Select Board Members Present:

Joseph Michaud-Chairperson-Late Diane Gilbert Nathalie Dias Robert W. Carney, Vice-Chairperson William J. Trimble

The Chairperson called the workshop meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. on October 15, 2008 in room 301.

Present were: Edward Iacaponi, Director of Budget and Finance and Michael Gagne, Executive Administrator and Attorney Howard Greenspan.

The Executive Administrator stated a petition has been filed at the Labor Relations Commission in regard to certain employees petitioning to be recognized as an affiliated unit. Mr. Gagne mentioned there are certain things that have to be reviewed with Attorney Howard Greenspan before proceeding.

Attorney Howard Greenspan informed the Board a new statue in 2007 changed the way employee groups are recognized in Massachusetts for Collective Bargaining under the Department of Labor Relations. The United Steelworkers of America has filed a petition with Division of Labor Relations seeking to represent 20 employees for the purpose of Collective Bargaining.

Attorney Greenspan stated under the new act the Steel workers have to make the first initial determination whether or not they are going to have the Department of Labor Relations or some outside neutral arbitrator the appropriateness of this group. He explained since the Department of Labor Relations will not charge and we would have to pay for the cost of the outside arbitrator, he is going to assume that we are going to have the Commission take jurisdiction of this case.

Attorney Greenspan explained a letter must be sent to the Commission to take jurisdiction of this matter. We have 3 days to provide the commission with a list of names and addresses. There are some exclusions under the statue; we have to determine what positions fall under this criteria. Attorney Greenspan stated the Commission tries to resolves the investigation with 30 days; however, if contested the process can take much longer.

Attorney Howard Greenspan continued to explain the process to the Board.

The Board discussed expired contracts and possible elimination of some positions.

The Executive Administrator briefed the Board on amending the Town Meeting Article in referring to Lincoln Park Infrastructure Financing District. He would like to add additional language to the article for Lincoln Park amending to clearly show the collection of taxation. Mr. Gagne will meet with the Finance Committee regarding this issue.

The Executive Administrator stated the price of oil as dropped which is almost what the Town was paying in 2006. He is working with the schools to try to lock in for a 12 month period.

With no further business to discuss, the Chairperson declared the workshop meeting adjourned.

Attest:

Michael J. Gagné, Executive Administrator

Transcribed by: Linda Torres