

Board of Selectmen
Minutes of 07/26/05
Approved 08/08/05

I. Call to Order

Chairman Don Gould called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. There were also present, Emily Creighton, Selectwoman, Jon Rineman, Selectman and Michael Pardue, Town Administrator, Jan Facella, Administrative Assistant and Michael Schwotzer, UNH Student Intern. Mr. Pardue served as the Recording Secretary for this session.

II. Selectmen Items

A. Review of Budget Materials

The Board met with Ms. Margaret Baker of the New Hampshire Department of Revenue Administration for the purpose of discussing revenue projections, school funding formulas and other related budget matters.

The Board discussed with Ms. Baker the accuracy, or lack thereof, of projecting tax rates and revenues.

Ms. Baker advised those in attendance that her department refuses to estimate any town's taxes until yearly town calculations have been finalized in the fall. She stated that her department takes this position as there are too many changing variables, such as revenues, state law changes and property valuations. She cautioned the Board that attempting to project the tax rate at any other time could be a disservice to the public.

Much discussion ensued resulting in Ms. Baker commending the Board and the municipal staff for their professional and accurate handling of the municipal budget.

Ms. Baker also advised the Board that the DRA has released its 2004 Tax Equalization Survey that shows that North Hampton has one of the lower tax rates per \$1000 valuation of the 234 municipalities in the state. North Hampton ranks 55 out of 234 municipalities.

B. Other Business

None.

III. Adjournment

Being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Rineman made a motion to adjourn at 3:23 p.m. Ms. Creighton seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and so moved. 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Pardue
Town Administrator