

Annual Financial Town Meeting
May 28, 2014 @ 7:00 P.M.
Barrington High School Auditorium

Total Eligible: 14,116
Attendance: 126 @ 7:05 P.M.
168 @ 7:16 P.M.
189 @ 7:30 P.M.

Present:

- **Town Moderator:** Julia P. Califano
- **Town Clerk:** Meredith J. DeSisto
- **Town Council:** June Sager Speakman, Kate G. Weymouth, Cynthia Armour Coyne, William C. DeWitt and Ann P. Strong
- **Town Manager:** Peter A. DeAngelis, Jr.
- **Appropriations Committee:** Peter Clifford, Geoffrey E. Grove, Joel Hellmann and Chad Mollica
- **School Committee:** Kate D. Brody, Paula S. Dominquez, Scott W. Fuller and Robert E. Shea, Jr.
- **School Superintendent:** Michael B. Messori, III
- **School Director of Administration and Finance:** Ronald D. Tarro
- **Finance Director:** Kathy Raposa
- **Town Solicitor:** Michael Ursillo

Absent:

- **Appropriations Committee:** Timothy Sweetser
- **School Committee:** Patrick A. Guida

Moderator Julia P. Califano declared a quorum present and called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM.

Mrs. Califano asked everyone to stand and join in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Mrs. Califano explained that the Moderator has the sole authority to regulate and manage the Financial Town Meeting. Mrs. Califano introduced the new Town Clerk, Meredith DeSisto, and will keep the official record of this meeting. Mrs. Califano stated that the Financial Town Meeting is your opportunity to ask questions of your elected and appointed officials and be satisfied that your tax dollars are being spent wisely. The only subject for discussion this evening is the proposed 2014-15 Barrington budget. Mrs. Califano thanked Mike Davis for providing the live feed for the Full Channel broadcast and Nahum Mitnik for providing the sound system for the meeting.

Mrs. Califano introduced Council President June Speakman who introduced the members of the Town Council, the Town Manager, and Finance Director Kathy Raposa. Mrs. Speakman recognized Executive Administrative Assistant Carol Ferrucci who will retire after serving 24 years of service to the Town. School Committee Chairperson Kate Brody introduced the members of the School Committee, the School Superintendent and the School Director of Administration and Finance. Mrs. Califano stated Kathy Raposa is the new Town Finance Director who comes to us with many years of experience. Mrs. Califano introduced Mary Alyce Gasbarro and Stephen B. Primiano, representing the Barrington Democratic and Republican parties respectively and who will be serving as timers. Mrs. Califano said everyone is allowed three minutes to speak and motions are to be addressed to the Moderator. Mrs. Califano stated the budget you have in front of you is the budget as recommended by the Committee on Appropriations. Timothy Sweetser is the chair of that committee but because of illness cannot be with us this evening.

Motion by Mr. Hellmann and seconded by Mr. DeWitt to dispense with the reading of the Call, but it is part of the record as it appears on page 20A.

Motion passed (voice vote).

Appropriations Committee Vice Chairman Geoff Grove introduced the Appropriations Committee members and read the message from the Committee

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS
TOWN OF BARRINGTON
FINANCIAL TOWN MEETING- MAY 28, 2014

Good evening residents of Barrington. There are five topics to be reviewed and decided on tonight: a bond to fund the Village Center Connectivity Plan; the school budget; the municipal budget; the capital budget; and the car tax.

Should you vote to support the recommendations of the Appropriations Committee, the property tax rate will increase by 0.33% over last year. The rate per \$1,000 of assessed value would increase from \$18.20 to approximately \$18.26 (which is customarily rounded up to the nearest nickel, bringing the rate to \$18.30, a 0.55% increase). The median price homeowner would experience approximately a \$22 increase in their annual tax bill (based on \$18.26). The proposed tax levy will increase by \$177,328 to \$56,285,217. And, an increase to the motor vehicle tax exemption will be marginally favorable for most taxpayers.

Village Center Connectivity Plan

The Planning Board, in agreement with the Town Council, is proposing a project to enhance the Village Center as described in agenda item 5. This area, generally bounded by Maple Avenue to Waseca, and County Road to West Street, will receive improvements to the Town roads and sidewalks as well as signage and other enhancements intended to create a uniform feel and boost commerce. A bond or note in an amount not to exceed \$1,600,000 is proposed for this project. This appropriation, if approved tonight, will increase the debt, but not affect the FY15 budget. A \$1.6 million bond will cost approximately \$120,000 per year for 20 years. Since this proposal was brought before Appropriations too late in the budget cycle, we agreed to bring this issue before the Townspeople and judge it on its merits at the FTM. There is no consensus from the COA on this issue.

Schools

The COA recommends an increase to the current school budget of \$1,038,000. This will raise the FY15 School budget to \$46,375,464. This represents a 2.29% increase over the prior year. Because of an increase in state aid, this represents only a 0.59% increase to taxpayers. This increase will assure the implementation of All-Day Kindergarten; fully support implementation of initiatives aligned with the [Strategic Plan](#); fund increased pension contributions; and, fund increases to salary and benefits as defined by the 3-year contract negotiated with NEA Barrington last year; as well as other general increases in operating expenses. We congratulate Mike Messoro and his staff for finding new efficiencies in the management of their budget.

Municipal

The COA recommends an increase to the Municipal budget of \$284,689, an increase of 1.67% over the prior year. This will raise the FY15 Municipal budget to \$17,316,757.

Town administration continues to deliver excellent services while keeping a tight rein on costs, as evidenced by the 3-year average budget increase of 0.59%. We congratulate Peter DeAngelis and his staff for being responsive to taxpayer angst in these trying fiscal times.

Capital

The Capital Improvement Program Subcommittee of the Town Planning Board recommended spending of \$925,500 for capital expenditures next year. As usual, this committee has made prudent recommendations that maintain an appropriate level of safety and maintenance required to keep the town operating properly. This year the COA made one addition and one subtraction from the recommended capital budget: we removed the request for \$250,000 to begin the Village Center Connectivity Plan, and we added the \$275,000 request for Technology from the Schools. All other elements of the proposed Capital Program were approved by COA. So, the COA recommends a Capital budget of \$950,500, a slight increase over last year.

The Capital Improvement Subcommittee has identified three major projects for bonding in future years: Library Renovation - \$1,200,000 (FY16); Replacement of Middle School - \$36,175,000 (FY17); and Brickyard Pond Storm Water TMDL - \$2,520,000 (FY19). These will impact future tax rates.

Motor Vehicle Exemption

As you may know, you are taxed on the average retail book value of your motor vehicles. The rate charged to Barrington residents on their cars is \$42 per \$1,000 of the book value, among the highest rates in the State. Until 2011, the State reimbursed to the Town all taxpayers' liability on any vehicles valued at less than \$6,000. In effect, the value of your vehicle was reduced by \$6,000 for tax purposes. In 2011, the State reduced that exemption from \$6,000 to \$500. The COA increased that exemption by \$500 to \$1000 per vehicle in 2013. The COA is recommending again this year to increase the exemption by another \$500 to \$1,500 per vehicle. This change will further ease the tax burden of residents with older cars. The decrease in the collections from this tax will increase slightly the taxes collected on other forms of real property.

Conclusions

We have a well-run town. The operating budgets are realistic and responsible. By holding the increase to the tax rate to 0.33%, we are being responsive to taxpayers during this difficult fiscal time while maintaining a high level of service and supporting our excellent schools. The School Funding Formula has been providing continued increases in State aid to our schools. This much appreciated relief was overdue, but the increases will be ending soon. And, the decreasing student population will result in an adjustment to that aid. We need to prepare for that day. We also need to prepare for a new Middle School. This is a BIG ticket item that will add about \$2 million per year to the annual budget for 20 years.

We must be cognizant of the fact that we are part of a state that is facing some serious fiscal challenges. The pension reform court challenge could change everything by increasing dramatically our pension payments while at the same time reducing State aid. To state the obvious, we hope that this issue is resolved amicably.

Lastly, our town has the good fortune to have a Town Council, a School Committee, and an Appropriations Committee. Like a three-legged stool, it creates a sturdy foundation, and a perfect counterbalance.

Respectfully submitted,

BARRINGTON COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Geoffrey Grove, *Vice-Chair (Acting Chair)*
Timothy Sweetser, *Chair*
Joel Hellmann
Chad Mollica
Peter Clifford

Motion by Mrs. Speakman and seconded by Mrs. Weymouth to adopt the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION OF THE FINANCIAL TOWN MEETING
TO CREATE A CAPITAL RESERVE ACCOUNT TO BE KNOWN AS THE ENERGY
CONSERVATION CAPITAL RESERVE ACCOUNT**

RESOLVED: Create a capital reserve account to be known as the Energy Conservation Capital Reserve Account for 2015 and transfer the balance of funds from the existing Energy Planning Account to the Energy Conservation Capital Reserve Account.

Andrea Moshier, Chair of the Energy Committee, stated that the Energy Committee fully supports this resolution.

Motion passed (voice vote).

Motion by Mrs. Speakman and seconded by Mrs. Weymouth to adopt the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION OF THE FINANCIAL TOWN MEETING
APPROPRIATING AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$1,600,000 TO FINANCE THE
DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION, RECONSTRUCTION, REHABILITATION, REPAIR,
IMPROVEMENT AND LANDSCAPING OF TOWN STREETS AND SIDEWALKS,
INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, PAVING, DRAINAGE, SIGNAGE, EQUIPMENT
AND TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES AS CONTEMPLATED BY
THE VILLAGE CENTER CONNECTIVITY PLAN AND ALL OTHER COSTS
INCIDENTAL OR RELATED THERETO, THROUGH THE ISSUANCE OF
BONDS AND/OR NOTES**

WHEREAS, the Town of Barrington is undertaking an economic development project included in the Town's Comprehensive Plan and recommended by the Town Planning Board, which contemplates a streetscape improvement plan for a mixed-use development district in the Town, to include rebuilt and new sidewalks, crosswalks, street trees, street furniture, on-street parking and a "way finding" signage plan (the "Village Center Connectivity Plan").

RESOLVED:

Section 1. The sum of \$1,600,000 be appropriated to finance the design, construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, repair, improvement and landscaping of Town streets and sidewalks, including, but not limited to, paving, drainage, signage, equipment and traffic control devices as contemplated by the Village Center Connectivity Plan and all other costs incidental or related thereto and to raise said appropriation, the Finance Director, with the approval of the Town Council, is authorized under Section 45-12-2 of the General Laws Rhode Island and Section 7-1-1 of the Home Rule Charter of the Town, as amended, to issue bonds therefor, to issue temporary notes in anticipation of the issuance of bonds, and to issue refunding bonds pursuant to Section 45-12-5.2.

Section 2. The manner of sale, denominations, maturities, principal amounts, interest rates, and other terms, conditions and details of any bonds or notes issued pursuant to this authority may be fixed by proceedings of the Town Council authorizing the issue or by separate resolution of the Town Council or, to the extent provisions for these matters are not so made, they may be fixed by the officers authorized to sign the bonds or notes. The bonds or notes shall be signed by the Finance Director and by the President of the Town Council.

Section 3. This Resolution is an affirmative action of the Town of Barrington toward the issuance of bonds or notes in accordance with the purposes of the laws of the State. This

Resolution constitutes the Town's declaration of official intent pursuant to the Treasury Regulations Section 1.150(2) to reimburse the Town for certain capital expenditures for the Project paid on or after the date which is sixty (60) days prior to the date of this Resolution, but prior to the issuance of the bonds or notes. Amounts to be reimbursed shall not exceed \$1,600,000 and shall be reimbursed not later than eighteen (18) months after (a) the date on which the expenditure is paid, or (b) the date the Project is placed in service or abandoned, but in no event later than three (3) years after the date the expenditure is paid.

Section 4. The Finance Director and the President of the Town Council are hereby authorized to take all lawful action necessary or desirable under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), to insure that the interest on the bonds and notes will remain exempt from federal income taxation to the extent provided in Section 103 of the Code, and to refrain from taking any action which will cause interest on such bonds and notes to lose the benefit of exclusion from gross income provided by Section 103(a) of the Code. The Finance Director and the President of the Town Council are further authorized to take all lawful action necessary or desirable to designate the bonds and notes as "qualified tax-exempt obligations" within the meaning of Section 265(b)(3) of the Code.

Section 5. This Resolution shall take effect upon passage.

Anne Galbraith, 1 Middle Street, and Jean Burritt Robertson, 57 Water Way, members of the Planning Board spoke in favor of the resolution.

Kathy Cadigan, 88 Rumstick Road, spoke on the financial impact of this bond.

Chad Mollica, 4 River Oak Road, speaking as a taxpayer, asked why the power lines were not depicted within the drawings. Town Planner Phil Hervey stated it was the artist rendering and there are no plans for the electrical poles and wires to be removed. Mr. Mollica asked if the Business Association would be contributing to this project. Mr. Hervey stated the Business Association was involved with the way finding signage and new maps but is not aware of private investments. Mr. Hellmann stated that this project is a cost to the Town but it improves the aesthetics of the Town and therefore, brought this resolution to the Financial Town Meeting for a vote.

Motion passed (voice vote).

Motion by Mrs. Speakman and seconded by Mrs. Weymouth to adopt the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION OF THE FINANCIAL TOWN MEETING
AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF EMERGENCY NOTES
TO FUND EMERGENCY APPROPRIATIONS NOT TO EXCEED \$5,000,000**

RESOLVED:

SECTION 1. In the event of an emergency threatening the public safety, health or welfare and requiring the immediate expenditure of money by the Town, the Town Council, on the written recommendation of the Town Manager, by resolution, may appropriate funds in an amount not to exceed \$5,000,000 and for purposes in addition to those contained in the operating budget or in the capital budget. Such a resolution shall include a brief statement of the facts that show the existence of such emergency.

SECTION 2. To fund said appropriation, the Finance Director, with the approval of the Town Council, is authorized under Section 45-12-2 of the General Laws Rhode Island to issue emergency notes.

SECTION 3. The manner of sale, denominations, maturities, principal amounts, interest rates, and other terms, conditions and details of any emergency notes issued pursuant to this authority may be fixed by proceedings of the Town Council authorizing the issue or by separate resolution of the Town Council or, to the extent provisions for these matters are not so made, they may be fixed by the officers authorized to sign the emergency notes. The notes shall be signed by the Finance Director and by the President of the Town Council.

SECTION 4. The Finance Director and the President of the Town Council are hereby authorized to take all lawful action necessary or desirable under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), to insure that the interest on the emergency notes will remain exempt from federal income taxation to the extent provided in Section 103 of the Code, and to refrain from taking any action which will cause interest on the emergency notes to lose the benefit of exclusion from gross income provided by Section 103(a) of the Code. The Treasurer and the President of the Town Council are further authorized to take all lawful action necessary or desirable to designate the emergency notes as "qualified tax-exempt

obligations" within the meaning of Section 265(b)(3) of the Code.

Motion passed (voice vote).

Motion by Mrs. Speakman and seconded by Mrs. Mrs. Weymouth to adopt the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION
AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF TAX ANTICIPATION NOTES
IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$5,000,000**

RESOLVED:

Section 1. Pursuant to Rhode Island General Laws Section 45-12-4 and Section 6-5-2 of the Town of Barrington Home Rule Charter the Finance Director and the President of the Town Council acting on behalf of the Town, are authorized to issue and refund, from time to time, not to exceed \$5,000,000 interest bearing notes issued in anticipation of the receipt of the proceeds of the annual tax assessed or to be assessed upon the taxable property within the said Town as of December 31, 2013 for the financial year July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015 for the purpose of providing funds for the payment of the current liabilities and expenses of said Town.

Section 2. The manner of sale, amount, denominations, maturities conversion or registration privileges, dated dates, due dates, interest rates, medium of payment, and other terms, conditions and details of the Notes authorized hereunder may be fixed by proceedings of the Town Council authorizing the issue or by separate resolution of the Town Council or, to the extent provisions for these matters are not so made, they may be fixed by the officers authorized to sign the Notes.

Section 3. The Director of Finance/Treasurer and the President of the Town Council are authorized to take all actions necessary to comply with federal securities laws including Rule 15c2-12 of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Rule") and to execute and deliver if required in connection with the Notes a Continuing Disclosure Agreement or a Material Events Disclosure Agreement in the form as shall be deemed advisable by the Director of Finance and the President of the Town Council in order to comply with the Rule. The Town hereby covenants and agrees that it will comply with and carry out all provisions of any such Continuing Disclosure Agreement or Material Events Disclosure Agreement, as either of them may be amended from time to time. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Resolution or the Notes, failure of the Town to comply with any such Continuing Disclosure Agreement or Material Events Disclosure Agreement shall not be considered an event of default; however, any note holder may take such actions as may be necessary and appropriate, including seeking a mandate or specific performance by court order, to cause the Town to comply with its obligations under this Section and under any such agreement.

Motion passed (voice vote).

Mrs. Califano stated by RI law, voters can only make motions to increase or decrease the bottom line of the school budget. The School Committee has sole authority to determine how that bottom line is allocated. You may, however, ask questions about individual budget items and make non-binding recommendations.

This year there are no pre-filed motions, so any motion to introduce an entirely new budget line item of more than \$25,000 or to increase or decrease an existing line item by more than \$50,000 would be out of order, according to the Barrington Town Charter. However, you may make smaller motions, and this is the time to ask any questions you might have about the school budget.

Kathy Cadigan, 88 Rumstick Road, questioned regarding an article within the Barrington Times regarding the retiring of eight teachers and if the budget reflected the reduction. Mr. Tarro stated that the budget has been adjusted by using a salary range of a fifth step teacher holding a bachelor's degree.

Account Number	Account	FY Ending June 30, 2015
0300	Public Schools	\$46,375,465

Motion passed (standing vote).

Mrs. Califano stated if there are no further questions or comments, you have **adopted** a school budget as recommended.

Mrs. Califano stated unlike the school budget, the municipal budget, is a line item budget. Motions may be made to increase or decrease any department budget, but, because there are no pre-filed motions, no motion can increase or decrease any department budget by more than \$50,000.

Municipal Budget

0010	Town Council		\$	21,046
0020	Town Manager			212,017
0030	Town Clerk			221,158
0035	Probate/Municipal Court			6,480
0038	Board Of Canvassers			31,192
0040	Finance Department			362,795
0045	Computer Operations			173,057
0050	Tax Assessor			139,796
0060	Inspections			101,762
0065	Sealer of Weights & Measures			1,351
0080	Planning Board			108,237
0090	Zoning Board			8,437
0095	Human Resources			39,688
0100	Recreation Department			111,954
0110	Library			1,245,511
0120	Senior Services			120,109
0150	Fire Department			1,861,517
0155	Hydrant Rental			140,000
0180	Police Department			2,505,903
0190	Animal Control			15,000
0200	Harbor Control			39,005
0210	Civil Defense			3,750
0260	Public Works			2,247,327
0265	Refuse Collection Contract			897,197
0270	Benefits			3,705,936
	Social Security	613,281		
	Medical Coverage	1,933,401		
	Pensions	1,116,754		
	Compensated Absences	35,000		
	Unemployment Insurance	7,500		
0310	Town Solicitor			163,500
0320	Insurance			310,011
0330	Agency Support			36,400
	Barr.'s Share East Bay Center	35,000		
	URI Cooperative	900		
	East Bay Community Action	0		
	The Samaritans	500		
0340	Principal on Bonded Debt			1,581,908
0350	Interest on Debt			504,563
0360	Capital Items:			
	Police Department			75,000
	Fire Department			150,000
	Public Works			105,000
	Other			620,500
0365	Government Center Utilities			78,000
0366	Peck Center Utilities			92,750
0367	Public Safety Complex Utilities			150,000
0370	Miscellaneous			81,400
Total	Gross Expenditures		\$	64,642,721

Mrs. Califano asked if there were any comments or questions.

John Allesandro, 15 Meadowbrook Drive, stated he is a member of the Board of Assessment Review, and is concerned that 0050 Tax Assessor's budget is very low and the cost of a commercial reassessment and the hiring of professionals can be expensive and cautions the voters to provide for such in the future. Mrs. Califano stated if there were any further

questions or comments; there were not. Mrs. Califano stated you have **approved** the municipal budget.

Mrs. Califano explained that the sewer utility is an enterprise fund. The budget is fully funded by the sewer fees. And Revenues are established outside the authority of the town meeting, but if there are any questions about revenues or the sewer fund, to please ask them. There were no questions.

850SE	Sewer Utility	3,628,076
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Motion by Mr. Grove and seconded by Mrs. Weymouth to adopt the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION
ADOPTING THE REPORT
OF THE COMMITTEE-ON-APPROPRIATIONS**

RESOLVED: that the report of the Committee-on-Appropriations, appointed to prepare a budget, be adopted and in accordance therewith, the sum of \$64,642,721 be and the same hereby is appropriated to be expended during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015, and the Town Treasurer is hereby authorized and directed to pay out of the several appropriations mentioned, said sums within the amounts appropriated, as may be required upon receipt by her of proper vouchers approved by the Town Manager, or otherwise as provided by law.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that the report of the Committee-on-Appropriations with regard to the Sewer Enterprise Fund be adopted and in accordance therewith the sum of \$3,628,076 be and the same hereby is appropriated to be expended during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015, and the Town Treasurer is hereby authorized and directed to pay out of the Sewer Enterprise Fund said sums within the amount appropriated as may be required upon receipt by her of proper vouchers approved by the Town Manager or otherwise as provided by law. The expenditure shall be supported by revenue generated by said fund.

Motion passed (voice vote).

Motion by Mr. Grove and seconded by Mrs. Speakman to adopt the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION
ORDERING THE LEVY AND COLLECTION OF A TAX AND DEALING
WITH KINDRED MATTERS**

RESOLVED: that the electors of the Town of Barrington, qualified to vote on any proposition to impose a tax, in Town Meeting assembled, on this 28TH day of May, A.D. 2014, hereby order the levy and collection of a tax on the ratable real estate, the ratable tangible personal property, ratable tangible personal property of manufacturer's machinery and equipment (the rate of said ratable tangible personal property of manufacturer's consisting of manufacturer's machinery and equipment to be in accordance with limitations and provisions of statutory law of the State of Rhode Island) and motor vehicle excise tax in the sum not less than \$56,185,217 nor more than \$58,372,405, said tax to be for ordinary expenses and charges, for the payment of interest and indebtedness in full or in part of said Town and for other purposes authorized by law.

The Tax Assessor shall apportion said tax on the inhabitants and taxable property of said Town according to law, and shall, upon completion of said resulting tax roll, date, certify and sign the same and deliver to and deposit the same in the Office of the Town Clerk. The Town Clerk, upon receipt of said assessments, shall forthwith make a copy of same and deliver it to the Finance Director with a warrant under her hand directed to the Collector of Taxes of said Town commanding him to proceed to collect said tax on the person and estates liable therefor. Said tax shall be due and payable on the 1st day of September, A.D. 2014, and all taxes remaining unpaid after September 30, 2014, shall carry until collected, a penalty at the rate of 18 per cent per annum from the due date of any quarterly installment, PROVIDED, HOWEVER, that the persons assessed to pay their taxes shall have an option to pay the same in equal quarterly installments; the first installment of twenty-five per centum on or before the 30th day of September 2014, and the remaining installments as follows: twenty-five per centum on or before the 30th day of December 2014, twenty-five per centum on or before the 30th day of March 2015, and twenty-five per centum on or before the 30th

day of June 2015.

If the first installment or any succeeding installments of taxes is not paid by the last date of the respective installment period or periods as they occur then the whole tax or remaining unpaid balance of the tax as the case may be shall immediately become due and payable and shall carry until collected a penalty at the rate of 18 per cent per annum.

As of the 31st day of December 2014, at twelve o'clock midnight, the Assessor of Taxes shall determine the assessed valuation of ratable property in the Town for tax purposes and against such assessed valuations so determined shall apportion the tax levy to be made by the electors in Financial Town Meeting on May 27, 2015 on the inhabitants of the Town and ratable property therein to meet appropriations.

RESOLVED: that the Collector of Taxes is hereby directed to attend any meeting of the Town Council held on its regular meeting date on or before May 2015 prepared to certify to the Council the names of all persons whose taxes have remained unpaid or have been paid under protest as of that date, together with all amounts due from each, and also all the information in her possession connected with each case. The Tax Collector shall also prepare and certify to the Town Council the names of all persons to whom she recommends there shall be granted tax abatements on tangible personal property because they have deceased leaving no assets, have moved out of State leaving no assets or whose tax has been ruled uncollectible by court, as provided in the General Laws of Rhode Island, 1956, as amended, Title 44, Chapter 7, Section 14, as amended to date, together with the reason for the abatement and the amount.

RESOLVED: that the Assessor of Taxes is directed to attend any meeting of the Town Council held on its regular meeting date on or before May 2015 prepared to certify to the Council the names of all persons recommended to be granted tax abatements because of mistakes in the assessment as provided in the General Laws of 1956, Title 44, Chapter 7, Section 14, as amended to date, together with the nature of the mistake, the valuation and the amount of tax recommended for abatement.

RESOLVED: that the Town Council is hereby authorized, empowered and directed to investigate each case so brought before them, and whenever in their judgment, the tax has been illegally or wrongfully assessed or the tax on any tangible personal property is uncollectible because the owner has deceased leaving no assets, has moved out of State leaving no assets or whose tax has been ruled uncollectible by the court, they are hereby authorized and empowered to remit such tax. In all cases, the Collector of Taxes is hereby directed to collect by process of law, all taxes due and unpaid on August 1, 2014. The Collector of Taxes is further directed to collect by process of law all tangible personal property taxes levied in 2014, which remain unpaid on September 30, 2014 unless being paid quarterly.

RESOLVED: that the Finance Director is hereby authorized to hire such sum or sums of money as may be necessary for the operation of the Town Government, and

RESOLVED: that the Finance Director and Collector of Taxes and such other Town Officers as the Town Council may designate shall secure their bonds from some good surety company and the Town assume the expenses.

Motion passed (voice vote).

Motion by Mr. Grove and seconded by Mrs. Weymouth to adopt the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION
TO ESTABLISH TAX RATES**

RESOLVED: that the real estate and personal property tax rate be set at not greater than \$18.30 per \$1,000 valuation and the motor vehicle tax rate be set at \$42.00 per \$1,000 valuation.

Motion passed (voice vote).

Motion by Mrs. Mary Alyce Gasbarro and seconded by Mr. Steve Primiano to adopt the

following resolution:

**RESOLUTION
ELECTING A COMMITTEE
TO PREPARE A BUDGET AND SUBMIT A REPORT**

RESOLVED: that a committee of five (5) consisting of Peter Clifford, 6 Starbrook Drive; Peter Dennehy 36 Hanson Road; Geoffrey E. Grove, 16 Robbins Drive; Chad Mollica, 4 River Oak Drive and Timothy R. Sweetser, 12 Roberta Drive is hereby elected to hold a public meeting on the second Wednesday in May 2015 at 7:00 o'clock P.M. for the purpose of hearing all persons interested in preparing a budget to be presented to the Financial Town Meeting and to submit a printed report of their recommendations for expenditures to the Financial Town Meeting, and the amount of tax which will be necessary to levy to pay such expenses, and

RESOLVED: that in case of a vacancy in the committee after the appointment of its members, such vacancy shall be filled immediately by the Town Council, and

RESOLVED: further that the Town Clerk with the said Committee-on-Appropriations shall prepare and have printed an order of business for each Financial Town Meeting.

Mr. Hellmann is resigning after 1 ½ year of service; he was appointed to the Committee on Appropriations on December 17, 2012.

Motion passed (voice vote).

Motion to dissolve the Financial Town Meeting at 7:49PM.

Motion passed (voice vote).

Meredith J. DeSisto, Town Clerk