

The Board of Finance held a special meeting on **May 29, 2012 at 7:15 p.m. or immediately following the public forum** in the **Auditorium of Windham High School, 322 High Street, Willimantic, CT 06226**

Members Attending: Lynne Ide, Anita Sebestyen, David Hemenway, Charles Pennewill, Thomas White.

1. Call to Order

Chairman Lynne Ide called the meeting to order at 8:40 p.m.

2. Public Comment

Diane Rayhall commented that the teachers have not had a chance to look over the material. The Board should ask for a line item invoice of what is being bought.

Mike Pazoniak recommends going ahead with the purchase.

Anna Ortiz commented teachers received materials on Friday and they have gone through the initial training. The town will have the appropriation and the Board of Education will provide purchase orders.

Kevin Hoxie commented a lot of money has gone into the Board of Education with no production. Look at this purchase very closely.

Lori Jeffers commented to take some time to think about this. It is a lot of books.

Nancy Tinker commented the current books are from 2002-2003. They are in bad shape and cannot be replaced.

Assistant superintendent commented we could purchase used material of what is currently being used.

John French commented the Magnet School will have 270 Windham students.

3. Board of Finance Comment

Dave Hemenway commented this should have been added to the budget during budget deliberations but agrees it should be a one time allocation. He is in favor of purchasing the books.

4. Discussion and possible action on the Board of Education's request for the purchase of a new elementary school reading program and books

Upon a motion by Dave Hemenway, seconded by Thomas White to recommend to the Town Council a special Town meeting for the appropriation up to \$755,000 for the purchase of a reading program and materials for elementary schools.

Charles Pennewill questioned if the audit is completed and wanted assurance that any authorization would not reduce the undesignated general fund balance below the current level.

Tom Pesce replied that there is an anticipated increase in fund balance in excess of one million dollars so the authorization of \$755,000 will not reduce the balance below its current level.

Thomas White commented that the original motion was contingent on the audit showing sufficient funds are available.

Tom Pesce explained that the final audit will not be available by June 5th.

Thomas White acknowledged that there appears to be adequate funds to move the request forward.

The motion passed unanimously.

5. Public Comment

John French thanked the Board.

Thomas White commented that the meetings were recorded and will be available for public viewing through Charter Communications.

6. Adjournment

Upon a motion by Dave Hemenway, seconded by Charles Pennewill the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Attest: _____
Thomas Pesce