

**BOARD OF FINANCE
SALEM, CONNECTICUT
MEETING MINUTES
May 15, 2014**

PRESENT

TJ Butcher
Greg Preston
Janet Griggs
George Householder
David Kennedy
Carole Eckart
Robert Sartori, Alt

ABSENT

John Dolan, Alt
Hernan Salas, Alt

GUESTS

CALLED TO ORDER

TJ Butcher called the meeting to order 7:00 pm

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

There were no visitors that wished to be recognized in attendance

SEAT ALTERNATE IF NEEDED

No alternates were required

COMMUNICATIONS

G. Preston submitted his letter of resignation. (See File Copy)

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

None

AGENDA,

- 1. APPROVE MEETING MINUTES MAY 8, 2014 REGULAR MEETING**
M/S/C- (Householder/ Griggs) to approve May 8, 2014 meeting minutes as presented.
Vote: In favor-Butcher, Griggs, Householder, Kennedy, Eckart. Opposed-none. Abstaining-Preston

- 2. PUBLIC COMMENTS**
None

- 3. SELECTMAN'S REPORT**
No Report

4. REFERENDUM DISCUSSION/SET MIL RATE

T.J. Butcher read the memo for the 2013/2014 audit, informing Boards, Commissions and Departments of when the deadline for closing out the year will be. The members approved of the memo. (See File Copy)

T. J. Butcher stated there were 89 comments from the comment box placed at the referendum. He summarized the comments according to what was written. (See File Copy) He said the comments would be available as part of the public record.

Fifteen representative examples were read aloud.

Members commented that question #3 was telling in that the majority of people thought the school budget was too high but voted for the budget anyway.

G. Jackson, 62 Hilltop Trail, BOE member asked if he could get copies of all the comments. T. J. Butcher stated he could get copies.

The Board thought it would be a good idea to meet with the BOE a couple of times before the next budget season and continue to work with the BOE. They also thought the people that are not happy with the BOE and Salem School Administration are a very vocal, active group which is not going away.

The Board discussed the mil rate for the 2014/2015 fiscal year. G. Householder gave a presentation of what is in Dept. 91(past taxes, supplemental motor vehicle, \$303,400) and Dept. 93 (BOE grants and reimbursements \$3,151,390). He stated that Departments, 92, 94, 95, and 97 consist of all other revenues, i.e. fees, grants, etc. which has a total of \$575,151. The remainder of what is needed to cover the budget for fiscal year 2014/2015 is what the Board taxes the taxpayers for.

The Board discussed the goal for the unassigned fund. Most thought it should be around 9%.

After discussion the Board thought a 1 mil increase which amounts to a 3.3% increase and \$66, 366 into the unassigned fund would be acceptable.

M/S/C (Preston/Griggs) to set the mil rate for the fiscal year 2014/2015 fiscal year at 31.10. Vote: Approved Unanimously

M/S/C (Householder) to adjourn at 8:06

Respectfully Submitted

**Sue Spang,
Recording Secretary**