

**SELECTMEN'S BUDGET WORKSHOP**  
**Minutes of 01-20-09**  
**4:10 p.m.**

***Selectmen:***

*(Tardy)*

*Peter F. Brothers, Chairman*  
*Miller C. Lovett, Vice Chairman*  
*Robert C. Flanders*  
*Charles G. Palm*  
*Colette Worsman*

*(Absent with Notice)*

***Co-Interim Town Managers:***

*John C. Edgar*  
*Brenda L. Vittner*

***Recording Clerk:***

*Karin Landry*

Call to Order: Chair Peter Brothers called the meeting to order at 4:10 p.m. He introduced the Board, Co-Interim Town Managers, and the Recording Clerk. Selectman Worsman was absent with notice due to a family medical emergency. Selectman Lovett arrived at 5 p.m.

Co-Interim Town Manager Brenda Vittner incorporated the changes talked about at previous Budget Workshops in a summary list. The operating budget shows a \$14,650 increase over last year. The appropriations represent a decrease of \$203,562, or 1.58% below the 2008 budget. The revenue deficit was reduced by approximately \$122,000. The changes account for a reduction of approximately \$327,000 in the budget. Ms. Vittner will provide the Board with figures pertaining to the net decrease in funds to be raised by taxation in 2009.

The Board will hold a series of workshops in order to become better informed about the needs of various departments. An equipment workshop will set forth inventories, maintenance records, and fuel usage. It is not the intent of the Board to make further changes to the budget at those workshops. In addition, a workshop will be scheduled to discuss the Warrant Articles, and various matters including disposal of surplus property and how to handle proceeds from a timber harvest on land conveyed to the Town in a probate matter.

There was a consensus among the Board that excess equipment should be used to generate additional revenue. Town policy states that police and fire equipment should be disposed of by the chiefs.

Enabling legislation must be passed at Town Meeting allowing the Town to apply for low interest loans.

The Chair would like dialogue to take place regarding the pros and cons of SB2 at candidates' night. John Edgar will provide the moderator's email regarding SB2 to the Board.

Estimates for the repair of a Solid Waste demolition trailer came in at approximately \$15,000 - \$20,000, with an estimated extended life of a couple years. The purchase of a new demolition trailer would be funded through the Solid Waste budget (\$45,000) and funds on hand in the Trailer ETF (\$25,000). Dialogue ensued regarding deferring the purchase of a new demolition

trailer, and building funds in the trailer ETF. There Board agreed to leave the new trailer in the budget for now, and review additional information at the Solid Waste equipment workshop.

*(Selectman Lovett arrived)*

The changes to the budget effect an approximate \$327,000 reduction in the bottom line. There was general consensus among the Board that the budget and revenue sheets as amended will be presented at the Public Hearing. Selectman Worsman will accept a reduction in the budget between \$325,000 and \$335,000.

The Chair asked John Edgar to provide the Board with a copy of the minutes of the 2007 meeting pertaining to Neil Shore Road, so the Board can review the history of the matter.

Brenda Vittner will post a public hearing on the 2009 Budget for February 2. The Warrant Articles will be available at that time. A public hearing will be held on at least one fee adjustment.

Chair Brothers asked the Board to review the application for The Trustee of the Trust Funds so they can move forward with an appointment.

The Town Manager is responsible for renegotiating the Senior Center lease at the Community Center.

Dialogue will take place in a workshop format on snow removal, the use of sand and salt, and potential alarm failure fees.

*Selectman Palm motioned to adjourn the meeting at 5:30 p.m. Seconded by Selectman Flanders. 4-0-0. Motion passed.*

Respectfully submitted,

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John C. Edgar, Co-Interim Town Mgr.

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Peter F. Brothers, Chairman

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Brenda L. Vittner, Co-Interim Town Mgr.

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Miller C. Lovett, Vice Chairman

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Karin Landry, Recording Clerk

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Robert C. Flanders

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Charles G. Palm