

Board of Selectmen Minutes
Special Budget Workshop Meeting April 14, 2011
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A special budget workshop meeting of the Board of Selectmen was held on Thursday, April 14, 2011 at the Town Hall.

Present for the Board: First Selectman Kate Donnelly, Selectman Roger Dionne

Staff Present: Liz Stillman, Recording Secretary

Item 1: Call to Order: First Selectman Donnelly called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m.

ITEM 2: Audience for Citizens:

Regina DeCesare presented information concerning the Fletcher Memorial Library's history, its designation as a private or town library and their budget requests.

Gay Wagner expressed concern regarding staff increases for town employees and suggested postponing the Town Meeting until the State budget is finalized. Ms. Wagner asked whether requests for proposal would be advertised for oil suppliers. Ms. Wagner asked for clarification regarding the school budget as well as the proposed budget for the recreation commission. Ms. Wagner questioned the zero percent budget line for the Recreation Commission and the budget numbers for Youth Sports.

Kathy Donahue asked for clarification on proposed increases of salaries for town employees and for a comparison of other nearby town employee salaries, at a future meeting.

ITEM 3: Board of Selectmen- Committee Appointment(s)/ Term(s)

1. Green Energy Committee- Revell Sandberg-Diment
2. Ad-hoc Trash Committee- Ron Parrow
3. Northeast Health District Alternate- Ed Burchfield

MOTION: Selectman Dionne moved to appoint Revell Sandberg-Diment for a one year term to the Green Energy Committee, running from May 2011 to May 2012; Ron Parrow for a one year term, running April 14, 2011 to April 4, 2012 to the Ad-hoc Trash Committee; and Ed Burchfield for a term ending April 5, 2013 as an alternate member to Northeast District Department of Health. First Selectman Donnelly seconded the motion; all in favor.

ITEM 4: Budget Session:

First Selectman Donnelly distributed the draft budget dated 4/7/11.

First Selectman Donnelly reported that Tax Collector Baum agreed to lowering the proposed salary increase for the Tax Collector position to 1% and to cut the line item from \$7,000 to \$3,000 for the Tax Collector Assistant position and adding \$1,500 to the Town Clerk Assistant position.

Selectman Dionne addressed the selectmen's salaries; presented his proposal to cut the 2nd and 3rd selectmen's proposed salaries to \$2,800 and to increase the First Selectman's salary to \$31,000.

First Selectman Donnelly addressed changes made to the proposed library budget, including salary increases and IT support.

Sam Higgins proposed that the office of the Registrar of Voters cut the hours after researching nearby town's weekly Registrar office hours.

First Selectman Donnelly added that the Green Energy Committee received a grant that has not fully been paid as of yet; however this would not affect the FY 2011-2012 budget.

First Selectman Donnelly stated that she is striving for a zero increase of the mill rate, and is waiting to hear about the proposed school budget.

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Gay Wagner asked whether a monthly stipend existed for Emergency Preparedness, First Selectman Donnelly indicated that there was no stipend at this time. Ed Burchfield also stated if that stipend did exist, it wouldn't be guaranteed that he would get it personally, as it is addressed to the town and also requires a substantial amount of paperwork.

Kathy Donahue inquired about money that had been set aside for open space, fire dept, etc. in the current year's budget and if those line items were included in the FY 2011-2012 proposed budget.

Maryellen Donnelly spoke in favor of funding Youth Sports.

Gay Wagner clarified and rephrased her question regarding the proposed Youth Sports budget.

A Public Hearing to review the budget has been set for Monday, April 18, 2011 at 7:30 p.m.

A Board of Selectmen Final Budget Workshop will be held Thursday, April 21, 2011 at 1:00 p.m.

ITEM 5: ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: There being no further business for the Board to discuss at this Budget workshop, Selectman Dionne/Donnelly moved/seconded to adjourn at 1:50 p.m.; all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,
Elizabeth Stillman
Recording Secretary