

SELECTMEN'S MEETING
Monday, February 23, 2009

On February 23, 2009, the Board of Selectmen held a meeting at 6:00 PM at the Lakeville Library. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Evirs at 6:00 PM. Selectmen present were: Selectman Evirs, Selectman Maksy and Selectman Yeatts. Also present were: Rita Garbitt, Town Administrator, Tracie Craig, Executive Assistant and Christine Weston, Recording Secretary.

6:00 PM Meet with Lynn Fagan – 9 Wood's Edge

Lynn Fagan was present for the discussion. Ms. Fagan explained that she and her sister had come before the Board of Selectmen previously to request that the Town lower the minimum price to sell the property located at 9 Wood's Edge. They have a buyer and want to know if the lowered price would be acceptable. They would now be selling at market rate. \$171,000 was the minimum price back in August and there have been no offers since. Selectman Yeatts noted this is a cash buyer at \$169,900. The Town got \$11,000 when the last house sold at \$171,000. The Town really needs to get at least this amount. Ms. Garbitt said they could get another appraisal done, which may come in lower due to the current housing market. However, they may lose the buyer if the Board asked for another appraisal to be done. Chairman Evirs said the Board's concern is that the Town would end up with less money in the trust if the sale price was lowered. Why should the Town take less money? If there was still \$11,000 going into the trust for the Town, then the Board would agree to sell it for less, whether it is a broker or the family or whoever makes up the difference. Selectman Yeatts said every unit that is sold reduces our affordable unit count. The Town needs to have the money to offset the loss of affordable units in the future. Ms. Fagan said the buyer is passing papers on her house March 12th. She did not think she has time for a new appraisal to be done. Selectman Maksy asked if she was willing to make sure you can still get \$11,000 for the Town. Ms. Fagan said she will have to go back to the buyer and speak with her on it. The house has been on the market for over a year. Ms. Fagan asked if the Purchase and Sale Agreement has to say \$171,000. Chairman Evirs said she needs to ask CHAPA that question.

Upon a motion made by Selectman Yeatts, seconded by Selectman Maksy, it was:

VOTED: To approve the \$169,900 sale price for 9 Wood's Edge as long as the Town receives \$11,000 from the sale for the Affordable Housing Trust.
Unanimous in favor.

7:30 PM Meet with Finance Committee and Department Heads to discuss FY10 Budgets

Present for the discussion were James Hanlon, Steve Olivier, Gary Mansfield, Chairman, Michael Petruzzo and Melissa Hopkins of the Finance Committee. Also present were Department Heads, Charlene Shea, David Goodfellow, Carolyn Gomes and Lorraine Carboni from the Local School Committee; Laurie Hunter, Principal of Assawompset School, and Lou Rodrigues, Interim Superintendent of Schools.

Chairman Evirs explained that the Board would present what a 10% and 20% cut will do to each and every Town Department. He reviewed the cuts to the Town aid from the State and increases in spending required to the Region. Over the past three (3) years, the Town has taken over \$977,000 out of the Stabilization Fund and put it into the Town and Local School Budget. The Town cannot do that again. The Town needs to have some money there in order to borrow money and continue with the growth of the Town. The Local School Committee gave a scenario at our previous meeting of what a 5% and 10% cut would do and a brief sketch of what a 20% cut would look like for them. Some of these Town Departments are made up of one and a half (1.5) or two (2) people. The Town still needs to conduct its business.

Ms. Garbitt reviewed the budgets for the Selectmen's Office budget, the Town Office Building/Fire Station, Other General Government and Animal Control. Under the Selectmen's budget, the stipends were reduced for the Board of Selectmen. The 2% raise was removed from the salaries. The Landfill part time clerk's hours were reduced by five (5) hours. The part time Custodian's hours at the Library were reduced by five (5) hours. Any over time for the Custodian was removed. Legal advertising and any money provided for Selectmen to attend meetings has been reduced or removed. The Selectman will have to pay the fees if they want to attend a meeting. This budget was reduced by \$24,554 for the 10% cut. These are not all realistic cuts, and there might be a deficit in legal advertising, since there are things you have to advertise. The Town Office/Fire Station budget had heat, electricity and maintenance reduced. Usually, the Town carries about \$14,000 for maintenance, which is for all the Town Buildings. This was reduced from \$14,000 to \$7,000. The Town computer network budget was reduced to \$1,400.00. A total of \$14,000 was cut from the Town Office budget. Other General Government is the secretarial pool and that was cut by \$1,700. That is also the emergency labor pool. About \$9,000 was cut from the Animal Shelter, which paid for the Assistant Animal Control Officers (ACO) that cover the nights during the week. Ms. Garbitt said a 20% cut would reduce the Executive Assistant to four (4) days and eliminate any part time help. The part time Custodian at the Library and the full time Custodian for all the buildings were cut to a four (4) day week. The rest of the cuts are on the expense side. These cuts are not reasonable and there may be deficits at the end of the year. The Town Office was cut \$28,000. Repair and maintenance at the Town Office was cut to \$1,000. The consulting for the IT person was cut and the network budget was cut again. The copier for the building is used by all the Departments and the Town supplies all the paper and the toner. The paper budget has been reduced from \$2,600, so there will not be as many copies being made. The Maintenance budget was reduced again. It will be tough to actually cut all those areas. The secretarial pool has been cut almost in half. Committees will have to start taking their own minutes. Under the Animal Shelter, the contracts with Berkley, Rochester, Freetown and Carver provide a lot of revenue for the Town. We cannot cut anything else without affecting the Animal Shelter. We hope there will be coverage on the weekends.

Chairman Evirs said \$159,729.00 is what the level funded budget would be for the Accounting Department. Then, calculate a 10% and 20% cut, which is \$16,000 and \$32,000. Ms. McRae said \$16,000 was reduced from Contracted Services, which included Auditing and Consulting. The Town budget for half the audit in one (1) year and then rest in the second year, so it is essentially skipping an audit year for the community. For the 20%, there will be no audit for 2010. Since the Town is not receiving Federal grants in the amount of \$300,000, it is

exempt. However, this fiscal year we must have an audit. There is also a reduction of hours for the Clerk. Chairman Evirs said that is an office that has only two (2) people in it. Selectman Yeatts said with the State Revolving Fund (SRF) loan, they mandate that the Town have an audit. The stimulus program and other packages coming out might mandate an audit. Ms. Garbitt said it is a good practice to have an audit done every year, and it also affects the bond rating. Mr. Mansfield noted we have had a favorable bond rating that has helped the Town over the past few years.

Chairman Evirs said for the Assessors Department, a 10% cut is \$15,497 and 20% is \$30,947. Dana Lucas, Chairman of the Board of Assessors said the level funded budget is \$154,689.00. The single biggest line item is the contract for Vision Appraisal, which details all the property cards. Right now the Office has budgeted for \$1,400 and managed to negotiate them down for the web service. However, they discovered that they gave the Department the first year of web services for nothing, and they neglected to bring it into play in the second and third years, so now the Department has to absorb that. The GIS software is so the townspeople can come in and pull up a map or a site plan. This will be cut. Education and training was cut, and the Department will have to look at bringing that back eventually since some of it is mandated by the State. The grounds and maintenance areas were cut. The 20% budget is a \$30,000 cut. We would be closing the office one day a week. Right now the office is closed to the public one day a week; it would be closed two (2) days a week in order to cut payroll. The phones will go to a voice mail and will be answered in priority order. We think we would have to cut the Registry and Vision website access. Taxpayers would have to go to the Registry of Deeds and could not look up their own property values in town. Janet Black, Assessor, said before the website was in use, we had records available to the public, but we do not have the staff to have immediate service to the public. Years ago it would take about 48 hours or more to get the information. It will just take longer since there will be no one in the office to help. The website has really helped a lot and cut a lot of man hours. The only place that there is room to wiggle is with services and that means office time, which will have to be cut. The only way to do it sensibly is to take out one (1) day a week. This makes more sense than to cut a person since the work still has to get done. Chairman Evirs said you said will cut \$11,000 in wages. Will it come from one person or equally from all three? Mr. Lucas said there are several scenarios; either reduce everyone's hours or replace an employee with a part time employee. Selectman Yeatts said so there would be fees for copies and no field cards immediately available. Mr. Lucas said yes.

Chairman Evirs explained that a level funded budget is the same amount of money that was received from one year to the next. The maintenance budget is the anticipated increases in operating costs, raises, things taken out and requested to be put back. There have already been quite a lot of cuts from the maintenance budget to the level funded budget. Selectman Yeatts noted that a level funded budget does not mean level services.

Chairman Evirs said for the Treasurer/Tax Collector, a maintenance budget is \$158,687, level funded budget is \$154,026, a 10% reduction would equal \$21,800, and a 20% reduction would equal \$43,600. Debra Kenney, Treasurer/Tax Collector, said her office processes every source of revenue from the Town. She previously had five (5) people in her office. Now we have more fire, police and teacher personnel, and we lost a person in the office two (2) years ago and could not fill that position. With a 10% cut, the Department will lose another position and this means

lost services. Office supplies and computer services will be cut. We do not know if we will be timely with debt obligation and other aspects for the School Department. There will be delays in everything. She was concerned about sick time and vacation coverage. Everyone that works in the Town has a value and she hopes that we do not penalize the people that do not have a union to speak for them.

Chairman Evirs noted that the Town Clerk's Office is a two (2) person office. The total budget, which includes the Elections and Registration budgets, is \$123,547. Wages account for approximately \$102,000. Janet Tracy, Town Clerk, said with a level funded budget you wanted the 2% raise included. For the 10% and 20% reduction, she included the raise for her Assistant Town Clerk, but did give it to herself. The 10% cut is about \$12,300 and 20% is \$24,700. Cutting by 10% will reduce the Assistant Town Clerk's hours from 40 hours to 30 hours and also cut money from the Elections and Registration Budgets. A 20% cut will reduce the Assistant Town Clerk to 20 hours per week. The Department will have to close the office to the public a few days a week to catch up on work that will not be getting done.

Selectman Yeatts reviewed the Conservation Commission budget. A maintenance and level funded budget is \$13,100. A 10% reduction is \$1,310 and 20% is \$2,620. The cut would all come from the Conservation Agent's salary, which would severely cut her hours.

Chairman Evirs said the Historic Town House has a maintenance budget of \$5,170 and a level funded budget of \$5,000. A 10% reduction is \$500 and a 20% reduction is \$1,000. Nancy LaFave of the Historical Commission said the exterior was just painted. The Commission was hoping to have enough money to paint the windows and the trim. The reductions would have to come from the total budget.

Chairman Evirs said the Police Department has a maintenance budget of \$1,634,241 and a level funded budget of \$1,562,984. A 10% reduction brings it to \$1,406,685 and a 20% reduction brings it to \$1,250,387. Chairman Evirs said this budget is difficult to understand since part way through the year they renegotiated their contract to change the health insurance contribution rates from 90%-10% to 75%-25%. The numbers differ, but it is because of the trade made in the union negotiations. Police Chief Mark Sorel said the Police Department has never achieved the level of people they had in 1989. We have 17 officers on the Department and we used to have 18 at one time and five (5) civilian workers. We do not have the luxury on the expense side. We have to figure high for sick time and so we always have a little money left each year. We are looking at losing one (1) Police Officer, one (1) full time Dispatcher, and the K-9 program with \$71,000 being cut for a level funded budget. A 10% reduction is another \$156,000, so a total of a \$227,000 reduction is one (1) Police Officer, four (4) Dispatchers and the Department has to cover 225 dispatch shifts with part timers. The K-9 program is wiped out in all scenarios and there is a reduction in training. We have to keep some training due to mandates. A 20% reduction of \$383,000 means losing two (2) Dispatchers, a Supervisor, five (5) Officers, the K-9 program and training. There are times that we will have to close the door. We will only have someone there taking calls and will have to notify the Townspeople what we will and will not respond to and the response time since it takes the liability off of the Town. The State Police are losing funding also, so they cannot be called in our stead. Everyone will be devastated. In 1989, we had the five (5) full time dispatchers and 18 police officers. We

responded to 4,400 calls. We now average 10,000 calls a year. We will not be there on the calls the ambulance will be on. For every Dispatcher that is laid off, that means an Officer is off the road. Chairman Evirs noted that unlike private industry, the Town does not pay into Unemployment Insurance with the State. When we lay someone off, we have to pay half that persons wages to the State so that they can pay the person.

Chairman Evirs said for the Fire Department, a maintenance budget is \$1,030,969 and a level funded budget is \$953,303. A 10% reduction is \$95,331; a 20% reduction is \$190, 660. If you look at last years Town Meeting vote, there is also a difference in the numbers since halfway through the year the Town renegotiated the Firefighter's contract. Fire Chief Daniel Hopkins said with a level funded budget he would lose all training for Firefighters. They will still offer it, but it will not be paid. They will not lose any full time personnel with a level funded budget, but Call Firefighter wages and other things will be reduced. A 10% cut will result in the loss of one (1) Firefighter and training funds. A 20% cut will result in the loss of two (2) Firefighters, the part time Clerk and all the training, most of the Call Firefighter wages and a reduction in the salary for the Deputy Chief, who will have to go back on shift for the ambulance calls. The revenue that the ambulance brings in of \$200,000 a year would be lost and the Town would have to hire a private ambulance service and that would be at least \$200,000 a year. Chairman Evirs said you need eight (8) firefighters to operate the ambulance. We have eight (8) now and a Deputy Chief and a Chief.

Chairman Evirs said the Building Department has a maintenance budget of \$107,130 and a level funded budget of \$106,260. A 10% reduction would be \$10,626 and a 20% reduction would be \$21,252. The Inspectors are not included in this budget. This Department consists of the Building Commission and his Clerk. Robert Iafrate, Building Commissioner, said 95% of his budget is salaries. There is \$4,700 in expenses. A level funded budget would put in the 2% raises, but wipe out the vacation buyback, the computer services and the postage. The 10% reduction would wipe out the raises, reduce the car allowance, and eliminate the Hearings Officer, which is mandated by the State. There would not be an Alternate Inspector, which means no inspections during the Building Commissioner's vacation. Expenses would be cut to \$3,075 for expenses and training, some of which is mandated by the State, would be cut. A 20% reduction would be all the above and reduce the Building Commissioner's hours to three and a half (3.5) or four (4) days a week.

Chairman Evirs said we can deficit spend in the Snow and Ice account. We fund it at \$40,000. However, we have not spent that amount for as long as he could remember and right now we are in a deficit of about \$150,000. The Highway Budget is \$574,930 for a level funded budget and \$583,930 for a maintenance budget. A 10% reduction is \$517,500; a 20% reduction reduces it to \$460,000. Christopher Peck, Superintendent of Streets, said the funds for Police details would be gone. With a 10% reduction, we lose one full time person and one part time position from the Park Department. We would also reduce overtime; reduce buildings and grounds maintenance and grounds keeping supplies. For the 20% reduction, we would lose two (2) full time people and one part time person and that would eliminate all services at Ted Williams Camp and reduce what is done for the cemeteries and anything outside of roadway work. We would also reduce roadway work and compensation time for people coming in after hours. Repairs and maintenance for vehicles and building and grounds would be reduced.

Reductions would be made in contracted services, supplies, machinery and fuel. The cuts would hamper us quite a bit in services that we provide to the Town on a day to day basis. Also, in the winter we would be down to one (1) sander on the road. Chairman Evirs said the Highway Department mows the grass at the cemeteries and takes care of the facilities maintained by the Park Department. The Park Department would probably be in jeopardy with these cuts. They are not on list to speak this evening since they are an Enterprise account, but they would need to make the serious cuts and might not be able to open the parks and that includes Clear Pond.

Chairman Evirs said the Board of Health has a maintenance budget of \$176,915 and a level funded budget of \$166,620. A 10% reduction would cut \$16,662 and a 20% reduction would cut \$33,324. Terrence Flynn, Board of Health member, said they had cut from the entire operating budget. They are hoping that construction will remain slow, meaning less inspections. For the 20% reduction, they would have to eliminate the part time Health Agent, but that means a loss of fees that he brings in that may not be recovered. Vehicle gasoline, education and training, and subscriptions are also reduced and the stipends for the Board of Health members. With the 20% reduction we had proposed no stipends for the elected officials. That would automatically eliminate health insurance coverage to the Board members. We cut the Animal Inspector and the Visiting Nurse since it was lumped into the budget as one. Chairman Evirs said there are only so many areas to cut and still maintain the services that we have to perform.

Chairman Evirs said the Council on Aging maintenance budget is \$155,443 and a level funded budget \$139,408. A 10% reduction is \$13,940 and a 20% reduction is \$27,881. The Veterans maintenance budget is \$19,304 and a level funded budget is \$18,629. A 10% reduction is \$1,862 and a 20% reduction is \$3,724. Chairman Evirs said Marilyn Mansfield wears two (2) hats here. As long as the next census comes in under the mandated number, then we do not have to have a full time Veterans Agent. Marilyn Mansfield, Council on Aging Director and Veterans Agent said if the Town exceeds 12,000 in population, we would be required to have a full time Veterans Agent. We can deficit spend this budget, but when we balance the budget, the money needs to be in there. She has had more cases recently and has younger veterans coming back and older veterans needing services. About a year later, 75% of the medical benefits and services come back to the Town. Also, we get reimbursement from Federal programs. To make the cuts, she has reduced the education and training lines. Ms. Mansfield noted that if the State came in to administer the Veterans program, they would charge 110% and that is not economically feasible.

Ms. Mansfield said the Council on Aging serves approximately 1,900 seniors. The building was just built a few years ago. The Council on Aging generates approximately \$9,620. The printing of the newsletter is donated by businesses and the seniors do the work. The Maxim Foundation also supports the center. The trips are self paying. Out of town medical involves volunteers; they use their own cars and receive a small stipend. Meals on Wheels serve 18 meals a day, five (5) days a week, for 52 weeks a year. Ms. Mansfield said she utilizes a lot of volunteers and community service from teenagers. Seniors pay to ride the van, \$2.50 round trip for doctor's appointments, bank trips, hair appointments, etc. Last year someone suggested cutting van drivers. She said 100% of that cost, including gasoline, driver and dispatcher is reimbursed by the Federal government. \$32,354.22 went back into the General Fund. So, if we cut that service, then the Town does not get that money. All of the drivers are part time and do not get benefits, vacation, or health insurance. At level funding, we lose a part time clerical

position. She does not have a 40 hour per week employee. With the 10% reduction the van is operating only three (3) days a week, which reduces what we will receive back. With a 20% reduction we cut the van to two (2) days a week and the building would need to be closed two (2) days a week to save on cleaning, heat, air conditioning, etc.

Chairman Evirs said for the Library, a maintenance budget is \$285,021 and a level funded budget is \$276,321. A 10% reduction is \$27,633 and a 20% reduction is \$55,264. Olivia Melo, Library Director, said a level funded budget eliminated \$5,050 and that was for rug shampoo and software and also 14 hours of staffing at the library. They would maintain certification with the level funded budget. We are mandated by the State to keep a certain budget and hours and money spent on materials. With a 10% reduction, we will lose certification. The only way to make that up is in salaries. We would not be open the 40 hours as mandated by the State and are shy of the \$18,000 that the State mandated for books. State aid has already been cut for the Library. Usually, your State Aid increases based on usage. If we lose certification, the townspeople will only have access to our Library; they will not have access to neighboring libraries. We have had a 40% increase in usage, but when the economy is bad, everyone uses the Library. The more it is utilized then more fees are collected and we are trying to pull our weight. A lot of programs will stop since there will not be enough staff. With a 20% cut, that means we lose certification, we would not be able to mail overdue notices or give reminder calls and we also took out extra cleaning. We would not have funds for maintenance. We would be eliminating 40 hours for staff. We cannot run the building with that reduction, so we would be closing a whole day.

Chairman Evirs said two (2) weeks ago the Local School Committee presented a maintenance budget, a level funded budget, and a 5% cut and 10% cut and a preliminary 20% cut. Mr. Rodrigues said the budget is \$5,228,013. It went up \$66,056 in level services. We are not touching personnel with a level funded budget, we are taking from fuel. A 10% reduction is \$522,801 which would mean 12.7 people being laid off. A 20% reduction is \$1,045,602 and that means losing 22.47 people. The schools did not have mandates years before like the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) and Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP), but we have that now. David Goodfellow, Chairman of the Local School Committee, said when we last met you asked that the level funded budget and the 10% budget get cleaned up a little. Laurie Hunter, Principal of Assawompset School, spoke about the 20% reduction to the level funded budget. She said the Local budget includes pre-K to fourth grade for about 800 students. They would be bringing the fourth grade back to Assawompset School. They would be eliminating a language service and lose reading support. We will lose secretaries, kindergarten teachers and then there will be 30 students in the classroom. 1st grade would have 36 students in their classes and we lose seven (7) classroom teachers and a specialist. We lost a Special Education teacher, which is a mandate and would have to eliminate all substitutes for professional development. We lose paraprofessionals. Losing 24.7 people is an incredible hit to Assawompset. Mr. Rodrigues said for a teacher to work with 30-40 kids you are asking quite a bit

Chairman Evirs said when there are cuts of 10%-20%, there will be employees that are laid off. There is also the cost of health insurance, which could be \$16,000 a year for a family plan. Unemployment Insurance costs need to be factored into the parameters of when people start being laid off. That is something that we need to look at, what would happen to the other part of

the budget. Health insurance and Unemployment is not in the School's budget, but we need to see what kind of effect that will have. Mr. Rodrigues said if the Town is not paying for the health benefits that would help somewhat with Unemployment. Mr. Goodfellow said we are talking about money here, and we are not talking about the loss in services to the children.

Brian Lewis of 1 Elaine's Circle said that he has children in the school system. He is also a business owner and knows how expensive health insurance can be. He shuddered to think of losing services from Police and Fire. If the teachers do not get together and offer a concession for the health insurance, then he did not feel right contributing money to a group that does not work with everyone. We have run out of options. The Town has been run as fiscally responsible as any Town in the State. There is no way that the community can buy into an override without those concessions from the teachers. Hopefully in five (5) to ten (10) years we can get back on track and know that we all rode this out together. There is no single better return than the taxes to go where it needs to be for all services. Crime will increase. The schools have to be top notch. Mr. Rodrigues said everything is on the table when negotiations take place and you do not want to minimize that. Ms. Hunter said the Teachers Union knows this and that is another issue. Giuliano Rubini of 8 Nachaomet Road said he agreed with not wanting Fire and Police layoffs. Are their negotiations finalized regarding health insurance? Chairman Evirs said they were approved at Special Town Meeting.

Chairman Evirs said we considered asking employees to take a week off with no pay. We cannot tell the Police Department or Fire Department to close for a week. When you take that out of the equation and then add up all the salaries, it would amount to \$40,000. That is not very much at all. That would be basically the non union people. There was an article in the Globe regarding the teachers in Lynn. The teachers agreed to work a day for free. All the school staff agreed to do this and they saved \$500,000. We do not have that ability. Health insurance is over \$2 million a year. Retirement is approaching \$750,000. Then there is debt service and GASBE 45, which is lurking out there. GASBE 45 is a look into the future of who is eligible for health insurance (including active employees and retirees) and forecasts what that liability will be. We have not reviewed it with the Finance Committee, but it is a scary report and could add another \$2 million a year for 20 years to fund the health insurance liability. Right now it is pay as you go. We used to do that with the pension fund, but now we fund that in advance.

Kim Borges of 32 Baker Lane said there are not many people that are not paying into their health benefits. The elected officials are getting 90%-10%. Has that been looked into? Chairman Evirs said we are looking at how we will institute that with non union employees and that will include the elected officials that are compensated and eligible for health insurance. We would prefer that the employees hear from us what will affect them prior to us making a public announcement. We also need to address the retirees. The retirees over 65 are at 20% and active retired are at 10%. But their plans are considerably less and they are collecting other benefits. Selectman Yeatts said we did not want to start with non union, and it was great to start with the Police and Fire unions. She said until she knew that the teachers were on board with the 75%-25%, she would not support an override. Chairman Evirs said it would not be fair to talk about negotiations outside of a contract session. We have had the luxury to spend more in excess of the NSS to the elementary school. We are about \$1,400,000 over this year and it is projected to be over \$1,700,000 next year. Unfortunately the luxury has been obtained by not replacing other

Town employees that have left. We have cut a lot of areas in the Town to maintain the level of services to the Local School budget, and we are at end of the rope. We do not have that luxury any longer. Tina Santos of 2 Cedar Pond Road respectfully requested that the Board put an override on an election ballot so that the voters could make the decision.

Steve Olivier of the Finance Committee said he has been on the Finance Committee for seven (7) years and has seen good and bad times. The State is cutting us \$107,000 this year and that effects us at the Region. We cannot afford to absorb that as a Town. He felt the most important thing was the cost savings for the health insurance with increased contributions. It is a sharing throughout the Town and it may help to mitigate what may take place. The taxpayers are hurting as much as our budget is hurting here. He cannot support an override until the health insurance contribution and co-pays are addressed.

Mr. Mansfield said we do not know what the Teacher's Union will do until after the Town Meeting. Discussion occurred regarding an override question and going to Town Meeting with two (2) budgets. Mr. Olivier said we need to look at the different Departments and see which one can sustain a cut, and if so how much, and which ones cannot. A Budget Subcommittee comprised of Ms. McRae, Mr. Mansfield, Chairman Evirs and Ms. Garbitt was discussed. A meeting was scheduled for this Wednesday at 10:00 AM. Another meeting of the Finance Committee and Selectmen was scheduled for March 2nd at 6:30 PM.

Request for Temporary Storage Trailer Permit – 2 Commercial Drive – S.E.& D.

Chairman Evirs read the application from S.E.& D. for a Temporary Storage Trailer Permit at 2 Commercial Drive.

Upon a motion made by Selectman Yeatts; seconded by Selectman Maksy it was:

VOTED: To approve the request for a Temporary Storage Trailer Permit for S.E.& D. at 2 Commercial Drive subject to the Building Commissioner approving the placement.
Unanimous in favor.

Request from Superintendent of Streets regarding removal of tree

Chairman Evirs read the letter from Chris Peck, Superintendent of Streets, into the record. The tree is located at 115 Precinct Street. It is estimated, based on previous quotes, at approximately \$800 and there is an additional cost of a Police Detail. Ms. Garbitt said the tree is located on Town property. Mr. Peck does have the money in his budget, but wanted to check with the Selectmen before he has it removed. The Police Detail would be approximately \$320.

Upon a motion made by Selectman Yeatts; seconded by Selectman Maksy it was:

VOTED: To approve the removal of the located at #115 Precinct Street on Town property.
Unanimous in favor.

Review and vote to approve Selectmen's Meeting Minutes: November 3, 2008; November 6, 2008; November 12, 2008; November 19, 2008; January 12, 2009 and February 12, 2009

Upon a motion made by Selectman Yeatts; seconded by Selectman Maksy it was:

VOTED: To waive the reading of and approve the November 3, 2008, November 12, 2008, and January 12, 2009 Selectmen Meeting Minutes as presented.
Unanimous in favor.

Upon a motion made by Selectman Yeatts with Chairman Evirs stepping down to second and stepping back up to vote, it was:

VOTED: To waive the reading of and approve the November 6, 2008 and November 19, 2008 Selectmen Meeting Minutes as presented.
Unanimous in favor.

Upon a motion made by Selectman Yeatts; seconded by Selectman Maksy it was:

VOTED: To waive the reading of and approve the Selectmen Meeting Minutes of February 12, 2009.
In favor 2, Abstain 1.

Review and accept Executive Session Meeting Minutes: November 12, 2008; November 19, 2008; December 10, 2008 and January 26, 2009

Upon a motion made by Selectman Yeatts; seconded by Selectman Maksy it was:

VOTED: To waive the reading of and approve the Executive Session Meeting Minutes of November 12, 2008, December 10, 2008 and January 26, 2009 as presented.
Unanimous in favor.

Upon a motion made by Selectman Yeatts; seconded by Selectman Maksy it was:

VOTED: To waive the reading of and approve the Executive Session Meeting Minutes of November 19, 2008 as presented.
In favor 2, Abstain 1.

Any other business that may properly come before the meeting.

Selectman Yeatts said the Board has been invited around lunchtime to tour the Talbot's building. We could do it on February 27th or March 6th. Selectman Yeatts will confirm a date with the Talbot's representative.

Other Items

1. Letter of appreciation from Frank Bartlett regarding the Police and Fire Departments
Chairman Evirs read the letter into the record. He requested that a copy be given to the individuals noted for a job well done.
2. Copy of letter from Chris Peck regarding donation of materials
Selectman Yeatts read the letter into the record. It was for a donation of concrete blocks to create a storage area for sand for Lakeville residents to pick up when needed. The bin is outside the fenced area at the Highway Barn. J.R. Precast donated the blocks. Chairman Evirs said the intent is for people to fill up a five (5) gallon pail. If it is abused, then we will have to look at it.
3. Memo sent to Regional School Committee regarding Contract Negotiation Subcommittee
4. Letter from Board of Health regarding 305 Pond Lane
5. Letter from Board of Health regarding 4 Fuller Shores Road
6. Letter from Board of Health regarding 325 Pond Lane
7. Information from Field Engineering regarding Route 79 relocation project
8. Letter from George Doyle regarding proposed casino in Middleborough
9. Letter from Lord Associates regarding Joe's Gasoline-33 Bedford Street
10. Meeting notice – Regional Power Plant Task Force – February 26th
Selectman Yeatts will be attending.
11. Letter from Town of Acushnet to Old Colony School Committee
Chairman Evirs said the Town of Acushnet is looking to Old Colony to make sure that if there is money to be saved that they are doing it. Ms. Garbitt said were in the same situation when Lakeville bought into Old Colony. Now it has turned around and communities are feeling how we felt before. We had asked to have the formula changed. Acushnet has a very large increase in their budget. Old Colony always does a very good job on their budget.

Upon a motion made by Selectman Yeatts; seconded by Selectman Maksy it was:

VOTED: To send a letter to the Old Colony School Committee similar to the Town of Acushnet's letter.
Unanimous in favor.

12. Memorandum from Town Counsel changes to the Agricultural Exemption in the Zoning Act
13. Letter from EOT regarding technical assistance to advance local goals and the Commonwealth's Sustainable Development Principles
14. DOR Bulletin – Course 101 for Assessors
15. Notice of Municipal Cabinet Meeting with Lt. Governor Tim Murray – February 26th
Selectman Maksy said the meeting is February 26th from 2:30 PM to 4:00 PM. He will try to attend. Ms. Garbitt will be attending. Chairman Evirs and Selectman Yeatts said they may be able to attend.
16. Letter from Mass Historical Regarding Massachusetts Archaeology Month
17. Letter from DEP regarding Freetown Elementary School
18. Letter from DEP regarding Lakeville Landfill

Chairman Evirs said we have DEP approval to remove the flares as there is not enough gas to support a fire. If there is no odor, then we can have the flares shut off. If something changes, then we will go back.

19. Letter from DEP regarding Mass Clean Diesel School Bus Retrofit Program
Selectman Maksy asked if this had been forwarded to the School Committee. Ms. Garbitt said it had.
20. Notice from SPREDD regarding Regional Cooperative Purchasing
Chairman Evirs said any information that we can gather on regionalizing is a good idea. Ms. Garbitt is planning on attending. Chairman Evirs asked if she would talk about the possibility of opening our Transfer Station to other Towns on a regional basis.
21. SRPEDD Commission meeting notice – February 25th
22. Plymouth County Cooperative Extension 2009 Landscape Season Preview
23. Plymouth County Commissioners meeting notice – February 10th
24. Cranberry Chamber of Commerce Perspective Bulletin
25. GATRA Advisory Board meeting notice February 25th
26. Plymouth County Annual Transportation Breakfast – March 6th
27. MCAH meeting notice- February 26th
28. MMA Legislative Breakfast meeting schedule
Selectman Yeatts and Ms. Garbitt will attend the meeting in Kingston.
29. Sustainability Initiative Almanac February 11th to 17th
30. Sustainability Initiative Almanac February 18th to 24th
31. Citizen Planner Training Collaborative Eighth Annual Conference-March 21st
32. Comcast Massachusetts Overview
33. Notice from National Electrical Manufacturers Association regarding mercury containing lamps
34. Copy of memo from Superintendent of Streets regarding maintenance of Park facilities
35. Supplemental Ridership Memorandum-South Coast Rail – Executive Office of Transportation
36. Letter from GATRA regarding funding issues
Selectman Maksy asked that the letter be forwarded to our Legislators.
37. Letter from Town of Dartmouth – Second Regional Summit – March 5th
Selectman Yeatts and Ms. Garbitt attended the previous summit. They did discuss purchasing things together, regionalizing the Transfer Station, if possible and about hammering away on unfunded mandates.

Upon a motion made by Selectman Yeatts; seconded by Selectman Maksy it was:

VOTED: To adjourn the meeting at 10:30 PM.
Unanimous in favor.