

**BOARD OF FINANCE
TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR
11 RYE STREET
BROAD BROOK, CONNECTICUT 06016**

**MEETING MINUTES FOR PUBLIC HEARING
Wednesday, March 25, 2015, at 7:00 p.m.**

DRAFT DOCUMENT – These minutes are not official until approved at a subsequent meeting

Members Present: Jerilyn Corso (Chairman); Cindy Herms, Robert Maynard, Kathy Pippin, and Sharon Tripp.
Members Absent: Robert Little.
Alternate Present: Paulette Broder, and Gil Hayes
Alternate Absent: Both Alternate Members present
Others: **Town Treasurer:** Kim Lord; **Deputy First Selectman:** Jason Bowsza
Selectmen: Dale Nelson and Jim Richards. Also: Town Staff :
Department of Public Works: Len Norton, Director/Town Engineer/Tree Warden; Joe Sauehoefer, Maintainer of Facilities and Inspections; **Parks and Recreation:** Melissa Maltese, Director; and
Planning Office: Laurie Whitten, Town Planner.

Press: No one from the press was present

Call to Order:

Chairman Corso called the Public Hearing to Order at 7:02 p.m.

Time and Place of Meeting:

Wednesday, March 25, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. at the East Windsor Town Hall (11 Rye Street, Broad Brook, CT.)

Appointment of Alternates:

MOTION: To **APPOINT** Alternate Member Gil Hayes in place of Robert Little as a voting member for the Public Hearing/Budget Workshop of the Board of Finance for March 25, 2015.

Tripp moved/Pippin seconded/**DISCUSSION:** None.
VOTE: In Favor: Unanimous

MOTION: To **APPOINT** Alternate Member Paulette Broder in place of Cindy Herms as a voting member for the Public Hearing/Budget Workshop of the Board of Finance for March 25, 2015.

Hayes moved/Pippin seconded/DISCUSSION: None.
VOTE: In Favor: Unanimous

Public Comments:

Jack Mannette, Old Ellington Road: Mr. Mannette reported budget proposals which he determined to be 12% for Town Government and over 7% for the Board of Education. He reported his concern that salaries and benefits reflect an increase of over 8%. Mr. Mannette suggested those increases take away from what the town wants to do in other areas; he felt a town of our size can't support that increase. Mr. Mannette felt the salaries and benefit increases should be brought down. He suggested it's in the hands of the Board of Finance.

Jason Bowsza, Deputy First Selectman, 34 Rye Street: Deputy First Selectman Bowsza reported First Selectman Menard apologized for her absence but she is home ill with the flu. Deputy First Selectman Bowsza suggested this is a different budget format than has been presented in the past. He suggested the Board of Selectmen have done their due diligence in presenting this proposal; he agreed there is still work to be done by the Board of Finance.

Steve Smith, 7 Cobblestone Drive, Broad Brook: Mr. Smith suggested he had heard the presentations of the Board of Education and the Board of Selectmen; Mr. Smith felt the Town needs an increase in its budget. Mr. Smith suggested the employees who work for the Town are phenomenal; they are professional and deserve to get paid. Mr. Smith felt the budget is fair. The education system is getting better; the proposal for the teen center will take money; the infrastructure is crumbling – it costs money to fix that.

Dale Nelson, Selectman: Selectman Nelson reported that when the Board of Selectmen went through the budget they looked at what a 2% increase has done to the Town over the past year(s). The infrastructure is deteriorating; the Town can't continue to live on a 2% increase.

Andy Heath, 15 Steeple Chase Drive: Mr. Heath reported he has attended a number of budget sessions; he felt a budget of 9% is untenable for the town. Should it be 6% or 4%? We need to fix the infrastructure and support the schools and provide services for the seniors. Mr. Heath offered suggestions for percentage increases; he suggested we start slowly and do it over the years. Mr. Heath suggested he supports more than 2% but he felt the 9% won't do it.

Adam Ribani, Dean Avenue: reported he is unemployed right now; he is present tonight to see what this is all about.

No one else requested to speak.

Adjournment of Public Hearing:

Board of Finance
Minutes - Public Hearing
March 25, 2015

Chairman Corso declared the Public Hearing closed at 7:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: _____
Peg Hoffman, Recording Secretary, East Windsor Board of Finance