

**APPROVED BOARD OF FINANCE MINUTES  
TUESDAY, MAY 10, 2011**

Members Present: Peter Gomez, Chairman; Jill Bornstein, Vice Chair;  
Marty Heiser; Dave Ulmer; Margaret Price Sims

Town Officials: Kevin Redmond, Jane Berendsen-Hill

AGENDA

Mr. Gomez called the meeting to order at 9:22 p.m.

Discussion on Board of Finance representation in town labor contract negotiations.

Mr. Gomez opened the discussion and noted that currently the BOF is not represented in town labor negotiations. He noted that of the six Fairfield County towns he checked with, five did allow or require BOF representation. Ms. Bornstein inquired as to the current process and it was determined that the First Selectman negotiates and updates the BOS, but that no other member of the BOS is typically represented at the actual negotiation. Mr. Ulmer discussed the process for the BOE noting that a BOF is invited to the mediation meetings and that the role of the BOF representative is that of an active participant, not a silent observer. Mr. Heiser discussed his past experience serving as the BOF representative for BOE negotiations and thought having a BOF member at such meetings was very positive and aided in the negotiations. Mr. Gomez agreed and opined that it was a "best practice" to include such representation in the future.

Mr. Heiser made a motion that the BOF request of the BOS that a member of the BOF be represented at town labor negotiations. Ms. Price Sims seconded the motion. Vote, all in favor, unanimous. Motion carries.

The meeting was recessed at 9:34 p.m. and called back into session at 9:47 p.m.

Referendum Reading

Mr. Gomez read to the BOF the Referendum Reading below proposing the mill rate for fiscal year 2012:

REFERENDUM READING

I so move that the tax rate for the Town of Ridgefield be 20.61 mills on the Grand List of October 1, 2010 and that said taxes shall become due and payable on

July 1, 2011. Each motor vehicle tax bill shall become due and payable July 1, 2011. Each real estate and personal property bill in excess of \$100.00 may be paid quarterly. If any quarterly installments that shall not be paid within thirty (30) days after the same becomes due, then the unpaid quarterly tax thereof shall be subject to interest at the rate of eighteen (18) percent annually or one and one-half (1.5) percent each month from the due date or a minimum interest fee of \$2.00 (State Section #12-146). Each motor vehicle tax bill shall be paid in full by August 1, 2011, and if not so paid, interest shall be charged at one and one-half (1.5) percent each month from July 1, 2011 or a minimum interest fee of \$2.00 (State Section # 12-146).

Mr. Gomez moved to vote on the motion; Ms. Bornstein seconded it. Vote, all in favor, unanimous. Motion carries.

Mr. Gomez made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:50 p.m.; Ms. Price Sims seconded it. Vote, all in favor, unanimous. Motion carries.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kevin Redmond  
May 11, 2011