

**THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO BOARD APPROVAL AT THE NEXT  
BOARD OF FINANCE MEETING  
WESTBROOK MULVEY MUNICIPAL CENTER**

The Westbrook Board of Finance Town Meeting was held on Wednesday, April 24, 2013. In attendance were Chairman Paul Connelly, Sherry Seidman, Gary Gavigan, George Pytlik, Rick Westbrook, and Keith Maynard. Also in attendance was Kelley Frazier, Secretary to the Board.

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Connelly at 7:02p.m. The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PRESENTATION OF FY2013-14 TOWN BUDGET – A. URBAN**

Mr. Urban presented the town budget information for Fiscal Year 2013 - 2014.

**PRESENTATION OF FY2012-13 BOARD OF EDUCATION BUDGET**

Mrs. Westbrook, Westbrook Board of Education, Chairman, introduced the Board of Education members and thanked the Board of Education and the school Administration for all of their hard work developing the budget. Mrs. Westbrook gave a brief background of the development of the Board of Education budget. She introduced Pat Ciccone, Superintendent of Schools, who presented the education budget in detail.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Krete a Westbrook Resident asked how many students are in the schools. Ms. Ciccone stated that there are 886 students.

Mr. Julius Angelini noted that his taxes have gone up every year since moving here in 2004. He asked that given the sound state of the financials of the town if taxes could go down? Mr. Urban said that revenue dictates the tax rate and it is unpredictable. He also noted that State aid is being decreased. He noted that the mill rate is a number that is arrived at. When revenue is lower the only place to make this difference up is in property taxes. Mr. Urban said that our expenses have not gone down. He noted that most departments came in at a zero percent budget increase. The school has factored in the savings for the fuel costs. Mr. Angelini noted that residents have to make due with less and that the town should do this, too.

A Westbrook resident who moved from California asked about school class size. Ms. Ciccone noted that the Board of Education guidelines for class size are on a sliding scale based on the age of the children. K-2 is 16 students plus or minus 2 students. Third and Fourth grade is 18 and Fifth through Eighth grades are 22. The school watches enrollment very carefully.

Mike Door noted that our taxes are the lowest around and our staff and schools are better than the towns around us. He said that our tax rate should remain fairly level for the next 4 or 5 years. He feels that we are well managed.

Mr. Angelini said that this is incorrect. His tax rate has increased.

Mr. Adorno noted that we have decreased spending. He said that sometimes savings comes at an initial cost.

Mr. Krete said that he is interested in what will be purchased with bonds. It was noted that on April 30, 2013 the Capital Improvement plan will be discussed and

voted on.

The meeting adjourned at 8:21pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelley S. Frazier, Board Clerk