

BOARD OF FINANCE
PUBLIC HEARING
APRIL 11, 2018
MINUTES

Present: J. Olsen, J. Scully Welch, L. Santos, M. Smith, D. Onofrio, D. Traynor, O. NejdI and K. Carr

J. Olsen called the public hearing to order at 7:00 PM in the Auditorium of the Town Hall.

The public hearing was opened to comments on the Town and Education budget. Speakers were asked to keep their comments to 2 minutes. The following remarks were made.

Andrea Reu spoke in favor of both budgets and thanked all of the boards for all their hard work.

Ethelene DiBona spoke about the Board of Finance reductions that were made to Other General Government in regards to donations. DiBona recommended funding the donations but just reducing the amounts.

Dolly Mezzetti asked the board for further clarification on the total dollar amount that was cut from the town budget and what the increase was for in the Planning & Zoning budget.

Phil Sengle asked the board to reinstate the reductions that were made to the Economic Development Commission budget.

Brian Manware, Fire Chief, asked the board to reinstate the \$6,000 that was cut from the Fire Department's utilities line item.

Carol Walter spoke in regards to the education budget.

Sandy Luke asked the board to fully fund Economic development.

Meredith Adler, Laura Colebank, Maria Moran, Erica Gelvin, Beverly Bohen, Lois Ruggiero, Valerie Nye and Kim Buckley all spoke in favor of the education budget and asked for no further reductions.

Kirk Carr spoke against the budget increase and asked voters to vote no on May 9th.

Michael Hughes spoke in favor of restoring the Economic Development Commission budget and spoke in favor of the town planner position. Hughes also recommended reducing the Educational budget by an additional \$700,000 and closing Pierson School.

Pam Fritz and Dave King both stated that they felt the budget increase is too high and asked for further reductions.

The public hearing was closed at 7:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Schettino

Administrative Assistant