

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES
MARCH 23, 2004**

Present: Arnold Wilson, Chairman
 Charles Blanchard
 David Schmida
 Hal White
 Doris Sosik
 James Malloy, Town Administrator

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

MOTION: To enter into executive session under MGL Chapter 39, §23B, Paragraph #3: To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation, to reconvene in open session, by D. Schmida.

2nd: H. White

Roll call vote: All were in favor.

The Board reconvened in open session at 7:25 p.m. J. Malloy issued a press statement to the members of the media that the Board of Selectmen had met in executive session to discuss various strategies in regard to pending litigation with respect to the Tantasqua Regional School District funding issue. The Board had considered several different proposals to address the inequities in the Chapter 70 formula that would also ensure that litigation would not affect the FY05 budget process. The Board noted that while Sturbridge on average was 17.7% wealthier than the other four member communities, the formula requires Sturbridge to pay on average 36.9% more than the other four member communities. The Board did not agree to submit any proposals to Tantasqua at this time.

MOTION: To adjourn, by H. White.

2nd: D. Schmida

Vote: All in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Knowles

BOS Clerk	Date
-----------	------