

TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON
EAST HAMPTON, CT 06424
BOARD OF FINANCE
SPECIAL BUDGET MEETING
Monday, March 13, 2017
Middle School Library

Approved Minutes

Present: Marc Lambert, Janine Jiantonio, Steve Ritchie, Alannah Coshow, Alan Hurst and Dean Markham

Other attendee(s): Jeffery Jylkka: Director of Finance, Michael Maniscalco: Town Manager, Paul Smith: Superintendent of Schools

1-2. Vice-Chair Lambert called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Public Remarks:

Tania Sones – 17 Curry Ln.: Requested that the BOF support the conservative/responsible 3.75% BOE Budget increase (plus \$1.6 Million Contingency if needed due to State cuts) as is and let the public vote on it via referendum.

Public Remarks continued with the following 8 individuals supporting and reiterating the remarks of Ms. Sones:

- 1. Nancy Oakley – 71 Pocotopaug Dr.**
- 2. Nancy Kohler – 31 Daniel St.**
- 3. Lois Sprague – Music Teacher in East Hampton**
- 4. Emily Cronin – 24 Abby Rd.**
- 5. Jerry Egan – 14 Champion Hill**
- 6. Sherry Banack – 47 Peach Farm Rd.**
- 7. Sheryl Adams – 14 Royal Oaks Ave.**
- 8. Pam Gardiner – 141 Comstock Trail**

4. 2017-2018 Budget Presentations:

- a) Town Manager Proposed Budget:** Even with the bifurcation of the budgets for this referendum, Mr. Maniscalco provided an overview of the total budget (Town & BoE) referencing the Education components but detailing the Town Operations, Debt and Capital portions. A total budget request of \$45,958,311 which would equate to a Mill Rate increase of 4.29 mills (33.73) was proposed. The presentation also outlined the Governor's proposed budget call for significant cuts in municipal funding which, at current rates, results in a net impact equal to over 1.3 mills.

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b) Board of Education Proposed Budget: Mr. Smith outlined a proposed total BOE budget of \$31,747,971. This total was arrived at based on two major components: an increase of \$1,089,686 over the current year budget (a 3.75% increase) *plus* a contingency in the amount of 1.6 million if needed due to state cuts. The BoE budget is not only being severely impacted by the proposed state funding cuts and unfunded state mandates, but is still not recouping any loss from the 2016-2017 budget increase of only 0.9%.

5. 2016-2017 Budget Discussion

After a few clarifying questions from Board Members about insurance and the timing of State cuts being finalized, the audience was thanked for attending and encouraged to also attend Budget Workshops in order to get a better understanding of department/function specific budgets. Mr. Jylkka then verified that the March 14th Budget Workshop would be cancelled due to the impending blizzard closing school (location of the meeting) with departments being added to other Workshops scheduled for later in the week. Updated agendas will be posted accordingly once everything is rescheduled.

Although not part of the original agenda, Vice-Chair Lambert decided to open the floor for any additional Public Comment.

6. Public Remarks

No Public Remarks

8. Adjournment:

The motion to adjourn made by Mr. Hurst was seconded by Ms. Coshow.

Vote: 6-0. Motion Passed. Meeting adjourned at 7:11 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Renee Bafumi
Recording Secretary