

**Board of Finance
Regular Meeting
Room A-Town Hall
February 14, 2017**

1. **Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order by Michael Dougherty at 7:00 p.m.
2. **Roll Call:** Michael Dougherty, Frederick Chmura, Glen Lessig, David Richardson, Roy Bradrick, Jeffrey Kelleher, David Fortin
Absent: David Hosmer, Ronald Cabana

Ron Cabana requested that Roy Bradrick be seated in his place.
3. **Alternate:** Motion made to seat Jeff Kelleher as alternate made by G. Lessig, seconded by F. Chmura. D. Fortin and D. Richardson opposed. **Motion doesn't carry. Vote taken for second time, motion carried.**
4. **Approve minutes from: January 10, 2017 Regular Meeting:** Motion to accept made by F. Chmura, seconded by D. Richardson. Discussion: Section 5b: delete democrat, leave petition was denied. 5a: review of draft: delete "everyone" leave everything covered at last meeting. General Fund c: typo change from 13 to 15. 6a: last sentence: change to: D. Richardson expressed the opinion that we would be lucky to get away with less than ½ million in cuts in new budget. In recent ECS cut, Woodstock was cut more than town's around us; we should plan on at least \$500,000 in cuts in new budget. Karen Fitzpatrick notes change to heading: Regular meeting, not Special meeting and date change. **Motion passed as amended.**
5. **Old Business**
 - A. **Reschedule Tri-Board Meeting:** M. Dougherty spoke with First Selectman and they are willing to sit down with BOF. Try to schedule. D. Richardson mentions that the BOEd budget is due to be presented 3 weeks from tonight and should be in to the BOF at least a week before. 1.7 million reduction in funding. If mill rate the same, 4% tax increase for the average person, \$500,000 out of general fund, still short over \$600,000 budget, if that were a tax increase could result on 8% increase. Somehow the BOF & BOEd will have to try to come up with that amount. And could have high increase next year. Until more information from the state, should hold off on meeting.
6. **New Business**
 - A. **Quarterly Reports:** no questions
 - B. **Board of Ed:** no questions
 - C. **Assessor's Grand List:** increase on grand list, no questions
 - D. **WMS Playground Improvements:** privately funded, M. Dougherty comments received letter from Crystal Adams for a playground. 1st goal is to raise \$60,000. PTO plans on raising money. PZC approved. Motion that BOF endorses project made by D. Fortin, seconded by F. Chmura. **Motion passed.**

Motion to add item D to New Business: Budget discussion made by D. Fortin, seconded by G. Lessig. **Motion passed.** Town budget depends on what is received from the state. Towns may be able to change fiscal year but not definitive. Should be 2yr plan on town

level. The shortfalls this year could be compounded next year. Going to have massive cuts. Could be a possible 4% tax increase, or higher, this year to cover loss and that with a ½ million out of general fund, may not go over well with residents.

Glen Lessig comments on approved agenda item; asks that Citizen's Participation be added at the beginning of agenda as well as the end. M. Dougherty will add.

7. **Citizen's Participation:** Mr. Durst asks about the audio equipment that was used at one time and if there is a way to increase audibility, says it is hard to hear. Mr. Durst says that hearing is difficult and would like to understand what is taking place. Judy says that she doesn't think the equipment works, and that it hasn't been used for quite some time, she will check and let M. Dougherty know. R. Bradrick agrees that it sometimes difficult to hear. D. Fortin says should be able to research. Mr. Durst says he just wants to be able to hear everyone, and thanks the BOF for the consideration.
8. **Correspondence & Announcements:** M. Bernardi says there is a community forum on Thurs., at 7p.m. in the cafeteria to hear budgets. Citizen comment: tax increase the last 2 years, school system has unfunded pension for teachers and town hall is fully staffed, next year will be tougher.

Next meeting will be March 7, 2017 at 7 p.m. BOEd to give presentation, detailed copy to be sent to BOF. Mr. Bernardi will email to Karen Fitzpatrick and she will forward to BOF Commission.

9. **Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn made by G. Lessig, seconded by D. Fortin. **Motion carried.** Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.