

**TOWN OF EAST HADDAM**  
**BOARD OF FINANCE**  
**Special Meeting**  
April 23, 2013  
Town Hall

**Call to Order**

A special meeting of the Board of Finance was called to order at 7:47 pm by Chairman Susan Link immediately following the Budget Public Hearing.

In attendance:

Board of Finance Members:

Susan Link, Chairman  
Robert Bennett  
Daniel Alexander  
Bruce Dutch  
Harvey Thomas  
Raymond Willis

Others:

Mark B. Walter, First Selectman  
Debra Denette, Town Clerk and BOF Recording Secretary  
Nancy Haslam, Chair, Board of Education  
Dr. Mary Beth Iacobelli, Superintendent of Schools  
Cindy Varricchio, Finance Director

Approximately 25 individuals were present in the audience.

Chairman Susan Link inquired whether the Board wanted to make any additional changes to the budget prior to moving it forward to the Board of Selectmen, who would move it on to Town Meeting and referendum.

**Motion was made by Harvey Thomas to add \$10,000 to the 2013-2014 proposed budget to be allocated to the capital budget for the Conservation Commission for the purpose of constructing a bridge over the Eight Mile River. Bruce Dutch seconded the motion.**

Robert Bennett stated that he would like to see the Conservation Commission make an effort to raise private funds. Mr. Bennett inquired what change the additional \$10,000 would make to the bottom line. Chairman Link stated that she was already unhappy with the bottom line. She further noted that the Town has significant projects on the horizon.

Mrs. Link called for a vote on the motion.

**FAVOR: Thomas, Dutch**  
**OPPOSED: Link, Alexander**  
**ABSTAINED: Willis, Bennett**  
**MOTION FAILED**

Responsive to inquiry from Chairman Link, Raymond Willis advised that he abstained because his property borders the parcel where the bridge is to be constructed.

**Motion was made by Harvey Thomas to add \$10,000 to the proposed 2013-2014 budget to be allocated to the capital budget for the Conservation Commission for the purpose of constructing a bridge over the Eight Mile River with the anticipation that the Commission will make an effort to raise the balance of funding from private sources. Bruce Dutch seconded the motion.**

**FAVOR: Thomas, Dutch, Bennett**

**OPPOSED: Link, Alexander**

**ABSTAINED: Willis**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**Motion was made by Harvey Thomas to present to the annual budget meeting scheduled to be called by the Board of Selectmen for May 8, 2013 at 8:00 pm at the Town Hall a total budget of \$28,700,076 based on the grand list as of October 1, 2012 of \$844,692,545. The budget would require a tax rate increase of 4.70 mills or a 4% tax increase. Robert Bennett seconded the motion.**

**FAVOR: Thomas, Dutch, Bennett, Willis**

**OPPOSED: Link, Alexander**

**MOTION CARRIED**

Chairman Link inquired if anyone else desired to add funds to the budget as the Board seems to be in a generous mood. There were no other requests.

**Motion was made by Daniel Alexander to adjourn at 7:58 p.m. Raymond Willis seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved. Motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted,

Debra H. Denette