

TOWN COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING
BUDGET WORK SESSION
FEBRUARY 27, 2010

I. CALL TO ORDER

A Special Meeting was called to order at 8:10 a.m. in the Selectmen's Chambers by Chairman Zacchio. Members attending: Mrs. Samul and Messrs: Evans and Pena. Mr. Shea attended at 9:20 a.m.

II. OLD BUSINESS

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| 8:00 a.m. | Budget Overview |
| 8:30 a.m. | Library |
| 9:00 a.m. | Fire Department |
| 9:45 a.m. | Police Department |
| 10:15 a.m. | Public Works |
| 10:45 a.m. | General Government |
| 11:15 a.m. | Public Safety (except Fire and Police) |
| 11:45 a.m. | Health/Social Services |
| 12:30 p.m. | Recreation & Parks |
| 1:00 p.m. | Conservation & Development |
| 1:30 p.m. | Engineering/Sewers |
| 2:30 p.m. | Special Revenue funds/Capital Improvement Program |

The Council expressed opinions in several areas that the Town Manager will research further: (1) need to address more staffing in the Patrol Division to permit a Police Officer on the road sooner especially when there is known vacancies occurring; (2) review the Pool Fee schedule; (3) determine the cost of summer programs in other towns; (4) playground equipment for Pine Grove School – \$130,000 has been raised and the Council wants to be a partner in this endeavor - this should be part of the budget; (5) need further discussion regarding purchasing two smaller trucks vs one large truck in Public Works; (6) check with our Health Consultant regarding the employees' reimbursements for those who opt-out of medical coverage; (7) include the increase in the budget for the Tax Abatement increase that was voted favorably by the Council at their February meeting – approximately \$10,300; and (8) blend the efforts of the Safety Committee with the Board of Education in an effort to reduce our insurance costs.

The Town Manager reported the budget presented today will need a 3.57% increase to fund. The Council expressed their concerns regarding whether the residents will accept that amount of increase. Mr. Pena and Mr. Evans favored a 2.25% increase, Mrs. Samul, Mr. Shea and Mr. Zacchio favored a 2.50% increase.

The Town Manager presented a list of reductions that would bring the percentage of increase to 2.93%. The Town Manager's recommended reductions of \$119,048 are as follows: (see next page)

| Town Operating Budget | | |
|--|--|----------------------|
| Town Manager Reduced | | |
| General Fund | | |
| FUTURE REDUCTIONS - 2/27/10 | | |
| ACCOUNT # | DESCRIPTION | AMOUNT |
| 01-1101-52181 | Town Council Printing - 500 Ann. Rpt/ no mailings | \$ 3,300.00 |
| 01-1201-51011 | Town Manager - Ass't Town Manager Salary | 20,000.00 |
| 01-1701-52212 | Town Hall Buildings - maintenance | 2,300.00 |
| 01-2101-Various | Sergeant - 1/2 year salary & benefits | 51,020.00 |
| 01-2101-52155 | Police Admin. - Professional Development | 2,000.00 |
| 01-2103-53302 | Criminal Invest.Fixed Equipment - Forensic Computer | 1,600.00 |
| 01-2103-53319 | Criminal Investigation - Computer | 1,800.00 |
| 01-2109-51031 | Police Special Services - FICA | 817.00 |
| 01-2301-52185 | Police Communications - General Service | 1,000.00 |
| 01-2401-Various | Building Inspection - Reduce ABO to 15 hours/week | 58,661.00 |
| 01-3101-52194 | Roadways - Equipment - Rental | 1,900.00 |
| 01-3101-52239 | Roadways - Materials Other | 2,000.00 |
| 01-3201-52189 | Solid Waste Svcs - Tip Fees Anticipate a \$1/ton decr. | 950.00 |
| 01-3401-52185 | Buildings & Grounds - General Services | 10,000.00 |
| 01-4203-52169 | Social Services - Grants-Other | 1,000.00 |
| 01-6101-52111 | Library - Mileage & Tolls | 500.00 |
| 01-6101-52155 | Library - Professional Development | 200.00 |
| 01-6101-52141 | Library - Books & Periodicals | 800.00 |
| 01-7203-53301 | Office Furniture - 1 Fire Proof File Cabinet | 800.00 |
| | TOTAL | \$ 160,648.00 |
| | Less Revenue from Burlington Agreement | \$ 41,600.00 |
| | TOTAL | \$ 119,048.00 |
| | FY 09/10 Adopted Budget | \$ 18,684,923.00 |
| | Proposed Town Operating Budget - 2/17/10 | \$ 19,351,149.00 |
| | Revised Town Operating Budget with 2/27/10 Changes | \$ 19,232,101.00 |
| | Budget Increase in Dollars | \$ 547,178.00 |
| | Percentage Increase over current year | 2.93% |
| * Salary & benefits would come out of various line items | | |

The Council approved the reductions of \$119,048 submitted by the Town Manager, however, the Council discussed the following areas for potential reductions but will need further review.

1. Criminal Crime Computer Lab
2. Foreman Position in Public Works
3. Reduce the Retirees Health Benefits
4. Review salary increases and restructuring of non-union staff

It was the consensus of the Town Council to instruct the Town Manager to further reduce the budget by approximately \$77,271 to bring the 2010/11 budget increase to 2.50%.

III. **OTHER BUSINESS** – None

IV. **EXECUTIVE SESSION** – Litigation/Negotiation

On a motion made by Mr. Shea, seconded by Mr. Pena, it was voted:

RESOLVED: The Town Council go into Executive Session at 2:15 p.m.
Mrs. Samul and Messrs: Evan, Pena, Shea and Zacchio voted in favor.

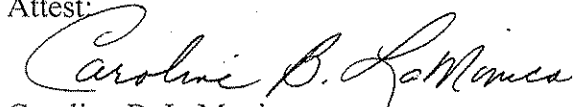
On a motion made by Mr. Shea, seconded by Mr. Pena, it was voted:

RESOLVED: The Town Council come out of Executive Session at 2:25 p.m.
Mrs. Samul and Messrs: Evans, Pena, Shea and Zacchio voted in favor.

V. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:25 p.m.

Attest:



Caroline B. LaMonica
Clerk

Power Points are attached for Proposed Operating Budget, FY2010/11, Police Department and Public Works