# HALIFAX BOARD OF SELECTMEN SELECTMEN MEETING TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2018 - 7:00 P.M. SELECTMEN MEETING ROOM

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Meeting came to order at 7:00 p.m. with Selectmen Thomas Millias, Kim R. Roy and Troy E. Garron present.

The following business was discussed:

## **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Board as well as those attending tonight's meeting stood to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

# SCHEDULED APPOINTMENTS

# James Coughlin - interview Permanent/Intermittent Police Officer

Roy asked if he give them a brief overview about himself and why he would like to be a part of the police department. Coughlin began by saying that he has lived in Halifax since 2006 and since moving here he has wanted to become a police officer. He added that this is a great town and being interviewed is a dream come true. He works in the loss prevention department at Walmart so doing that job he is getting to know the officers here in the town. He really likes what he has seen so far with the officers he has met - they are great officers.

Roy said that she noticed he is part of the Marine Corps and asked if he is a Reserve member and he said he was. She then asked if he will be drilling one weekend a month and then two weeks during the year and he said yes one weekend a month and two weeks in the summer. Roy explained that the position is part-time and it entails filling in shifts. She asked if he foresees in the future being a full-time officer if the opportunity presented itself and he said yes. She also said she saw that he has a bachelor's degree in criminal justice and a minor in psychology from Bridgewater State University and he is a member of the Dean's List Society he said that was correct.

Garron asked if there was anything within his lifestyle right now that will interfere with your reporting for duty if necessary and he said absolutely not. He said that during his interview one of the questions was if they needed me in the morning, would he be there and he said yes he would be available whenever they might need him - he lives on Christmas Tree Lane, so there is no excuse for him not to be there. He added that being as a police officer in Halifax is what he wants for my main career.

Millias said that he has read over the interview that was conducted and the comments were very positive so it makes the decision real easy.

Garron said there are three candidates for this position and asked what positive attributes does he bring to the department should he be hired. He said a his current job he finds people in need of stealing food because they may be in a bad situation so what he does is brings them to him office and tells them to check out or call the local food pantries. His intention is to give them positive reinforcement and wants to help these people instead of just reprimand them for stealing. He understands they may be struggling and that this may be another answer to their problems. He believes using that kind of turnaround can benefit him in policing should he get the job.

Moved by Roy and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously appointed James Coughlin as a Permanent Intermittent Police Officer for the Town of Halifax contingent upon him passing a physical and Physical Abilities Test (PAT) and successful graduation from the Permanent/Intermittent Recruitment Academy.

# Andrew Lyczynski - interview Permanent/Intermittent Police Officer

Roy asked Lyczynski if he could give a brief overview of himself and why he would like a position as a part-time police officer in the Town of Halifax.

Lyczynski began by saying that he is 22 years old, has lived in Halifax his whole life and a passion of his growing up was he always wanted to go into law enforcement as it is something he is interested in becoming. He graduated from Bridgewater State with a bachelor's in criminal justice and minor in Spanish. For the last ten months he has been working at the Hull Police department as a Special Police Officer. He continued to say that it has been a great experience and it's pushing him to continue in this career path. He wants to make a difference in the town in which he grew up in – he loves it here and is glad to have the opportunity to be here tonight.

Roy pointed out that that is the past he has been involved with the community by being part of the Youth and Recreation programs that involved helping out at the gym and mentoring young children so she knows that he has been part of the community and thinks it is great that that he wants to stay here and be a part of the community in which he grew up in. Roy said that seeing as he is a Special Police Officer and has already gone through Academy, should he be appointed he will only have to do training. She then asked on an average how many hours does he work in Hull and he said in the wintertime he was working was part-time as it is not too busy down there but in the summertime he works full time hours by picking up shifts and doing details averaging about sixty hours a week. He further explained that he scheduled for forty hours but then someone might need time off or whatever the case may be so he will fill in. He does not mind doing it because the commute is 45 minutes so he might as well spend a little time there. It probably is around that a 30-hour range.

Roy asked him what has been his most challenging call so far and he said that there has been a few, definitely dealing with people who are distraught or those with different types of emotions. There was this one time when he was on bicycle patrol and was flagged down by an older woman on a roof who was stuck so he immediately notified Dispatch and him and another officer went up there and they were able to lift her through the window and help her back to her apartment. He does not know exactly why she was on the roof but it's one of those things that you don't really know what to expect.

Garron said having grown up here and having a lot of friends and possibly relatives here would any of that impede him if someone he knew had committed a crime or was thought to have committed a crime and he as arresting that individual and he said definitely not, it is his job and he thinks his friends and family members realize that. He continued to say it is an honor to work in the Town in which he grew up in and this is something he cannot abuse or have it affect him because and at the end of the day, it is his job. Garron then asked why they should choose him as a candidate and he said he loves this work and has always wanted to do this and this is the career he has wanted to go into. He is going to work at it and be successful in this department.

Millias said he noticed that he did an internship at the Wareham Police Station and he said that was correct, during his second semester of his senior year. Millias if there was any downfall to the internship and he said there was a lot of administrative work and dealt with a lot of the LTC's (license to carry). Working there helped him understand the process of bookings when people were arrested and an understanding of how departments work and what happens on a day to day basis. Millias said that all the reports and the interviews were very positive so he does not have any issues with him being appointed.

Moved by Roy and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously appointed Andrew Lyczynski as a Permanent Intermittent Police Officer for the Town of Halifax contingent upon him passing a physical and Physical Abilities Test (PAT).

## Richard Crespi III - interview Permanent/Intermittent Police Officer

Roy asked if he could give a little overview of himself and why he would like to be part of the Halifax department. He began saying that how graduated from the University of New England in 2014 with a degree in psychology and social relations. He was not quite sure what he wanted to do at the time, but he knew he wanted to help people. His first job was down the Cape working with kids in PCF and in US custody which entailed planning and supervising onsite and offsite activities. He saw officers doing so much for these kids. There would be late night intakes where officers and paramedics would accompany these kids and they were amazing at their jobs and it made him realize that he too could do the same thing and help others. So he took the test and he is here now trying to get where he would like to be. At this time he is working at Cardinal Cushing, which is a school for kids with mental disabilities and special needs and is involved in the Peace Corps.

Roy noted that he graduated from the University of New England with a Bachelor of Arts in psychology and social relations. She thought having his bachelors in this particular area helps him understand that being a police officer isn't just about law enforcement but also about trying to help people from going down the wrong road. She further said that it is nice that he recognizes that he wants to help people not just from the social point but also from the law enforcement end.

Roy asked if was thinking about becoming a firefighter as he referenced earlier about attending EMT school and he explained that he did not think he would be hearing from the police department until mid-summer so he was talking to a friend and he mentioned that he should go to EMT school while he waited. After attending only a couple of classes he got the email about this opening so now he is doing both at the moment. She asked if he wished to become a full-time police officer and he said yes and figured the EMT training was a plus to have. Roy asked if still planned to work at Cardinal Cushing and here part-time he said yes but if the hours at the department are more open then he would very willingly to cut back his time at Cardinal Cushing because this is his primary goal. Roy saw that on his resume it said that he was a middle school mentor and he said he did that when he was in college – working with kids who had special needs or behavioral issues. He said that he met some of the coolest kids who were amazingly bright. He enjoyed trying to get them to do their homework, putting them on the right path and seeing how smart and capable they were.

Garron asked with his background in working with people who have special needs does he think it gives him an insight on individuals and he said that he believes so. Garron felt that he brings some very positive skills with him.

Millias said that working with challenged children is very admirable. He did some work at the former Paul A. Dever School, which was an incredible challenge and had a very difficult time with it as it is very difficult work. He also worked at the Canton Hospital School which was a little more rewarding but on the less-challenging scale. Millias admired his admiration and Crespi said that he really enjoyed the work and the kids.

Moved by Roy and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously appointed Richard Crespi, III, as a Permanent Intermittent Police Officer for the Town of Halifax contingent upon him passing a physical and Physical Abilities Test (PAT) and successful graduation from the Permanent/Intermittent Recruitment Academy.

## **AGENDA**

The Board unanimously approved the Agenda for Tuesday, February 13<sup>th</sup>.

## **MINUTES**

Moved by Roy and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously approved the following Selectmen Minutes:

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Regular Session – January 9, 2018
Regular Session – January 23, 2018
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# **AFFIRMED WARRANTS AND COMMITMENTS**

Moved by Garron and seconded by Roy, the Board unanimously affirmed approval for the payment of the following warrants and commitments:

| Vendor Warrant       | # 68 | \$ 279,819.68 |
|----------------------|------|---------------|
| Payroll Warrant      | # 69 | \$ 364,390.88 |
| Vendor Warrant       | # 70 | \$ 83,596.12  |
| School Warrant       | # 71 | \$ 478,792.62 |
| Withholding Warrant  | # 72 | \$ 138,110.02 |
| Ambulance Commitment | # 1C | \$ 19,824.00  |
| Ambulance Commitment | # 2A | \$ 51,959.00  |

# APPROVED WARRANT AND COMMITMENTS

Moved by Garron and seconded by Roy, the Board unanimously approved payment of the following warrants and commitments:

| Vendor Warrant       | # 73 | \$ 163,973.25 |          |  |
|----------------------|------|---------------|----------|--|
| Ambulance Commitment | # 2B | \$            | 2,558.00 |  |
| Mobile Home Park Fee | # 02 | \$            | 5,160.00 |  |

Moved by Garron and seconded by Roy, the Board unanimously approved payment of the following Selectmen bills with the exception of Roy abstaining from payment to MIIA Property & Casualty Group, Inc.:

| National Grid (service/concession stand)           | \$   | 20.55    |
|--|------|----------|
| National Grid (service/Town Hall)                  | \$ 2 | 2,509.43 |
| W.B. Mason (frame)                                 | \$   | 16.62    |
| MIIA Property & Casualty Group, Inc. (auto policy) | \$   | 768.92   |
| BID Plymouth Occupational Health (physicals)       | \$   | 865.00   |
| Attorney Lawrence P. Mayo (legal/January)          | \$   | 681.25   |
| Deutsch, Williams, Brooks (legal/January)          | \$ 1 | 1,040.00 |
| K.P. Law, P.C. (legal/December)                    | \$ 1 | 1,032.50 |

# **GENERAL MAIL / DISCUSSIONS**

# Four Daughters Host Community Agreement (HCA)

Four Daughters has submitted a proposed Host Community Agreement. The draft has been revised significantly after being reviewed by Seelig and Town Counsel Larry Mayo. Seelig will post the current draft with the revision from Mayo on the town's website and it will be sent back to Four Daughters and revisit at a future meeting. The office has received a couple of letters from residents asking some questions about the HCA and opposing it as they do not want Halifax to have a facility because of moral and ethical reasons. Seelig said that there may be some people in the audience who may want to comment.

Garron asked if Four Daughters has been recognized by the State as a corporation and Seelig said yes they have and right now they are a non-profit and they may change over to a for-profit later in time.

Millias opened it up for comments

#### Leonard Teceno

He was wondering if the BOS was going to discuss the potential revenue because at the previous meeting with Four Daughters most of the arguments were in favor of the revenue. He also said that in the proposal the *host community fee* is now a *community impact fee* and he does not think it is the flat fee that they all expected. He questioned the fact that the town did not have a plan for the money and has some ideas of where it could go if the BOS was interested in listening to him. He has reached out to the Cannabis Control Commission to get input from them about the *community impact fees* and felt that it is a lot more restricted than what was discussed at the proposal meeting. He continued to say that the laws are new and the CCC does not have their feet under them yet and the worst case scenario for the town is that we assume we get the 3% flat fee of the products and then the CCC determines that money is not valid then the town will end up paying for it because this has happened in the past with other impact fees from other developers.

Millias said this is a work in progress and the draft agreement needs some tweaking - the BOS welcomes input.

Seelig said it is not sure if they can direct the revenue stream to a third party; for instance money cannot be directed towards alleviating problems for an abutter but if we need noise reduction or restrictions on lighting this would be part of the site plan review through the Planning Board and a special permit through the ZBA. At this time Seelig does not expect any significant cost to the town such as hiring additional police officers to patrol the area as the facility will likely be the most secure piece of property in Halifax and the same for fire service as they will have more fire suppression systems than any other buildings in town.

Seelig said the law does not strictly say that the amount of money received must equal the cost. When Four Daughters submitted the original proposal that they said the town would get 3%, we did not pressure them into that figure. Other towns might have demanded the 3% or they might not issue the permits but that was not the case here. Seelig further said that the agreement is contingent on the Town receiving the 3% so if we do not get the 3% then the HCA will be invalid and then the CCC would invalidate the entire agreement because the town's expectation was to receive a certain amount of money and that was not met.

Seelig thought were that he would not want the money to go to the operations of the town because we do not know what the market is like and to base our budget on it could put us in a deficit. His thoughts were for the long-term fiscal health of the town is to lower the retirement liability and OPEB and bring them into control with the money. He further said that the CCC is going to have to figure out whether the money that comes into the Town is the money the town spends on dealing with having the facility. Garron thoughts were that whether the money was put it in general funds or special funds, if the CCC says the money can't be used for anything but x,y or z then it can't be used anywhere else.

Roy said we have to remember that this is an industrial zoned property and anyone can come in a build something. Garron said it could be tire recycling and Millias added that the town has had some very odd proposals for that property that has been kind of frightening.

Garron said that the BOS is taking this very serious and any decision they make will be for the benefit of the town. At this time we are in limbo because the agencies that are responsible for this have not gotten their feet off the ground so hopefully we will be able to check with people who have some "expertise" in the field and get some answers.

This discussion was put on hold until after the Board's 7:45 appointment.

## Evergreen Beverage Company d/b/a Twin Lakes Liquors – Revocation Hearing

Francis Murphy, the owner, did sign a new Payment agreement with the Treasurer-Collector and paid \$4,000 in cash. Seelig recommends continuing the hearing until April 24<sup>th</sup>. During this period, he will need to make a payment of \$1,100 on March 13<sup>th</sup> and another \$1,100 payment on April 13<sup>th</sup>. This way, the Board can reserve the right to revoke the license at the meeting on April 24<sup>th</sup> if he does not make these payments. I will notify him of the Board's decision.

Moved by Roy and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously voted to continue the revocation hearing for Evergreen Beverage Company to April 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:45 p.m.

# Four Daughters Host Community Agreement (continued)

Roy said Teceno's questions are all wonderful and thanked him for taking the time to make those phone calls, going to the Finance Committee meeting and coming here tonight. Teceno said that he hopes that if the BOS has some time that they could review the material he put together of examples of other HCA's. Millias said that the BOS encourages input and Roy added that they definitely will review it and they will keep everybody apprised of what they decide.

In closing Seelig said he will put the revised HCA on the website and will put a link to it on Halifax Locals. He said comments are welcome.

# School Repair Project - Windows, Doors & Siding Contract

Moved by Roy and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously authorized the Chair, Thomas Millias to sign the contact with Lambrian Construction Corporation for the windows, doors and siding replacement at the Halifax Elementary School.

Seelig added that they will go out to bid for the fire suppression system in mid-March.

## Monponsett Pond Pump House RFP

The Town has received proposals from Wright-Pierce, ESS Group and Princeton Hydro. ESS proposed a feasibility study rather than a conceptual plan and some of the work on the feasibility study would be relevant but it would not be the equivalent of a conceptual plan. The price from Wright-Pierce was more expensive than the other two and the price for the entire project would be unfeasible given the fiscal realities imposed by the State and the Town. Seelig liked Princeton's proposal more than the one from ESS Group and the cost difference, especially as ESS would not do the same work as Princeton, was not enough of a material difference to choose ESS. He is recommending that the Board tentatively award the contract to Princeton Hydro but make it contingent upon discussions with the interested parties from the State as they have indicated an interest in having another aluminum sulfate "drop" by boat this spring instead of immediately going with the pump house.

#### SCHEDULED APPOINTMENTS (CONTINUED)

#### Nicholas Varvitsiotis - Common Victualler license - Famous Pizza & Seafood

Mr. Varvitsiotis began by saying that he will be opening a pizza and seafood shop where Mr. Pizza was. Millias asked if he was taking over the lease and he said yes. Varvitsiotis will be doing some cleaning and touching up at the shop before opening. He further said that he has been in the restaurant business for a long time, mostly owning businesses in bigger towns but he likes the small town feel so when this opportunity came up to he acted on it. Roy asked what he offered for seafood and he said fried scallops, haddock and clams. His cousin Paul will be the manager of the shop and they will be doing takeout and delivery - seeing as there is not much seating.

Garron asked how long has he been in the business and Varvitsiotis said thirty years. Garron then asked who would be there if Paul cannot be there and Varvitsiotis said he would. He lives in Abington and is a single dad so he pretty much is with them or working. Roy thanked him for choosing Halifax.

Moved by Roy and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously approved the Common Victualler License for Apollo Capital LLC d/b/a Famous Pizza and Seafood contingent on getting an occupancy permit from the Building Inspector, food certificate from the Board of Health and submitting a workers' compensation affidavit and policy.

# Jeanne Kling – Appointment to the Beautification Committee

The Beautification Committee has received talent bank forms from Jeanne Kling and Thomas Fitzgerald. Both are being recommended to the BOS to be appointed.

Ms. Kling said that she is excited to join the committee as she retired last June and has the time to get involved with the town.

Moved by Roy and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously voted to appoint Jeanne Kling and Thomas Fitzgerald to the Beautification Committee, terms to expire June 30, 2018.

# **GENERAL MAIL / DISCUSSIONS (CONTINUED)**

## Revocation Hearing - Davis Automotive

Despite that Davis Automotive did make payments in December to catch up on missed payments during 2017, the business has not made a payment in 2018. Seelig is recommending that a revocation hearing be held on March 13<sup>th</sup>.

Moved by Roy and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously voted to hold a revocation hearing for Davis Automotive on March 13<sup>th</sup>.

#### Pope's Tavern - Possible State Funding

Bert Gaynor has contacted Seelig to let him know that Senator Brady was able to include an amendment for \$1 million for the Pope's Tavern project as part of the infrastructure bill. The bill still has to pass and the Governor's office still needs to make this a priority.

# <u>Surplus Equipment – Town Administrator</u>

Moved by Roy and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously declared the following pieces of equipment surplus:

- 1 Gateway 2000 Solo (laptop)
- 1 Gateway 920 Tower
- 1 Dell Dimension 3000 Tower
- 1 Dell model unknown Tower
- 1 Dell, pre-USB plug, keyboard
- 1 NEC Multi-Sync LCD 1770vx monitor

## Gerard Elliott – Appointment to Municipal and School Building Committee

Mr. Elliott has submitted a talent bank form expressing interest in serving on the Municipal & School Building Committee.

Moved by Roy and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously voted to appoint Gerard Elliott to the Municipal & School Building Committee, term to expire June 30, 2018.

## Ambulance Abatements

Moved by Roy voted to abate the following amounts from the Ambulance Account:

May & June 2017 \$ 58,052.80 December 2017 & January 2018 \$ 64,717.08

#### Selectmen's Policies

Seelig has revised them to bring them up to our current conditions in 2018. The Board could approve these tonight or continue this to February 27<sup>th</sup>.

# Solar Array River Street

The Planning Board approved the subdivision of the land where a proposed, but not applied for, solar array would be located. The subdivision process does not require notification to abutters, public hearing, etc. The solar array will require site plan review and Seelig will notify the public if a site plan is submitted to the Planning Board.

## <u>Live Entertainment Permit - Mudfest</u>

Mr. Bergstrom will be meeting with the Board on February 27<sup>th</sup> as he has requested a live entertainment permit for his Mudfest event for Sunday, June 10<sup>th</sup> from 8am to 5pm and. He did not mention any particular conditions therefore Seelig is recommending that if the Board approves the permit that it include, as part of the permit, all the conditions of the permit that was granted for the November 2017 event.

# Burrage Pond - Elm Street Property

The Conservation Commission and the Planning Board have no objections to the sale of the land. Seelig still needs to put out a notice asking for public comments.

## Lingan Street Gas Line

A Lingan Street resident asked Selectman Garron to have Columbia Gas check on the condition of the line by/under Lingan Street due to the heavy truck traffic from the earth removal operation at Morse Bros. Seelig has called Columbia Gas and they sent someone out and no problems were reported. The resident agreed that no one has noticed any leaks and Seelig did tell him that if he and/or any other residents want Columbia Gas to meet with the Board an appointment can be set up but the residents have to let them know what they want done such as dig up the entire gas line to determine if there is any damage; have it placed a certain number of feet below the street, etc.

#### Holidays in Halifax

Stacy Varao has expressed interest in serving on the Holidays in Halifax Committee. She will be meeting with the Board on February 27<sup>th</sup> to possibly be appointed.

## Monponsett Pond - Brockton Scope of Work

There were about thirty people in attendance at the public forum in Brockton last Tuesday night including a number of members from the Monponsett Watershed Association, many of whom voiced their recommendations for the scope of work for the Resource Management Plan. Seelig plans on drafting a letter of comment for the Board to sign before the deadline for comment submission.

## **Executive Session Minutes Released**

Seelig has gone through executive minutes for 2016 and 2017 and aside from five dates that included lawsuits, active union negotiations and the security of the town, he thinks they should be released.

Moved by Garron and seconded by Roy, the Board unanimously voted to release Executive Minutes from 2016 & 2017 that Seelig has recommended.

# <u>Fieldstone Farms Horse Shows – Agreement with the BOH</u>

Clawson is asking what the agreement consists of that he has with the Board of Health. BOH has sent him the agreement.

## **Zoning By-Laws**

Seelig is working on this.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Moved by Roy and seconded by Garron, the Board voted as follows to enter into Executive Session at 8:43 p.m. to discuss a Union grievance:

Thomas Millias - Yes Kim R. Roy - Yes Troy E. Garron - Yes

Millias announced that they will be coming back into public session.

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Moved by Roy and seconded by Garron, the Board voted as follows to come out of Executive Session at 9:15 p.m.:

Thomas Millias - Yes Kim R. Roy - Yes Troy E. Garron - Yes

# **GENERAL MAIL / DISCUSSIONS (CONTINUED)**

## FY2019 Budget

Seelig informed the BOS that the Finance Committee would like everybody to meet with them on February 26<sup>th</sup>. Roy said based on the numbers being presented, as a board they need to offer direction along with the Finance Committee to develop the 2019 budget.

Seelig said that over the years the SPED budget at the elementary school has increased as well as the increasing number of students who will be entering our school system. He said that we could spend to the levy limit but there is a push back as well as a risk because once you do that you have spent all your money and if the same thing happens the following year you have no room to play with. The budget at SL is going up but State aid is decreasing so the three town's assessments will then have to go up, which then in turns puts pressure from another direction in our overall budget. With all this being said the Finance Committee is facing whether or not we can afford step or wage increases for non-union employees and wage increases for union employees and they want everyone to know where the town stands financially before making recommendations and lay out the choices that are available. The BOS will voice what the priorities are for the town and help put a budget together that reflect those priorities.

Roy said that if we use the full levy the tax rate will be going up about 9% so they need to talk about how much of the levy they want to leave on the table. She continued to say that we have contracts signed with the union at the elementary school and Silver Lake and the other unions have wage openers. We have been successful to work with our unions and non-union employees to negotiate their salaries every year based on what is affordable for the community and do lock ourselves into 3 year contracts as we do not know if we can commit to 3 year contracts. We have signed contracts with the teacher's union and if we are looking at potential cuts should we be going forward with increases for everybody else. We need the temperature of the taxpayers because some taxpayers may not want services cut and want to be taxed to the levy and then there could be others who say no raises for anyone and the school who has signed contracts will have to find the funding for the contracts within their budget.

Millias said there is a lot of negative stuff coming together and the fact that there is no new growth and we have always suffered because of the lack of commercial building. He continued to say that we don't have enough development but there is stuff on the horizon. Seelig did say that Dunkin' Donuts will be coming in and then there is the new building where Stella's used to be so we will see some benefits from those buildings. Roy said that we had an increase in SPED, which we are responsible for, but do not have the State reimbursing us at the proper levels.

Garron added that fixed costs are also increasing. Roy said that we as a town have been very conservative and some feel their tax bill is huge but we do not overspend on the operational side and most communities tax to the levy and we have not done that in five or six years. It is pretty remarkable that we have \$681,000 of unused levy and we have been able to maintain the services and not charged the taxpayers. She said not spending to the levy gives us a cushion should there be an emergency.

Roy said that they faced this in 2003-04 and they did 8% cut across the board and at that time when we were getting tighter with the budget we were lucky because the population at the elementary school was dropping so as people were retiring we were not filling the positions therefore we did not have to lay people off. Seelig does not know enough yet to know where we are and said that the Finance Committee and the Town Accountant will be going over things. It is going to be a very tight year and it could very well be just that. He said that when they did the 8% they lost a few hours in a few places and most of the departments choose to lower their expenses rather than cut personnel and it very well could be the same situation. He does not think that would be the worst case scenario. We can start with putting the mandatory increases in the budget and see what we can afford from there.

Roy said that she had gone to the SL meeting last week and Andrews (member of the FinCom) gave a number that we (the town) would try to make work. The Silver Lake people did not vote to lower the budget to that amount instead there was a motion on the table not to exceed \$400,000, which is the number that Kingston had mentioned. She is hoping that members of the SL School Committee come to the meeting on the 26<sup>th</sup> so that as a team they can come up with a solution. Roy further said that the elementary school budget can in pretty much level service and their increase was due to SPED and the union contract. Silver Lake's increase is due to contract steps, fixed costs that slightly went up and proposed a program with a new teacher at the middle school and some assistant coaches. She stated that this is a year of "need".

# **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Moved by Roy and seconded by Garron, the Board voted as follows to enter into Executive Session at 9:43 p.m. to discuss contract negotiations for Patrol Officers, Sergeants, Firefighters, Highway/Cemetery, Police Chief and Fire Chief:

Thomas Millias - Yes Kim R. Roy - Yes Troy E. Garron - Yes

Millias announced that no statement would be made at the end of the Executive Session and the Board would not reconvene in open session.

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Moved by Garron and seconded by Roy, the Board voted as follows to come out of Executive Session at 9:45 p.m.:

Thomas Millias - Yes Kim R. Roy - Yes Troy E. Garron - Yes

# **MEETING ADJOURNED**

There being no further business, moved by Garron and seconded by Roy, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 9:45 p.m.

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Troy E. Garron Clerk

/pjm