

NEW DURHAM BUDGET COMMITTEE
Public Meeting Minutes
May 9th, 2007

Members Present: Chairman Mark Jarvis, Cathy Orlowicz, and Dean Stimpson

Absent with Apologies: Ron Gehl, Selectman's Representative, Cecile Chase, David Curry & Ann Brady

Also Present: Town Administrator Whittaker as Recording Secretary

Chairman Jarvis called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM in the Town Hall, duly noting that regretfully the committee did not have a full quorum, therefore, no decisions could be taken during the course of the meeting's business, however, the present membership felt there was value in hearing the revised budget figures as amended by the Copple Crown Village Precinct Commissioners, the information for which could be ratified at the next scheduled meeting of *May 16th, 2007*.

Chris LaPierre, CCVD Commissioner, thanked the committee for their time and presented the following changes to their budget since the February public hearing, namely:~

Expenditures:

Account 4316	+ \$ 2,000 (Paving due to floods)
Account 4902	+\$32,500 Replacement Plow Truck
Amended additional Total to CCVD budget	+\$34,500

Revenues:

Account 3934	+\$11,100 Use of Surplus from undesignated fund balance to defray acquisition costs of new truck
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Mr. LaPierre advised that they had missed the May 1 deadline to hold their district meeting and were now proposing the following schedule subject to the Budget Committee being able to hold a Public Hearing on the amendments at their May 16th, 2007 meeting. Mrs. Whittaker confirmed that they had met the notice requirements for advertising of the public hearing and that the hearing had been scheduled for **7:30 PM on the night of May 16th, 2007.**

Bond Hearing May 17th, 2007

District Meeting June 2nd, 2007

Questions were raised as to whether the Commissioners were petitioning the court for the Special District meeting and Mr. LaPierre advised that they were instead opting to the 50% turn out of legal voters to instigate the meeting. He advised that the commissioners were actively engaged in solicitation of attendance for the meeting and because of the high support for the roads paving bond, he felt that they would have a very good probability of fulfilling the 50% turnout to legalize the meeting.

Mrs. Whittaker and present committee members urged Mr. LaPierre to ensure that the Supervisors of the Checklist were present for the meeting in light of the bond issue to ensure that proper procedures are noted when bond counsel reviews the district meeting on the vote. It had previously been noted that the Commissioners had typically checked for registered voters.

Committee members enquired of the damage sustained in Copple Crown, and Mr. LaPierre reported only one road wash out that required immediate attention amounting to approximately \$800.

Committee members opined that they felt the amended budget to be reasonable and realistic given the Department of Revenue Administration's refusal to declare an emergency appropriation for the plow truck which was totaled in March 2007; DRA's refusal rationale being that the District's meeting was not far away and the appropriation could be ratified at said Meeting. General opinion was that the decision was poor considering that the District was left with no plowing protection, and that to have to wait until the District Meeting would have made the District culpable to liability and safety issues.

Chair Jarvis asked for time confirmation of the Committee's May 16th, 2007 meeting. Mrs. Whittaker advised that due to Mr. Curry's request to try to push the time out she had posted the meeting for 7:30 PM. Committee members advised that in light of the public hearing scheduled for 7:30 PM they would like to meet at 6:30 PM, but were pleased for the 7:30 PM Public Hearing schedule, which would afford Mr. Curry's hopeful presence and participation in the vote to approve the amended CCVD budget. Note was made by those present that Mr. Curry and Mrs. Brady's presence would be

critical for a quorum for the public hearing. Mrs. Whittaker will make contact with Mr. Curry and Mrs. Orlowicz advised that she would attempt to contact Ann Brady given the fact that Mrs. Chase had informed the committee that she would also be unable to attend the meeting of May 16th, 2007.

There being no further business, the Chair confirmed the next meeting as Wednesday, May 16 @ 6:30 PM with a public hearing scheduled for 7:30 PM.

The Committee adjourned at 6:20 PM

*Respectfully Submitted,
April Whittaker*