



**TOWN COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 13, 2007**

Charles Smith – At Large
Layne Curtis – At Large
Michael Bowie – At Large
Gina Mason – District 1
Janet Henry – District 1
Dale Crafts – District 2
Norma Wells – District 2

DRAFT

CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE TO THE FLAG. The Chairman, Layne Curtis, called the meeting to order and waived the pledge of allegiance to the flag at 6:00 PM.

ROLL CALL. Members present were Councilors Smith, Curtis, Bowie, Mason (arriving at 6:50 PM), Henry (arriving at 6:10 PM), Crafts and Wells. Also present were Curtis Lunt, Town Manager; David Brooks, Police Chief; Herbert Reed, School Committee Member; and no citizens in the audience.

DISCUSSION OF PROPOSED 2007-2008 BUDGETS
WITH BUDGET ADVISORY BOARD

The Chairman opened the meeting to review the School and Municipal budgets with the Budget Advisory Board and ask questions. Councilor Curtis said he was in favor of something less than the \$280,000 increase. Councilor Bowie said he wanted to hear what ideas the Budget Advisory Board had to offer. The Council had discussed and had questions on the following items:

Elected Officials

Council needs the benefits of belonging to the NLC, what workshops are offered, and where.

Finance:

Council needs to know how many employees in this department.

Assessing

One recommendation was for purchasing new assessing software, along with hiring an intern for 3 or 4 months to help gather or input data.

Fire Department

Council needs to know why percentages keep changing in the building repair and maintenance line. Council needs to know why the \$1,700 lease payment line is budgeted yearly when \$1,700 has never been expended in the past three years, and why \$3,500 for medical requirements is budgeted yearly when \$3,500 has not been expended yearly.

There were no unanswered questions for the following budgets: Town Manger, Insurance, Legal, General Assistance, Computer Operations, Cable TV, Town Clerk, Code Enforcement, Elections, Animal Control, and Police Department. Some lines will change in the Police Department budget. Councilor Wells requested the same mileage rate be used for all budgets.

VOTE (2007-030) Councilor Mason, seconded by Councilor Wells moved to adjourn at 9:00 PM. Order passed - Vote 7-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Twila D. Lycette, Lifetime CCM
Certified Municipal Clerk