

Saugus Board of Selectmen
February 18, 2010

The Saugus Board of Selectmen met on February 18, 2010 at 6:00PM in the Town Hall Auditorium, 298 Central Street. Present were: Selectmen Scott Crabtree, Michael Serino and the Chairman Donald Wong. Mr. Horlick and Mr. Kelleher were not present. The Town Manager Andrew Bisignani was also present.

FY11 Budget

The Chairman called the meeting to order and stated Mr. Horlick was unable to attend due to circumstances out of his control. Mr. Crabtree said Mr. Kelleher was unable to attend due to a prior commitment made before the meeting was scheduled. The Chairman read a statement explaining budget process.

The Manager submitted FY11 budget recommendation and explained it is a work in progress. Discussion was held on taxation, levy, levy limit and State Aide.

The Chair recognized Department Heads:

Superintendent of Schools Richard Langlois spoke on budget process, timing, and school needs.

Joanne Vannah and Teri Lyons, Library Board of Trustees, spoke on recertifying the library and request for additional money.

Asst. Police Chief Lenny Campanello, spoke on cuts to the Police Dept. and loss of programs.

The Chair recognized Members of the School Committee:

Vice Chair Tom Stewart, requested they not pass budget this evening and consider funding the \$990,000 to avoid layoffs.

Arthur Grabowski, School Committee, advocated for additional money.

Joe Malone, School Committee, explained the anxiety of teachers through this process and requested they consider funding at least the contractual obligation up front.

Wendy Reed, Chairman, School Committee, asked for assurances of at least the \$990,000 rather than waiting to later in the process.

The Chairman recognized Town Meeting Members:

Peter Manoogian, Precinct 10, outlined suggestions where to get the money to recommend up front.

George Moriello, Precinct 6, spoke in favor of funding \$990,000 up front.

Maureen Dever, Precinct 3, spoke in favor of changing recommendation at this level before the budget goes to the Finance Committee and said she believes Schools, Public Safety and Infrastructure are top and everything else is a luxury.

The Chairman recognized parents / citizens:

Donna Trumpler, 100 Essex Street, asked if other departments put forth a transparent budget like the schools. The Manager said yes.

Karla de Steuben, 172 Forest Street, supports fully funding of schools.

Diana Stamatopoulos, 12 Davis Street, supports budget.

Mr. Crabtree moved to continue the meeting to February 23 at 6PM. Chair seconds. Vote: 3-0.

Meeting ended at 8:30PM
Donald Wong, Chairman