



**SPECIAL TOWN COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 8, 2008**

Fern Larochelle, Jr., At Large 2010
Charles Smith, At Large 2008
Michael Bowie, At Large 2009
Gina Mason, District 1 2010
Janet Henry, District 1 2009
Dale Crafts, District 2 2010
Norma Wells, District 2 2009

CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE TO THE FLAG. The Chairman, Norma Wells, called the meeting to order and led the pledge of allegiance to the flag at 7:00 PM.

ROLL CALL. Members present were Councilors Wells, Smith, Bowie, Mason, Crafts, Henry, and Larochelle. Also present were Stephen Eldridge, Town Manager; David Brooks, Police Chief; Shannon Welsh, Superintendent of Schools; Prudence Grant, School Committee Chairman; Janice Comber, School Committee Member; Traci Austin, School Committee Member; Deborah Danuski, School Committee Member; Faye Ingersoll, School Committee Member; Richard Main, Budget Advisory Board Chairman; and approximately 17 citizens in the audience.

SCHOOL BUDGET WORKSHOP

The School Committee presented their budget with 3.4% in cuts. She said another 1.6% in cuts would affect professional positions and support staff, along with either the elimination of a team or fewer games played. Councilor Wells pointed out the School Committee was applying \$346,000 from undesignated surplus and then she explained why this practice can not continue. She said the town was using zero. Councilor Larochelle wanted to know what the cost per pupil came to for this budget; Dr. Welsh indicated it would be \$268. Councilor Larochelle said he hated to lose programs and encouraged Dr. Welsh to look for other ways to consolidate or fine tune services so that what's done is done more efficiently to limit the impact on our students. Dr. Welsh said she didn't know yet what the Medicaid/Maine Care impact on revenues would be for the upcoming year.

Dr. Welsh said the data she submitted to the Department of Education (DOE) was compelling enough for Lisbon to stand alone; however they wanted to wait until Durham's consolidation had been resolved before they issued their final opinion. Dr. Welsh said should Durham consolidate with Pownal and Freeport, the existing 17 Durham students would be grandfathered until 2015.

Councilor Henry commended the School Committee and Dr. Welsh for doing such a great job. Councilor Wells asked Dr. Welsh to draft and bring their warrant articles to the April 15th Council Meeting for both the 3.4% and 5% budget proposals.

VOTE (2007-45) Councilor Smith, seconded by Councilor Bowie moved to adjourn at 8:19 PM
Order passed - Vote 7-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Twila Lycette, Council Secretary
Town Clerk, Lifetime CCM

These minutes are not verbatim. Cassette tapes are filed in the Town Clerk's Office.