Board of Selectmen
Minutes of 12/27/04
Approved 01/10/05

I.   Call to Order.

Chairman Don Gould called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m. There were present, Emily Creighton, Selectwoman, and Michael Pardue, Town Administrator. Mr. Pardue served as the Recording Secretary for this session. Selectman Rineman was excused from the meeting as he was out of town due to prior professional commitments.

II.   Selectmen Items

A. Discussion of RSA 40:14-b Default Budget Determined by Budget Committee

Mr. Gould advised those in attendance that he had been asked by Mr. Robbie Robinson, Chair of the Budget Committee to review and consider RSA 40:14-b. Mr. Gould and Ms. Creighton reviewed the provisions of the RSA, discussing the possible benefits and detriments associated with said Statute.

Mr. Pardue advised the Board that he had contacted Ms. Meg Baker of the Department of Revenue Administration (12/22/04) concerning this RSA and that she had stated that she was not recommending any the Boards of Selectmen she worked with to endorse delegating the default budget to the budget committee instead of the governing body. Mr. Pardue supplied the Board with a copy of the RSA as supplied by Ms. Baker at the time of the referenced discussion.

Following careful consideration, Mr. Gould and Ms. Creighton both stated that they felt that the Board of Selectmen, Town Administrator and Department Heads overseeing municipal operations are committed to presenting clear and accurate default budgets and that the determination of the default budget is best kept as it currently exist. They further acknowledged there exist a process for determining accurately the funding of the default budget, a process open to the review of the budget committee as well as to any citizen.

III. Adjournment

Motion / Vote: Being no further business to come before the Board, Ms. Creighton made a motion to adjourn at 9:31 a.m. Mr. Gould seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and so moved. 2-0.

Respectfully submitted,
Michael Pardue
Town Administrator