

**TOWN OF ASHBURNHAM
JOINT MEETING MINUTES
BOARD OF SELECTMEN & ADVISORY BOARD
MAY 3, 2008
OAKMONT REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL – AUDITORIUM**

This was a Joint Meeting of the Board of Selectmen and the Advisory Board.

PRESENT: Selectmen Chris Gagnon and Maggie Whitney, Paul Boushell, Town Administrator, Advisory Board members; Bill Johnson, Dottie Munroe, Jamie Piedrafite, Frank Lombardo and Leo Janssens, Jim Shanahan, Town Accountant and Sylvia Turcotte, Assistant to the Town Administrator.

Also in attendance: Superintendent of Schools Michael Zapantis, Sherry Kersey, Business Manager, Dave Christianson, AWRS Committee Chair.

The meeting convened at 9:08 a.m. by Selectman Chris Gagnon. He stated that they would be continuing their discussion on the motion that was taken by both Boards at the May 1, 2008 Emergency Joint Meeting to reduce the FY09 Budget numbers in the amount of \$137k which included \$51k for a paramedic, \$34k for a cruiser, and \$52k for the 3% COLA.

Jim Shanahan explained what had to be done in order to make this happen and to give the school the Debt Assessment amount of \$443k. He did note that the amount of \$6,039,298 listed for the school in the FY09 Budget included Transportation and Community Service figures and that the only shortfall was the Debt Assessment of \$443k.

A discussion followed as to how this would be accomplished and Shanahan noted that the only shortfall would be \$140k and this would be brought to the voters in the fall at the Special Town Meeting to be transferred to the School. Zapantis and Christianson both voiced their concerns regarding if the voters denied this transfer and Gagnon stated that if this doesn't pass then staff would be lost in the Town in order to cover the \$140k. Gagnon stated that when the vote was taken on May 1st they did not understand how this would work. Johnson also agreed that if this vote is denied that they would ultimately cut the Town budget.

Gagnon motioned the \$141k appropriated on Thursday, May 1st by cuts combined with the \$147k from the Overlay Surplus would be added to the School Budget appropriation within the Town budget. This motion was seconded by Whitney. Motion carried.

Janssens motioned the \$141k appropriated on Thursday, May 1st by cuts combined with the \$147k from the Overlay Surplus would be added to the School Budget appropriation within the Town budget. Seconded by Piedrafite. Unanimous vote.

This meeting adjourned at approximately 9:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Sylvia Turcotte
Assistant to the Town Administrator