

Board of Selectmen Minutes
Special Budget Workshop Meeting March 3, 2011
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A special budget workshop meeting of the Board of Selectmen was held on Thursday, March 3, 2011 at the Town Hall.

Present for the Board: First Selectman Kate Donnelly, Selectman Roger Dionne. **Absent:** Selectman Chapel

Staff Present: Marlene B. Aulten, Recording Secretary, Treasurer Ellen Rodriguez

Item 1: Call to Order: First Selectman Donnelly called the meeting to order at 1:02 pm

ITEM 2: Audience for Citizens:

Kathi Newcombe requested a review of the cost of health benefits for Town employees (excluding the Road Crew). She requested that the Board review other health-care options, or consider increasing the employee's contribution rate.

Gay Wagner noted that the Community Center driveway is in need of a new gravel top layer.

Dayna McDermott-Arriola noted that registrar's budget would be submitted soon. She requested that the Selectmen consider a sliding wage scale for clerical positions such as hers.

Tara Murphy said that she was here on behalf of the Youth Sports Committee to answer and questions pertaining to their budget

ITEM 3: Budget Session: Treasurer Rodriguez distributed the draft budget; the Board of Selectmen reviewed the budget by category/line item.

Budgets not received as of this meeting: Registrars, Ambulance Corp, Library, P&Z, & Selectmen's Salary Committee, and Conservation.

The Selectmen reviewed the budget line by line for clarification.

At the next budget meeting a review will be done "group by group" and salary and benefits issues will be addressed.

Gay Wagner noted that switch to treating roads with brine may be less expensive than sand and salt. Ms. Wagner also noted that there are several trees at the Grange that need to be removed. She also suggested automatic setback thermostats for the Grange.

Randy Thompson asked where salt is currently stored, and asked if salary increases are initiated by employees themselves or are the recommended by the selectmen. First Selectman Donnelly noted that most request it. Some are recommended by supervisors or selectmen. The Selectmen's budget is recommended by a Committee.

Tara Murphy noted that trees closet to the dug out/bleachers/concessions are of the Little League Field need to be cut back as they adversely affect the building and bleachers.

ITEM 4: ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: There being no further business for the Board to discuss at this Budget workshop, Selectman Dionne/Donnelly moved/seconded to adjourn at 1:48p.m.; all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,
Marlene B. Aulten
Recording Secretary