



**TOWN COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 24, 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 Acting Chairman, Norma Wells, called the meeting to order and led the pledge of allegiance to the flag at 6:00 PM.

ROLL CALL. Members present were Councilors Smith, Bowie, Mason, Henry, and Wells. Councilors Crafts and Curtis was excused. Budget Advisory Board members present were Richard Main, Walter Morse, Roger Cote, and Lori Pomelow. Hale Chase, Paul Chizmar, and Steven Curtis were absent. School Committee Members present were Prudence Grant, Herbert "Pete" Reed, Traci Austin, and Janice Comber. Deborah Danuski was absent. Also present were Curtis Lunt, Town Manager; Shannon Welsh, School Superintendent; Catherine Messmer, Business Manager; and approximately thirteen citizens in the audience.

SCHOOL BUDGET HEARING

Mrs. Welsh explained the school budget and changes made on a line by line basis. Based on the increase in State funding, the local fund contribution requirement has been reduced by \$365,427.

Special Education.

The Council requested to know how much of Special Education costs are actually paid for by the State; Mrs. Welsh said that a report from the State is pending.

General Administration.

The Council agreed by consensus to remove \$10,000 from the bottom line and add the funds to the Town budget for heating of the Campus Avenue building.

Operation and Maintenance of Plant.

Councilor Bowie requested a rundown of the number of students to illustrate the requirement for extra space.

Mr. Reed left at 7:14 PM and returned at 7:16 PM.

Councilor Wells said that on May 8th the Council would meet with the Budget Advisory Board and School Committee to present a recommendation for the school budget. Mr. Main requested an updated expenditure report from the School Committee.

Janet left at 7:57 PM and returned at 7:59 PM.

Mr. Morse requested a list of the problems with the truck the School Committee is trying to replace. The Council scheduled a workshop at the end of their next scheduled meeting on May 1st. Councilor Wells explained that effective July 1st all undesignated funds will be reallocated to a Town account under the responsibility of the Town Council, though funds will still be available for use by the School Department with Council consent.

ADJOURNMENT

VOTE (2007-49) Councilor Bowie, seconded by Councilor Smith, moved to adjourn at 8:11 PM. Order passed - Vote 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Juliet C. LeBlond
Assistant Town Clerk