

**TOWN OF POMFRET
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING – JUNE 3, 2010
REFERENDUM – JUNE 10, 2010**

In Attendance: First Selectman James Rivers, Selectmen Anthony Emilio, Maureen Nicholson. Board of Education Chairman Richard Schad, Board of Finance Chairman John DiIorio, Board of Finance and Board of Education Members, approximately 100 citizens and interested parties.

- Article 1:** **To choose a Moderator for said meeting** – Peter Mann moved to nominate Walter Hinchman. Nora Johnson seconded. There were no other nominations. Nora Johnson motioned to close nominations and Peter Mann seconded. All in favor. All in favor to nominate Walter Hinchman as moderator.
- Article 2:** **To see if the Town will consider and act upon the following resolution: “Resolved” that the Board of Selectmen is hereby authorized and empowered to enter into an agreement with the Commissioner of Transportation and the Office of Policy and Management, State of Connecticut, for the expenditure of all Highway funds under the provisions of Chapter 240 and the expenditure of all Local Capital Improvement Funds under the provisions of Chapter 7-536, CT General Statutes, for fiscal year beginning July 1, 2010** – Walter Hinchman read Article 2 into record. David Flath moved to approve Article 2. Nora Johnson seconded. There was no discussion. All in favor.
- Article 3:** **To see if the Town will consider and adopt the Five Year Local Capital Improvement Plan for fiscal year 2010 – 2011 as proposed by the Board of Selectmen** – Walter Hinchman read Article 3 into record. Mrs. Southam moved to approve. Nora Johnson seconded. There was no discussion. All in favor.
- Article 4:** **To hear and act upon the report of the Selectmen, Town Treasurer, Treasurer of the Local School Fund, and Board of Education, as published by the Board of Finance, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2009** – Walter Hinchman read Article 4 into record. Nora Johnson moved to approve and John DiIorio seconded. James Rivers noted the new format and that this report is now also on-line. There was no further discussion. All in favor.
- Article 5:** **To see if the Town will approve the acceptance of a grant in the amount of \$983,500 from the United States of America acting by and through the United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service on behalf of the Commodity Credit Corp for the implementation of the Farm and Ranch Lands Protection Program for acquisition of conservation easements; open space parcels; and /or development rights as approved by the Town of Pomfret** – Walter Hinchman read Article 5 into the record. Nora Johnson moved to approve. Michael Baum seconded. David Flath asked if this money will be used to reduce the 4 million dollar bond previously approved or if it is in addition to this money. J. Rivers stated it could be either, that the 4 million bond has not been committed. The grant is specific to four parcels, one of which, Tyrone Farm, has already been approved by the Town. Any additional pieces will need additional Town approval. Call to vote – All in favor of Article 5.
- Article 6:** **To see if the Town will adopt a budget appropriation in the total amount of \$11,214,790 with \$2,293,380 of said amount to be the General Government Appropriation and \$8,921,410 of said amount to be the Board of Education Appropriation, the same to be funded by estimated revenues as recommended by the Board of Finance** – Walter Hinchman read Article 6 into record and the Notice of Adjournment, clarifying that in absence of objection Article 6 will now be discussed only and then adjourned to a Referendum vote on June 10, 2010. Discussion followed including the following comments. Kathy Stevens asked if a sign will be put out noting date and place of referendum. Walter Tauplin asked how this budget will impact the school. Richard Schad provided an overview. Rita Conrad asked about the FMLA and if younger staff will replace. Richard Hall asked if the teacher’s contract is just for Pomfret and if anyone has approached the teachers regarding a pay freeze. Lisa Hart asked if school administrators have had salaries reduced. Melissa Zahanski asked about the percentage of teacher raises in the past. Larry Southam asked about a teacher assistant position. Walter Tauplin asked about a salary freeze and if a concession was given this year could it be quantified. A woman asked about the current budgetary problems and what types of reserves the Town had. John DiIorio provided a brief history and overview. Robert Blackmer asked if a survey question regarding the budget would be available at the polls. Tony Modillo asked about the State numbers last year and this year and the changes in Town spending. David Smutnick asked where cuts recommended by the Board of Finance have come from. Jim Rivers summarized. Richard Hall stated that he hoped the cuts in the legal lines would encourage mediating. Tony Modillo thanked the Boards of all the work that has been done. Walter Hinchman commented on all the positive participation this evening.

Article 7: **To do any other business proper to come before said meeting** – Walter Hinchman read Article 7 into the record and stated again the date, time, and place of the Referendum vote on Article 6. John DiIorio then moved to adjourn. Motion was duly seconded and meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM.