the BOE Abatement Tile/Carpet Replacement Dept. #930-100-0013, for presentation at public hearing.

Approved Unanimously

M/S/C (Preston/Householder) to approve the Board of Education Traverse Wall, Dept #930 in the amount of \$9,000, for presentation at public hearing.

Approved Unanimously

Chairman Weinschenker asked if the BOF should review the 2011/2012 budget year department totals. The BOF agreed to review each department. Discussion on department #105 followed. G. Preston questioned the increase in the Head Librarian's salary. S. Sanders review all the work that J. Hemond, Head Librarian, does during her workweek and why the increase was requested. C. Eckart asked if the department #105 included the additional pay week in the 2011/2012 budget year (53 weeks). K. Lyden will check on this. No further changes were made by the Board at this meeting.

M/S/C (TJ Butcher/Griggs) to approve the budget as presented tonight for presentation at the April 13, 2011 Public Hearing at 7 PM at Salem School.

Approved Unanimously

J. Griggs reminded the Board that the Public Hearing will be broadcast and power point presentations should be given to P. Seilman before the hearing so he will have it available for the Web cast.

M/S/C (Householder/Preston) to adjourn at 8:50 p.m.

Motion carried unanimously

VIRGINIA CASEY

Recording Secretary