

Town of Seymour  
Board of Finance

COPY RECEIVED  
DATE: 3/19/14  
TIME: 5:05pm  
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

Minutes

**Budget Deliberation Meeting**  
**Tuesday, March 18, 2014 at 7:00pm**  
**Flaherty Room, Seymour Town Hall**

**Members Present:** David Bitso, Rich Grudzias, Beverly Kennedy, Heather McDaniel, Bill Sawicki, John Stelma, and Ed Wasikowski; Jim Cretella (alternate)

**Members Absent:** None

**Others Present:** Doug Thomas

**Item #1 – Call Meeting to order**

Chairman Bill Sawicki called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

**Item #2 – Pledge of Allegiance**

Everyone saluted the Flag and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Item #3 – Seating of Alternates**

Jim Cretella was seated as alternate

**Item #4 – Deliberation and Discussion of 2014/2015 Budget**

The Board of Finance discussed the Town budget and some possible rate reduction.

- Currently the mill rate would be 34.41 which is an increase of 1.18
- David Bitso suggested the following cuts: \$20,000 Police Department - \$20,000 Public Works - \$60,000 Board of Education
- Ed Wasikowski suggested: \$20,000 Economic Development - \$37,000 (car) Police Department. Decided to wait on cutting the car from Police Department until after the first referendum.
- The cost savings for recycling every three weeks is \$48,000
- Bill Sawicki suggested cutting the contingency by \$50,000.
- Bill asked how many people are utilizing our Senior Citizen Freeze in taxes (revenue). This is based on income level.
- Senior Center: How many people are using the Senior Center? The cost for the Senior Center is \$145,000. Can we merge with Oxford? Salaries we can't cut, but they could be reassigned. Also, we should think about maybe reducing the hours.
- For the next round of cuts (after the first referendum) we can think about the following: recycling every 3 weeks; police department car; reduce senior citizen freeze; eliminate senior center; eliminate free trash pickup
- Ask Dee for a list of current grants we have applied for
- Possible date for the Public Hearing is April 3<sup>rd</sup>
- For tomorrow's meeting we will have the 5 completed agreements from the homeowners on the Squantuck Road land. They will provide the \$7,500, the town will provide the \$2,500.

- \$50,000 cut from Contingency; \$20,000 cut from Economic Development; \$10,000 cut from Public Works – Snowplowing Overtime; \$50,000 cut from Board of Education

Tomorrow night the Board of Finance will continue deliberations on the Town and Board of Education Budgets.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:23pm.

Submitted by:

***Monica Dimon***

***Recording Secretary***