

**APPROVED  
BOARD OF FINANCE  
SPECIAL MEETING  
MINUTES  
MAY 15, 2014**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Hammers called the Board of Finance meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. at the Town Hall, Trumbull, Connecticut. All those present joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ATTENDANCE**

**Present**

Elaine Hammers, Chairman  
Bill Haberlin  
Andrew Palo  
Paul Lavoie  
Roy Molgard

**Absent**

Thomas Kelly  
Vincent DeGennaro, Alternate  
Karen Egri  
Edward Murphy

**Also present:**

Maria Pires, Finance Director

**SETTING OF MILL RATE**

Mr. Lavoie moved, seconded by Mr. Haberlin, to set the mill rate for the fiscal year 2014-2015 at 32.161%, which represents a 2.8% tax increase.

Vote: 4-1 motion carries (against: Palo)

Mr. Palo asked why the figure on the property tax line changed from the First Selectman's budget to today. Mrs. Pires indicated that the expenditure budget was much higher at that time. The total expenditure request from the departments was \$161,000,000 and the First Selectman's request was \$158,000,000. The Mill Rate is based on what is left to make up the expenditure budget. Once we have taken into consideration the State Revenues and Town Fees, the difference would be the Tax Revenues. The Chair indicated that there was no significant increase in any one specific item; it was a collection of small items. The largest change came from what the Board cut from the spending.

The Chair indicated that the Board would need to look at the line item for a Special Education reimbursement grant from the State and address it, adding that she believes the expense and revenue belong on the BOE side. The Town has lost approximately \$300,000, since we began to estimate what we were going to receive. We are giving the BOE their budgeted amount and then we are receiving less from the State than was budgeted. This is something the Board needs to look at next year.

Mr. Palo asked for the balance of the Special Detail Account and Mrs. Pires indicated that it was approximately \$1,300,000. She also confirmed that we would be using \$600,000 towards this budget. Mr. Palo did not think this was a good idea; it would create a funding cliff for next year and he would probably vote against it. He asked about the remaining \$700,000 and Mrs. Pires said that the Board would have to decide what to do with the remaining funds. She indicated that we should put approximately \$200,000 into the General Fund revenue each year.

The Chair indicated that several years ago, the Town made the Special Detail department a Special Agency account and removed the revenue portion from the budget, leaving the expenses. She went on to add that \$200,000 should go towards these Town expenses each year and would like to see a complete audit of this account before using these funds.

**ADJOURNMENT**

By unanimous consent, the meeting adjourned at 7:10.

Respectfully submitted:

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Phyllis C. Collier  
Board of Finance Clerk