

Board of Selectmen
Minutes of November 19, 2007
Approved: January 11, 2008

I. Call to Order

Chair Creighton called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Also present were Selectmen Gould, Town Administrator Fournier, Town Clerk – Tax Collector Susan Buchanan and Interim Finance Director Phil Munk, Jean Samms, NH DRA, Press. Absent: Selectman Salomon

II. Business Items

- a. Setting the 2007 Tax Rate. Jean Samms of the NH Department of Revenue Administration was present to set the Town Tax Rate with the Board of Selectmen. She reminded the press that the rate is not for public release until the DRA notifies the Town of the official approval which could take up to a weeks time. Ms. Samms reviewed the figures that DRA used to come up with a proposed tax rate. Chair Creighton **made a motion to revise the amount in the proposed overlay to \$100,000. Seconded by Selectman Gould Motion passes 2-0**

Ms. Samms reviewed the revenue estimates of the Town and asked if there were any changes. Mr. Munk indicated that there would be additional revenues seen in investments and in motor vehicle registrations.

Motion by Selectman Gould to increase the revenue estimates by \$150,000. Seconded by Chair Creighton. Motion passes 2-0.

Ms. Samms reviewed the fund balance and asked if the Board of Selectmen would like to use any portion of it to offset the town portion of the tax rate.

Motion by Chair Creighton to withdraw \$225,000 from fund balance to offset taxes. Seconded by Selectman Gould. Motion passes 2-0.

Ms. Samms indicated that the unofficial tax rate is \$16.87, with the town rate set at \$4.05, the County at \$1.13, Local School at \$8.85, and the State School at \$2.84.

- b. Review of 2008 Warrant Articles. The Board of Selectmen reviewed the proposed warrant articles for 2008.

Motion by Chair Creighton to have all warrant articles that were previously funded by fund balance to be funded by taxation. Seconded by Selectman Gould. Motion passes 2-0.

Selectman Gould felt that the Board of Selectmen should remove the warrant articles for Town Capital Reserve Building Fund Planning Fund(\$100,000) and Library Capital Reserve Fund (\$50,000.) Chair Creighton expressed that the Library Facility Warrant Article should remain as a warrant article since it was difficult for the Library to compete with public safety issues . She asserted that

the Fund was established to prudently save monies that would not be in competition with public safety needs and that she would prefer to allow the residents to decide if they wanted to support the article or not. It was decided to table the motion so that Selectman Salomon could weigh in on the discussion.

Motion by Chair Creighton to remove the proposed warrant article for Town Facility Planning for \$100,000. Seconded by Selectman Gould. Motion passes 2-0.

Town Administrator Fournier stated that he would revise the warrant articles to reflect these changes.

- c. Charity Funding for FY09. Chair Creighton stated that there were increases in the various charity requests, but she believed the Board of Selectmen should level fund them. Selectman Gould agreed.

He recommended that the Board of Selectmen approve BW Smith Excavation for \$45,000

Motion by Selectman Gould to level fund all of the charitable request to the previous year levels. Seconded by Chair Creighton. Motion carries 2-0.

III. Adjournment

At 11:15 a.m., moved by Mr. Gould, seconded by Ms Creighton to adjourn. Motion carried 2-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Fournier
Town Administrator