

The Board of Finance held a regular meeting on **March 16, 2011** in the Meeting Room of Windham Town Hall, 979 Main Street, Willimantic, CT 06226

Members Attending: Barbara McGrath, Charles Pennewill, Anita Sebestyen, Leo Santucci, Jeffrey Smith, and Nina Ricardez

Chairman, Barbara McGrath called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

### **Public Comment**

Lori Jeffers spoke about the difficulties the Town will have passing the budgets as presented.

### **Approval of meeting minutes**

Upon a motion by Charles Pennewill, seconded by Anita Sebestyen to approve the meeting minutes from February 16, 2011.

The motion passed with Leo Santucci abstaining.

### **Presentation from the Tax Collector on 2010-2011 General Government and Willimantic Service District tax revenues**

Gay St. Louis, the Town Revenue Collector presented revenue collection reports comparing the current year to date collections with those of the prior year. It is expected that the amount budgeted for Tax collections will be obtained.

### **Presentation from Board of Education on their recommended 2011-2012 Budget and Capital Plan**

Ana Ortiz, Superintendent of Schools, gave a power point presentation describing the Board of Education Budget for the 2011-12 fiscal year and draft five year capital plan.

### **Presentation from Town Manager on Town Council's recommended 2011-2012 General Government budget, Willimantic Service District budget, Ambulance budget, and the Capital Improvement Plan**

Neal Beets, Town Manager, gave a power point presentation describing the Town Councils recommended budget and capital plan.

### **Town Controller's Report**

The Town Controller presented the following:

- Tentative Budget Meeting Schedule. It was suggested that every attempt be made to hold the next meeting on March 23<sup>rd</sup>.

- Proposal from SBA Communications to amend lease terms The proposal provides for a partial buyout of the existing lease while still offering some rent; The current contract expires in 2030; the requested extension is to the year 2066
- Proposal; from Great West Retirement Services to convert Met-Life Contract to Great West.
- Various debt service schedules with graphs showing existing and proposed tax supported debt.
- Ytd revenue and expnse reports for Townwide fund, Willimantic Service District and Windham Magnet School.
- Audit status: The auditors are finalizing their testing at the Board of Education this week and will be at the town next week.

**Any other business appropriate to come before the BOF**

There was no other business.

**Public Comment**

Vanessa Gonzalez spoke in favor of supporting the budgets presented, especially that of the the service district.

Lori Jeffers acknowledged the improved presentations from both the Board of Education and the Town but cautioned that the taxpayers cannot afford additional taxes.

Alona Stone thanked the Board of Finance, Town Council, Board of Education, Town Manager, and staff for all their hard work but cautioned that additional cuts may be needed to pass the budget.

Upon a motion by Anita Sebestyen, seconded by Charles Pennewill, the meeting was adjourned at 9:53 p.m.

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Tom Pesce