

SELECTMENS' WORKSHOP
Minutes of 02/15/08
4:10 p.m.

Selectmen:

Frank S. Michel, Chairman
Peter F. Brothers, Vice Chairman
Robert C. Flanders
Miller C. Lovett
Colette Worsman

Town Manager:

Carol M. Granfield

The Workshop was opened by Chair Frank Michel at 4:10 p.m. The Chair introduced the Selectmen, Town Manager, and Director of Administrative Services. The workshop format allows for dialogue among the Board followed by public input at the discretion of the Chair.

W 08-13 Use of Fund Balance/Warrant Article

Brenda Vittner, Director of Administrative Services, provided the Board with a historical review of fund balance utilization since 2004. She further provided projection estimates with a very conservative approach on revenue projections. This was used to project a tax rate that could be included in the Town report. It was noted however, that the actual tax rate is not determined until the fall, when true numbers are available. Thus, the actual rate could vary from the projected one.

Discussion ensued regarding the estimated fund balance amount audited at the end of 2007 at \$2,452,208. This amount will be verified by the 2008 audit. The DRA recommends retaining 5% to 10% and GFOA recommends retaining between 8% and 17%.

Selectman Flanders moved that \$650,000 of fund balance be utilized to offset the tax burden. Seconded by Selectman Brothers.

The Board discussed differing options on the use of fund balance, bonding projects, and utilizing expendable trust funds. There was also discussion noting varying amounts of fund balance utilized since 1999 to offset taxes. These amounts ranged from zero to \$1,050,000.

3-2 (Selectmen Lovett and Worsman dissenting). Motion passed.

Selectman Flanders motioned to adjourn the meeting at 5:30 p.m. Seconded by Selectman Brothers. 5-0. All in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol M. Granfield, Town Manager

Frank S. Michel, Chairman

Peter F. Brothers, Vice Chairman

Robert C. Flanders

Miller C. Lovett

Colette Worsman