

**BOARD OF FINANCE**  
**SPECIAL MEETING - APRIL 14, 2016**  
**WILTON TOWN HALL MEETING ROOM B**  
**7:30 P.M.**

**PRESENT**

**Board of Finance:** Warren Serenbetz, Jeff Rutishauser, Richard Creeth, Peter Balderston, John Kalamarides Absent: Walter Kress

**Board of Selectmen:** Michael Kaelin, Lori Bufano, David Clune, Dick Dubow

**Others:** State Senator Toni Boucher, State Representative Gail Lavielle, Anne Kelly-Lenz, CFO; Glenn Hemmerle, BOE; Ken Post, WPS; and members of the public and press

Board of Finance Chairman Jeff Rutishauser called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and stated there would be no mil rate discussion in accordance with Town Charter requirements.

This meeting was convened to get the latest updates from State Representative Gail Lavielle and State Senator Toni Boucher on Governor Malloy's proposed state budget to address the state's projected deficit for FY17. Under his proposed budget, the Education Cost Sharing Grant of \$1.46 million that Wilton had expected would be completely eliminated.

Both Ms. Boucher and Ms. Lavielle spoke about the effect of the timing of this announcement, since the town has already set its mil rate and budget for the upcoming Annual Town Meeting. They informed the Board that legislators are discussing the possibility of towns like Wilton getting away from state mandates, if they were to receive no state ECS funding. Ms. Lavielle said that although the deadline to finalize the state budget is May 4<sup>th</sup>, it is possible it may drag out until after the new fiscal year starts July 1<sup>st</sup> or even quite possibly into election season. Ms. Boucher encouraged the Town and BOE to be as cost conscious as possible.

Discussion followed. Michael Kaelin spoke and complimented the Board on the budget it put together. He stressed the need of the BOF to inform voters of the status of the cut on May 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Annual Town Meeting, so voters could make informed choices if the budget is cut more. He suggested perhaps town counsel might need to be involved. Jeff Rutishauser felt more discussion on this could be held during the next Regular BOF meeting on 4/19.

Jeff asked for a motion to adjourn; Peter Balderston so moved, Warren Serenbetz seconded and the meeting adjourned at 8:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kris Fager  
(from video recording)