

Subject to Approval

**Town of Simsbury Board of Finance
PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES
Tuesday, April 19, 2016 at 5:45PM
Simsbury Board of Education – Conference Room
933 Hopmeadow Street, Simsbury, Connecticut**

PRESENT: Barbara Petitjean, Jeff Blumenthal, Robert Pomeroy, Jr., and Linda Schofield (via phone).

ABSENT: Kevin Prell and Moira Werthamer.

ALSO PRESENT: First Selectman Lisa Heavner, Selectmen Elaine Lange, Cheryl Cook and Mike Paine; Interim Finance Director Sean Kimball; Board of Education Chairman Tara Willerup, Board of Education members Tom Doran, Tom Frank, Lydia Tedone, and Todd Burrick; Superintendent of Schools Matt Curtis Business Manager Burke LaClair, Town Engineer Jeff Shea, Director of Planning and Community Development Jamie Rabbit, Police Chief Peter Ingvertsen, Recreation Director Gerry Toner

Chairman Barbara Petitjean called the public hearing to order at 5:45PM.

Everyone present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. Petitjean then welcomed the public to share their concerns and comments.

Ms. Joan Coe of 26 Whitcomb Drive expressed her displeasure with how the March 29, 2016 Board of Finance meeting unfolded, noting her concern with the reduction of revenue to Simsbury from the State of Connecticut. Her suggestions included reducing the 7% debt limit to 5% or lower, reducing expenditures within the CNR (Capital Non-Recurring) budget, and private groups should no longer be supported with tax dollars. She also opined that maintenance expenditures ought to be included as part of the operating budget.

Mr. Mike Rinaldi of 32 Pinnacle Mountain Road opined that Simsbury has an excessively high equalized tax rate and detailed why this is so. He praised the excellent school system in Simsbury but noted that he believes the Board of Education needs to be more fiscally responsible.

The public hearing was adjourned at 5:55PM.

Respectfully submitted,

**Pamela A. Colombie
Commission Clerk**