

March 24, 2011

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES
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Present: Thomas Creamer, Chairman
Mary Dowling
Mary Blanchard
Shaun Suhoski, Town Administrator
Barbara Barry, Finance Director

Scott Garieri was absent.

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. following the Pledge of Allegiance.

Fiscal Year 2012 Budget

Barbara Barry, Finance Director, was present to answer the Board's questions. T. Creamer read each line item in the budget handbook.

M. Blanchard asked about line 16, Town Accountant Purchase of Services. B. Barry explained that the increase was due to an audit, which is required every few years.

It was the consensus of the Board to hold action on lines 20, 22, 25, 32, 41, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 104, 105, 146, 147, 182, 187.

M. Blanchard noted that there has been a substantial increase to three positions, but the Board has not looked at every employee's grade. She said that the Town has good department heads and workers, and they all deserve consideration. She said that it doesn't send a good message to single out only three positions to be reviewed.

M. Dowling said that according to the 10-town salary survey, the Finance Director's salary is well under the lowest paid on the survey. S. Suhoski said that the Conservation Agent is also underpaid; the Principal Assessor's salary falls in the middle. He noted that the proposed increases put those positions into 75% of the range, which he felt was reasonable.

M. Blanchard said that she had a problem with the process, and noted that the Board did not see it until it was printed. She said that there should have been more input. She suggested that the Board look at everyone's salary and see how they compare with the 10 survey towns.

