

SELECTMEN'S MEETING
Thursday, March 29, 2007

On March 29, 2007, the Board of Selectmen held a meeting at 4:00 PM at the Town Office Building in Lakeville. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Yeatts at 4:06 PM. Selectmen present were: Selectman Evirs and Selectman Yeatts. Also present were Rita Garbitt, Town Administrator and Tracie Craig, Executive Assistant

Discuss FY08 Budgets with Department Heads

Library Budget

Olivia Melo, Library Director, is present for the discussion. Chair Yeatts said that the Town Administrator has recommended all of the library requests. Ms. Garbitt said the \$35,000 increase will be split to show how much is for books, audio tapes, etc. Selectman Evirs asked about the \$18,036 jump. Ms. Melo said the materials budget is the biggest jump. There are very small increases for other line items. Selectman Evirs noted there is a large difference in personnel, which includes the Library Director's salary. The youth librarian is not included in the Library Director line. Ms. Garbitt said the Town Accountant combines the two (2) salaries. She also noted that the youth librarian went up a step. Discussion occurred about the FY07 salary for the Director and Youth Librarian. Selectman Evirs asked if we knew what the actual 07 salary figure was. Ms. Garbitt said \$159,714 was the total for FY07 wages. Ms. Melo said the Town was without a Director for July and August, so whatever was in that salary line was spread out. Ms. Garbitt said there is enough in the budget until June 30th. Selectman Evirs said there is an \$11,000 difference in salaries. Ms. Garbitt said there is \$5,000 in steps and raises for clerks, there is a small discrepancy between part time and full time clerks. We are recommending to Wage & Personnel to put the clerks all in one category. People that have been there longer will receive a 44 cent increase. All clerks are cross trained and have the same qualifications. The newest person will be paid the least. The Youth Librarian moves a step and has a 2% increase. Chair Yeatts asked how many clerks there were; Ms. Melo said four (4). Ms. Melo said the expenses are increased by \$7,000, which is the required amount under periodicals. Chair Yeatts asked about the increase in the phone account. Ms. Garbitt said in the first year we did not know what to budget for telephone. We shifted money from repair and maintenance when it should have been contracted services. Chair Yeatts asked about the contracted services for \$10,000? Ms. Melo said that is security alarm systems, carpet cleaning, window cleaning, dumpsters, copiers, Deans Refrigeration, Standish Oil and Yankee AC. We will be adjusting the line item for telephone and have added to custodial supplies. It will probably take another year or so before we get a firm idea on the numbers.

Veteran's Benefits

Marilyn Mansfield, Council on Aging Director and Veteran's Agent, is present for the discussion. Selectman Evirs asked why medical benefits increased. Ms. Mansfield replied that if someone comes back from overseas, has medical problems, and they have no income, she has a budget to help that person with expenses. The Town funds 25%, originally we fund 100% but we get reimbursed by the State. Ms. Mansfield said she had increased it because at the time, she

had four (4) active cases, now she only has two (2). Selectman Evirs said so we carry it in the budget with the anticipation that we will receive 75% back. Ms. Mansfield said there is a formula she uses for the benefits. She has another veteran that will stay on for a while, unless he goes on disability. She noted that veteran's reimbursements are a year behind.

Council on Aging

Ms. Mansfield said that the money that is reimbursed for the van gasoline from GATRA goes back into the general fund. Chair Yeatts asked how much is reimbursed a year? Ms. Mansfield said about \$2,000 a month, so \$24,000 annually.

Landfill

Christopher Peck, Superintendent of Streets and Brad Bates, Landfill Supervisor are present for the discussion. Discussion occurred regarding the reports from SITEC on the capping of the landfill. Ms. Garbitt said the cost is approximately \$20,000 a year. Mr. Bates said he added \$800 to wages for vacation buyback. Heating fuels dropped down to \$2,200, and he was putting \$3,000 on the wish list to do work. Ms. Garbitt said the subtotal will be \$203,500 and the additional needs budget would be \$206,500. Selectman Evirs asked about the \$8,000 increase in contracted services? Mr. Bates said that is for Bourne, SEMASS and a lot of other incidentals, such as water, laundry services. Selectman Evirs noted an increase in the wages for the laborer? Mr. Bates said that is for part time help. Chris Peck and he had been talking about transferring an employee and sharing the laborer, but that hasn't been done. The part timer may need to work a few additional hours. Chair Yeatts asked how many hours? Ms. Garbitt replied approximately 12 hours. Mr. Bates said that would be considerably more at sticker time. Leanne Cataldo also works there at sticker time. Ms. Garbitt said if we decided to transfer an employee to the Highway Department, we would reduce the general fund subsidy. Chair Yeatts said this might not necessarily be a part time person because you can't go over 18 hours. Ms. Garbitt said he will stay between 15-17 hours a week. Mr. Bates said occasionally he goes over, to cover vacations. However, it never happens that they work six (6) months at 19 hours a week. That number is flexible. He is going to change that number back to \$13,500. Mr. Peck said that they will look at this. Ms. Garbitt said retained earning is \$109,100. The general fund subsidy is what we are really working with for the budget. Selectman Evirs said it looks like we need to give them \$50,000.

Ms. Garbitt said that the SEMASS contract expires in January of 2008. Depending on the increase, we might have to adjust the price of the bags midweek. Mr. Bates said it is \$98-100,000 for SEMASS right now. Chair Yeatts said she went to a MMA meeting that said instead of increasing bag price, they decreased the amount of bags in the package. Mr. Bates said we don't have control over how they are packaged. They are packaged by the producer. If it is a 25% increase, we would increase the bags by \$.25 each. Chair Yeatts said she thought five (5) bags isn't very much. Why don't we have them do ten (10) bag packages? Ms. Garbitt said if you made people buy more, it would be too expensive. Mr. Bates said it works the way it is. Selectman Evirs said you will be penalizing the senior citizens with larger bag purchases.

Highway Department

Christopher Peck, Superintendent of Streets, is present for the discussion. Ms. Garbitt said a couple of years ago we combined the Barn and Garage budget with the Highway Department. Chapter 90 required us to have two (2) different accounts, but in 07 we combined everything. Selectman Evirs said that the bottom number, backing out vacation and Mr. Peck's salary, is \$531,641, which is a \$16,500 increase. Ms. Garbitt noted \$4,200 is overtime. Some of the roadside tree cutting required police details and that is in overtime. Selectman Evirs said there is an \$8,500 increase in hourly wages. Ms. Garbitt said three (3) employees moved a step; there is now only one employee that is not at the top step. Chair Yeatts asked about the repairs and maintenance on vehicles. Ms. Garbitt said we switched supplies and repair and maintenance into contracted services. Building repair and maintenance has been reduced. Roger Hamilton usually had a surplus in that item. We increased supplies and machinery and other contracted services and decreased repair and maintenance for the building and vehicles. If McGee Chevrolet supplies the parts and works, that would all come out of repair and maintenance. If we supply the parts and someone else fixes it, then it is from two separate accounts. Chair Yeatts asked about an increase for gas? Ms. Garbitt said that the Highway Department is okay. Mr. Peck said he has looked at some of the catch basins that need to be repaired, and he needs to order brick for repairs. Discussion occurred about the skidder. Mr. Peck thought the backhoe is a greater need. It needs about \$20,000 in repairs. Selectman Evirs said we had an opportunity to get a used backhoe. The used skidder was looking at \$7-8,000 in repairs. Chair Yeatts said they have moved the backhoe up two (2) years. Mr. Peck thought they could get by for a year. Selectman Evirs said the smaller machine was good for retention basins. Mr. Peck said we have trenches on the side of the roads that need a backhoe. Selectman Evirs asked if he wanted the other machine. Mr. Peck said he was not saying that, but move the backhoe to next year. Selectman Evirs asked if he wanted to spend that money. Mr. Peck said it would make sense to rent one for a big project. Mr. Bates noted that his backhoe repairs were \$4,000. Chair Yeatts said to rent one in an emergency, and we will move it up a year.

Police Department

Mark Sorel, Police Chief, is present for the discussion. Selectman Evirs asked for an explanation for the total increase. Chief Sorel said there are contractual increases and two (2) new officers. One new officer will replace Patrick Curneen, who is retiring. He increased the clothing allowance by \$1,100 per new officer, and overtime, which is hard to predict. Chair Yeatts asked who said to increase the clothing allowance; Chief Sorel said it is in the contract. Ms. Garbitt told the Selectmen she has recommended Request 1. Chief Sorel said the first column deals with one (1) new officer. In 1989, we had 18 officers. Since then 996 homes have been built, the MBTA has come in, and we have a lot of new industrial space. We have less officers than we had in 1989. What services should we not provide? He has been told to level fund constantly. The only reason we have 16 officers is from a grant and National Development. In Freetown, they are possibly putting in a Walmart; Raynham has 300 extra calls from their Walmart. We are just under 10,000 calls a year. Chief Sorel said he has called Sherry Clancy from National Development about paying for the officer for one (1) more year and she said she will review it. The Quinn bill gives \$64,000 back, COPS grant last year was \$34,550. This is the last year for that grant. Chair Yeatts asked about the population growth. Chief Sorel said it was

just under 5,700 in 1989, technically we are under 10,000 for the 2000 census, but we are over that now. There were 996 new households, three cars per household, and the MBTA traffic. Ms. Garbitt said the traffic from the National Development project is going to be significant. Chief Sorel said the Selectmen have mentioned that we don't have any complaints. You don't wait till the complaints come in. He noted in Expenses, gasoline is \$37,000 so far this year. The average is \$4,600 per month. Ms. McRae noted they are 25% over budget. Ms. Garbitt said the Police will be \$30,000 short this year with a \$30,000 budget. Chief Sorel said the gasoline is the increase in expenses. The cost for the gasoline delivery was discussed.

Sealers of Weights and Measures

Chair Yeatts asked about the \$699. Chief Sorel explained that was for equipment that we need.

Treasurer/Collector

Debra Kenney, Treasurer/Tax Collector, is present for the discussion. Ms. Kenney noted that health insurance is the biggest hit. Selectman Evirs noted it was up 18% overall. Ms. Garbitt said the school has three (3) full time para professionals which would be another \$42,000. Ms. Kenney said this includes one retired teacher, plus a replacement teacher. We can't project because there are qualifying events: divorce, death, elections. She believed that the Town needs to eliminate stipends for elected officials. For one (1) elected employee at six (6) years its \$75,000. Retirement at 20 years could be \$250,000. We need to address this. We need a Health Advisory Board. Someone from each Department plus an employee and a union representative from each one. At some point in time, we will need to increase contribution levels of employees. If we compensate an elected official, they have to be eligible for health insurance. Freetown and Middleborough have given it up. Chair Yeatts said to try to get qualified people in elected positions, you need to have something to entice them. The amount of time it takes, people give things up. Look at Freetown, the shape they are in. Ms. Garbitt said Freetown paid stipends to all their Boards. Every town is different. Selectman Evirs said the Board of Health, Selectmen, Assessors and Moderator are elected official with stipends and they are eligible for insurance. Ms. Kenney said the tax title accounts will be in the red due to attorney fees. She needs a revolving account for tax title monies. Ms. McRae said it is how you allocate them. You need to raise on the recap sheet, budget it there. Take into consideration this money is not available to be spent at Town Meeting. Ms. McRae said a revolving account is already set up, but no one deposits to it. We haven't isolated estimated receipts for a long time. Ms. Kenney said we bring in a lot, but it goes into free cash. Ms. McRae said whatever you pay in legal fees, it is reimbursable. Selectman Evirs said it goes back into the general fund; we are funding it from the general fund. Ms. Garbitt said Ms. Kenney has already spent \$4,000 this year, but she needs another \$7,000. Ms. Kenney said it is all reimbursable. Ms. McRae said it is not always a wash in the same Fiscal Year, that's why the State lets you put it on the recap sheet. We need permission from Town Meeting to set up a revolving account. Selectman Evirs said if you come short, fund it at Special Town Meeting.

Board of Health

Terrence Flynn and Jennifer Turcotte, Board of Health members, are present for the discussion. Chair Yeatts asked how many hours does Joe Beneski work? Ms. Garbitt said 15 per week. Ms. Turcotte said that whatever extra money there is in the budget is for raises. Ms. Flynn said the Animal Inspector, Jared Darling, has asked for more money. Ms. Turcotte said she has been fielding questions from employees on increases. Ms. Garbitt said if an employee is at the top step, it is whatever the raise is for the year. Salaried positions get what Department heads get. Everyone is treated the same. FY08 is a 2% increase. We do the same for non-union as union. Ms. Garbitt said that Larry Perry, Health Agent, does not fall within Wage and Personnel. Ms. Flynn said that he uses his own vehicle, but the Town's mileage reimbursement is low. Ms. McRae said it is \$.37 per mile, lower than the Federal rate. Selectman Evirs said you can claim the balance on your income taxes as a non reimbursed expense. Ms. Garbitt said a new vehicle was approved by Capital Expenditure last night. Ms. Garbitt said Jared Darling is the current Animal Inspector, which is separate from ACO. He goes out on dog bites and stable inspections. Ms. Turcotte said that Bill Garvey, Chairman of the Board of Heath, was looking at increasing the fee for stable permits. Some of the stables that we have are large, that may be an appropriate source of revenue. Ms. Garbitt said that once an employee is regularly scheduled over 15 hours, you have to watch health insurance. Ms. Turcotte said she thinks Mr. Darling can accomplish what he does in less than that. Chair Yeatts noted that he only gets \$2,000 for 500 hours a year. Stable permits are \$25? Ms. Turcotte said yes, we are considering modifying per horse or per square feet. Chair Yeatts said the Board of Health can increase all their own fees. Mr. Flynn said we were talking about how much to go up. Ms. Garbitt said to figure out your estimated increase, increase estimated receipts that much, and then increase your budget that amount. Mr. Flynn said they were working on a \$6,000 increase. Ms. Garbitt asked how will you figure the compensation to the Animal Inspector. It's an annual payment. Mr. Flynn asked if we are allowed to pay it monthly or quarterly. Selectman Evirs said to just adjust the fees at a meeting.

Ms. Turcotte asked if there is any flexibility in the salary that is allotted for the Board members. Can it be allocated differently. If she wanted to waive her stipend, could that money go to Mr. Perry? Ms. Garbitt said no. Ms. Turcotte said he really does a great job. It should go to where it should for a job well done. Chair Yeatts said to go through the process for the stable inspections and get back to us. Selectman Evirs said to figure out how to do it and get back to us. This would affect next year. Ms. Turcotte said he does the inspections in the spring. Selectman Evirs said to change the rates immediately. Ms. Turcotte said if they raise the rates and they bring in extra revenue, could it be addressed at the Special Town Meeting. Ms. Garbitt said no. Chair Yeatts said to work towards getting the permits increased, and on July 1, 2007, he would start getting the increase. Mr. Flynn said if we raise \$3,000 more, we will get \$3,000 more for Mr. Darling next year? Ms. Turcotte asked how we go about insuring he will get that money since it goes into the general fund. Selectman Evirs said we can't increase Mr. Darling's salary until you increase your fees. Ms. McRae asked if there were other fees you might want to increase? Ms. Turcotte said we only increase the septic permit fees unless they wanted to accelerate the schedule and pay for an outside consultant. Ms. Garbitt said the Building Department reviews their fees every couple of years. Chair Yeatts said the gasoline has not been increased. Ms. Turcotte said last year we were pretty good with that. Ms. Garbitt said they

should take out repair and maintenance of vehicle since they are getting a new vehicle. Selectman Evirs said that \$100 should be left in repair and maintenance for a vehicle.

Fire Department

Daniel Hopkins, Fire Chief, is present for the discussion. Selectman Evirs asked Chief Hopkins to explain the \$109,000 increase in Request 1. Chief Hopkins said it is for one (1) new fulltime person and one (1) to replace the position when Arthur Linton retires. He will be retiring in January of 2008. Request 2 is for three (3) additional firefighters, on top of the new person requested in Request 1. Ms. Garbitt said this does not address the additional cost to assessment for pension and health insurance. Selectman Evirs asked if the additional people are reflected in the health insurance. Ms. Garbitt said yes, only two (2). There are other costs, such as worker's compensation. Selectman Evirs asked if this is reflective of what we have been discussing. Chief Hopkins said yes. Selectman Evirs asked about the expense of personal equipment? Chief Hopkins said he will be using existing protective gear. Chief Hopkins noted they are running at about \$1,000 a month for gasoline. Ms. McRae noted there are two (2) different types: diesel and gasoline, but most Departments simply say gasoline. Selectman Evirs said we may want to break this down into two (2) different accounts: gasoline and diesel. Ms. McRae said we have an internal management report for gasoline consumption.

Park Department

Daniel Hopkins, Park Commissioner, is present for the discussion. Chair Yeatts asked about the hourly wages and maintenance increase. Mr. Hopkins said in Request 2 we are moving towards bringing back a full time person. Now there are two (2) guys from the Highway that are there. There are times that more could get done with another person. One (1) person cannot take care of everything. Chair Yeatts said so you would still have two (1) highway and another person? Mr. Hopkins said yes, based in the Park. Chair Yeatts asked who would be responsible for that person. Mr. Hopkins said the last two (2) people we had were not that good of employees. Previously before that, we had good workers who worked all the time. Selectman Evirs asked if they were part time. Mr. Hopkins said yes. Ms. Garbitt said if Highway is going to share a Landfill person that might help. Selectman Evirs asked if we still need a part time person at the park. Mr. Hopkins said once spring comes, we can use a part time employee. We mostly use that employee on weekends. Trash needs to be picked up, clean the commissary building, but in the winter we don't need this person. Selectman Evirs asked about the hourly wages for guards? Mr. Hopkins said those are life guards. Chair Yeatts asked about the auxiliary staff? Mr. Hopkins said that is part time maintenance at Clear Pond and John Paun Park. We use them at Ted Williams too. Mr. Hopkins asked if there will be \$55,000 from the General Fund. Ms. Garbitt said that is the recommendation. Mr. Hopkins said that is similar to last year's budget.

Town Accountant

Cynthia McRae, Town Accountant, is present for the discussion. Selectman Evirs asked for an explanation of the increase. Ms. McRae said that Laurie Catalano qualified for longevity, went up a step and her raise. There is also money in there for a part time staff person. We made

need to add some more licenses and modules for computer services. Ms. Garbitt said that Accounting really needs another full time person. Ms. McRae said she needs someone that can sign payroll and warrants. Selectman Evirs asked if the assistant could be a part timer. Ms. Garbitt said the ideal would be a full time assistant and a part time clerical.

Town Clerk

Ms. Garbitt said there is a small savings under salary for the Assistant Town Clerk. The Town Clerk has increased her budget by \$40. Chair Yeatts said that for a long time, we had a part timer there. It was my understanding that that position was part time when we knew Sandy Horton was going to retire. Jan Tracy came down to become Assistant Town Clerk because we anticipated Ms. Horton's retirement. Ms. Garbitt said that Ms. Horton wanted an Assistant Town Clerk, but the previous part time Clerk did not want to work full time. When she quit, Ms. Horton brought a new job description to the Wage and Personnel Board for a 40 hour a week Assistant. Chair Yeatts asked when? Ms. Garbitt said in the end of 2006. Ms. Tracy had been working in there the two (2) days a week that the part time Clerk was not in there.

Elections

Ms. Garbitt said the Town Clerk needs three (3) new voting packs. That is the increase under professional supplies. The ink ribbon can only be used for one (1) election.

Registration

This budget remained the same.

Historical Commission

The budget for the Historic Town House remained the same.

There was no increase in the Historical Commission budget.

Building Department

Ms. Garbitt noted there was a decrease because of the software that was bought for \$7,500. Chair Yeatts noted that the salary went up \$10,000. Selectman Evirs said that was due to a negotiated contract. In 07, he was not there the entire year.

Inspectors

Ms. Garbitt said she reviewed this with Jim Marot. The Inspectors are paid from the fees collected. More than enough was collected because they are only paid so much per inspection. However, usually at the Special Town Meeting, monies need to be allocated because these are always under budgeted. Ms. McRae said she does not have any statutory authority to deficit spend in these accounts. Ms. Garbitt said the bills are submitted monthly. Selectman Evirs said

these increases are more reflective of the actual payments. We can increase estimated receipts to offset these fees.

Board of Selectmen

Ms. Garbitt reviewed maintenance and grounds hourly wages. The custodian at the Library has notified her that he is dropping the Library. He only wants to do the COA, but he has been telling me ten (10) hours at the library is not enough. He will stay through the summer. She wants to increase the library to 15 hours a week at Step 1, which would be a savings. Selectman Evirs asked if we have looked at contracting that out. Ms. Garbitt said we used to have the Town Office Building contracted out, and it didn't work well. Selectman Evirs said a building like the Library is different. Ms. Garbitt said some of the work at the COA, like setting up tables and chairs is hard to do with a contracted service. Mr. Mello has worked out nicely. Selectman Evirs asked does he clean when the Library is open. Ms. Garbitt said no, usually at night. Selectman Evirs said that could be an outside contractor. Ms. Garbitt said we could consider that for the Library. Chair Yeatts asked about the clothing allowance. Ms. Garbitt said that is for jackets, t-shirts and pants for the custodian. She has also increased the advertising budget.

Legal Budget

Chair Yeatts said she thought Ms. Garbitt was going to increase this. You have recommended against your own increase. Ms. Garbitt said we will exceed our legal budget this year. We usually average around \$5,000 per month, but will budget the same amount for FY08.

Town Office & Fire Station

Ms. Garbitt said this budget is pretty much the same. The repair and maintenance for office equipment is not just for this department. It includes many Departments, the Treasurer's copier, all paper and supplies, legal books. The postage machine lease is in this budget. She will be budgeting rubbish removal and remove it from contracted services. The telephone expense is all Departments except Highway, Police and Fire. Other contracted services are the computer network service.

Town Reports

Ms. Garbitt said there was \$1,500 budgeted and the quote came in at just under \$1,300.

Cable Advisory

Ms. Garbitt said the Cable Advisory Commission feels that they need \$5,000 for legal expenses.

General Government

Ms. Garbitt said there is \$8,000 for prior year expenses. June 30th is the end of the fiscal year; we have 15 days to receive the bills for the previous fiscal year. Some departments don't manage to do that. Right now we have \$3,000 left out of the \$8,000. Contracted services/secretarial covers the committee fees, except for Planning Board and Conservation Commission. She also uses this for emergency labor. Because we don't have enough budgeted in the Assistant Animal Control Officer account, she taps into this. There is about \$4,000 left in this account. She needs to budget \$1.00 for postage, the Treasurer's Office runs this and it is allocated out between Departments. General supplies are town wide. Fuel and gasoline is allocated amongst Departments.

Animal Shelter

Ms. Garbitt noted she increased the Assistants so she does not have to go into emergency labor. She raised the supplies from \$15,000 to \$20,000. We are making money from bringing the dogs from other communities to make up the difference.

Street lighting

Ms. Garbitt felt this needed to be increased by \$1,000.

Historic library

Ms. Garbitt felt this budget could be reduced next year. Our share of the heat will be for the first floor only. Selectman Evirs asked if that had a separate source of heat. Ms. Garbitt said it was oil on one floor, gas on the other. However, the tenants will pay the electricity for the whole building. Selectman Evirs asked about reducing heat to \$500? Ms. Garbitt said she thought not yet. There is \$2,100 left on the total budget. Heat will be in the negative. Selectman Evirs asked if the tenant assumed heat and electricity for March 1st. Ms. Garbitt said yes. We are billing them for the services.

Property & Liability Insurance

Ms. Garbitt said that she has increased that by \$10,000. She has not gotten the new estimates yet.

Moderator

Ms. Garbitt said that budget remains the same.

Board of Assessors

Janet Black, member of Board of Assessors, is present for the discussion. Chair Yeatts thought that since they are getting a new vehicle, they could remove \$2,000 from repair and maintenance and leave \$300 in there. Ms. McRae said to change the line item to be supplies

motor vehicle. Selectman Evirs asked why are we getting a new vehicle if it only uses 9% of the gasoline for 3/4s of the year. That does not warrant a new vehicle. Chair Yeatts asked if this was from July 1st. Ms. McRae said yes and wondered if the Field Clerk was using someone else's key code? Chair Yeatts said this figure doesn't make sense. Ms. Garbitt said she spoke to Norman about a car allowance, but he is not interested. Selectman Evirs asked who else uses the car. Ms. Black said Norman usually, but Jaime is using it now since he has been out sick. We have to inspect all the houses. Selectman Evirs said something is wrong with that; we need a mileage log on the vehicles. Chair Yeatts said especially with the new vehicle. Ms. Garbitt said they only spent \$110 this year on repairs and maintenance, but she knew there were major issues with the car. Selectman Evirs said since they don't drive it much, give them a vehicle that isn't that worn out. Can we give them the Fire Chief's Blazer? Ms. Garbitt said we would like to try an energy efficient vehicle. Ms. Black said we want a gasoline efficient vehicle. Chair Yeatts said it doesn't need to be a hybrid, just something that gets better gas mileage than a Crown Victoria. Ms. Black said they can do with a small vehicle. Selectman Evirs said if that vehicle is not being driven that much, 5,000 miles a year, why would we want to buy a brand new vehicle. Chair Yeatts said she would agree if she felt this was accurate. Ms. Garbitt said they drove 1,700 miles in 11 months according to the last vehicle mileage reading. In 2006, the mileage was 4,000 miles. Chief Hopkins car is a 1999 with mileage of 84,000. He is looking to replace his vehicle in 2010. There is some work that needs to be done on Chief Hopkin's vehicle. Selectman Evirs said it doesn't seem logical to buy a new vehicle for this Department. The Blazer is not used up. Chair Yeatts said so if we do this, we need to leave the repair and maintenance on there. Selectman Yeatts said depending on what way we go, this would also affect the Capital Expenditure Plan. Ms. Garbitt noted the Capital Expenditure Committee would have to meet again. Ms. Black said Norman is concerned about abuse of his personal vehicle if he takes a car allowance. She will bring it up to him again. Ms. Garbitt said we could do a car allowance on a monthly basis. Ms. Garbitt said the repair and maintenance of the building was reduced from 07, because the building has been painted. That was approved in their budget last year.

Ms. Garbitt said she wants to meet again with the Selectmen and go over the summary. We need to decide how we want to proceed with the summary. Should we wait until the upcoming election? She needs to get this to the Finance Committee. She did update it with the assessment from the Region. She is not sure what the Selectmen want to recommend. She did not include the additional needs.

Adjournment

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

VOTED: To adjourn the meeting at 7:42 PM.