

SELECTMEN'S MEETING
Thursday, September 21, 2006

On September 21, 2006, the Board of Selectmen held a meeting at 7:30 PM at the Assawompsett Elementary School in Lakeville. The meeting was called to order by Chairman LaCamera at 7:30 PM. Selectmen present were: Selectman LaCamera, Selectman Yeatts and Selectman Evirs. Also present were: Rita Garbitt, Town Administrator, and Christine Weston, Recording Secretary.

Finance Committee Members present: Richard Velez, Robert Hill, Martha Weeks-Green, Stephen Olivier and Gary Mansfield. Their meeting was called to order at 7:31 PM.

Lakeville School Committee Members present: Carolyn Gomes, Charlene Shea, David Goodfellow, Philip Oliveira and Lorraine Carboni. Their meeting was called to order at 7:32 PM.

Representative of the Regional School Committee: Cindy Benard

Also present: Superintendent Dr. Stephen Furtado and Director of Finance Mr. Louis Rodrigues

1. FY 2006

a. Review actual vs. budget as of 6/30/06

Chairman LaCamera distributed an agenda for the evening and other pertinent information related to the Out-of-District-Special Ed budget, budget reductions, educational costs for Lakeville, etc. Chairman LaCamera stated that the budget needs to be reduced by \$200,000, and he went on to explain why. It is projected that there will be less in new growth, \$9,000 less in State Aid than was originally anticipated and the Town has been notified that there is a \$66,000 increase in out-of-district costs. The Selectmen have not had a chance to meet with the Finance Committee to discuss a proposal yet, but some ideas will be discussed this evening. Nothing will be firmly decided on tonight, however there are areas that could be worked on.

Proposal: \$20,000 was left in the Master Plan account, which was mostly funded by grants. The Landfill budget can be reduced by \$10,000. \$25,000 can be used from the Stabilization Fund for one time budget items/purchases. The Town does not fund people/positions from the Stabilization Fund. The Superintendent has informed the Town that only eight (8) students are going to Bristol Agricultural, thus there is a \$28,000 reduction in Out-of-District Vocational Education spending. Looking at the excise taxes and licenses, it is felt that local receipts can be increased by \$25,000. This will be reviewed with the Finance Committee. The Board of Assessors have been working on the New Growth number, but it still has not been finalized as of yet. It is anticipated that it can be increased by \$53,000 rather than \$28,000, but this is still an estimate. Thus, if all this is done, then the total reductions to the budgets either need to be \$39,000 or \$92,000.

Mr. Goodfellow stated to clarify the fact that the money could be taken from Stabilization, however, historically this is not done, but it could happen if needed. Chairman LaCamera responded that it could, but that is why a lot of Towns get into trouble, since they do that and it is not a good financial practice to do. If the Town had to layoff staff, then we would absolutely talk about doing that. But it does not seem to be the case here.

b. Actual vs. budget for Out-of-District Special Education

Chairman LaCamera stated that he would like to take one agenda item out of order, it is important to everyone since it has to do with Out-of-District Special Education. There seems to be a little confusion as to the budget that was approved in May, as to the revised numbers that were given to the Town. There was a number of students that was put into the budget originally, and now it has increased from these eight (8) students to fourteen students and some of the costs of the programs went from \$15,000 to almost \$30,000.

Anne St. Pierre, Special Ed Director explained that the original budget was based upon actual enrollment at that time. Two (2) changes in student placements occurred which caused the budget to be short \$46,000. There was also a change in the tuition at the Clarke School. Originally the tuition was projected at just over \$15,000 for two (2) students. The new tuition for the school is almost

\$30,000 for two (2) students. It was originally thought that since the students only spend ½ days at the school that the tuition would also be cut in half, this is not the case. Chairman LaCamera stated that when everyone went through the budget process, it was asked if there were any changes to please inform the Town immediately, since it has an immediate effect on the Town, not just Assawompsett School, since everyone shares in the costs. The Town sent out the memo in June about potential budget cuts. We would have liked to have known that there was going to be another \$66,000 to have to deal with. Ms. St. Pierre explained that she guards Out-of-district placements with her life, however, it is what some students need and as part of her role, she will keep the Superintendent very well informed about the tuitions and the Out-of-District placements.

Chairman LaCamera went on that as far as the 2006 budget, the Town asked the School Department to provide the actual budget through June 30, 2006 vs. the Budgeted amounts. The expectation here may have been a little different than what was provided. The Town wanted the actual costs, not the anticipated and it was thought it would be included. Mr. Rodriguez responded that the date up in the corner is the date the report closed out and it is for the ending period of 06. Chairman LaCamera responded that there is an anticipated column and would you not know the actual at this point? Mr. Rodriguez answered that that column is an appendage and should have been dropped.

c. Review encumbrances for FY2006

Chairman LaCamera asked how the School Committee budgeted \$7,000 but encumbered \$22,000? Mr. Oliveira explained that the money was encumbered to transfer to the Town at the end of the year for legal fees. The transfers were made into that account, there was a document inserted into your packet that shows the transfers that were made. Chairman LaCamera stated that the balance did not increase even though when transferred in between the accounts. If these are supposed to be the actuals, it should have been updated of the actual transfers that were done. Ms. Carboni explained that the transfers were done and reflected after June 30th and then voted on. Mr. Rodriguez added that they were done with the necessary amount of money to cover those expenses. In order to pick up the costs of the custodian, this needed to be done since at the end of the year money was left over to cover bills for the Town. Chairman LaCamera asked if the custodian was for the Intermediate School. Didn't the Local School Committee decide not to fund that position? Ms. Carboni answered in the affirmative.

Chairman LaCamera asked where did the \$14,000 that was saved for the water bill get transferred to. Mr. Rodriguez responded that he believed it was absorbed in some of the other line items. There was a savings, and it was used it in a variety of other areas within that function. The Town Administrator commented that this budget is very confusing for the Town Accountant. Usually one would see it transferred into the particular lines of the budget. Normally Department Heads transfer within the accounts and show the balance and what was transferred. Mr. Oliveira explained that the School Committee also changed its policy on how they transfer money.

The Town Administrator mentioned that the \$20,000 reduction that was voted at Town Meeting should be reflected in the grand total and not encumbered by the School Committee. Mr. Oliveira responded, encumber but do not spend and give back to the Town. It is a place holder for the money so that at the end of the year it is still available. Mr. Mansfield asked if there was \$20,000 that the School Department did not have a use for and instead encumbered it? Dr. Furtado explained that there was a \$20,000 bill that the School Department had to reimburse the Town so we encumbered it to identify that it could not be used for anything else. Mr. Oliveira added that this was decided at Town Meeting.

e. Detail review of the actual vs. budget for GRAIS

Chairman LaCamera asked about the budget for the Intermediate School. Was anything left over in the budget? Dr. Furtado responded that at first glance no. \$6,500 did go back to the Town for the K-4 piece of Lakeville's share. Chairman LaCamera stated that the report he saw showed the June 30th balance was \$78,000. Mr. Rodriguez explained that the one he was looking at, the July 14th, it actually shows a deficit of \$1,369.62 on page 7. Chairman LaCamera stated that with the overall budget at the

Region, there was a balance in the account so doesn't that trickle down to Assawompsett, a percentage of the costs? Mr. Rodriguez explained that the Intermediate School budget is for the 5th grade, the 4th grade is for Assawompsett. Chairman LaCamera stated that if there is an amount left in the Region, then a part of that cost is supposed to be allocated to Assawompsett, and it did not take place. I.E. if there is an expense of \$30,000 and the Town is responsible for 35%, and the \$100,000 is only \$90,000 is the Town getting the benefit of the total cost of that item? Mr. Rodriguez explained that with the Intermediate chargeback's, until this is changed, the School Department is governed by a certain percentage.

Mr. Oliveira mentioned that if the \$78,000 is all staff for the 5th grade, then it would be appropriate to show the Region only. But if it is other things, then it should be reflected Locally. Mr. Rodriguez explained that one would have to look at it line by line to see if any of those line items actually change. Mr. Oliveira stated that it could have. Chairman LaCamera stated that this was just the Intermediate School. Mr. Goodfellow stated that it probably was. It was based on actuals. Mr. Oliveira stated that if the budget was put together based on the same percentage that was assigned to it, then it should have been across all three (3) components. But if it was not put together that way, then we would see a decline.

f. Analysis of charge backs for GRAIS

Chairman LaCamera stated that the School Committee does not have to look at the charge backs now, but the School Committee should look at it. Another thing is the fuel chargeback for the cost of the pool. If you look at the total budget for the fuel costs for the building itself (\$90,000), the chargeback for the pool is only approximately \$5,900. If this figure is correct for FY06, then the Town is paying a substantial amount for fuel for that building and Com Rec is only being charged back \$5,900. Does anyone really think the cost of the pool is only \$5900? Dr. Furtado responded that the Facilities Director said it was \$8 a day. At this time, we cannot tell the Town what it costs to heat the pool, but the School Department is now looking at the specific costs of operating that pool. It is \$51,000 before anyone gets wet, and the actual readings of the electricity are real. It is agreed that a pool of that magnitude heated would be potentially higher, but the Facilities Director provided those figures and that is what is being used. Chairman LaCamera stated that the budget is going up \$124,000 and Com Rec will be paying only \$5700 of the \$124,000. This is wrong, substantially wrong.

Mr. Velez explained that the heat loss on a pool like that is enormous. He added that he has since worked with the Superintendent and is aware of the fact that in the future this will be analyzed more closely. It does not sound balanced, it should cost more. Mr. Oliveira explained that that is what was used last year, based on feedback from the Facilities Director. Does the \$124,000 seem right? Chairman LaCamera responded that he did not know, but the Town is paying \$50,000 to heat the Intermediate School for the 4th grade and only paying \$67,000 to heat the entire Assawompsett building which houses grades K-3. Something is not right.

Mr. Rodriguez explained that the School Department can certainly take a look at this and find out if it was winter or summer months. There is no problem allocating the true costs. That is how it should be. Chairman LaCamera explained that that is agreed, but the cost of the fuel is exorbitant. Every cost that gets charged to the Intermediate School gets charged to Assawompsett, but every dollar that is saved gets put back into Assawompsett. Mr. Oliveira explained that actual readings are being taken on heating the building. It was tough with all the changes in the fuel prices so some adjustments had to be made. It is a bigger building.

Mr. Velez mentioned that yesterday he had a discussion with the Facilities Director and until an actual physical layout of the boilers is seen, it is not known if this is being looked at correctly. How this was explained was that there is a shared boiler that fed the building and the School, so we will have to mathematically calculate the heat loss on the pool, then btu's, the burn rate and that is on the nozzles. We may need telemetry to get more real figures, but without looking at it, I do not know what number would be close. This is a priority and will be looked at next week. Dr. Furtado stated that the only way to determine this more precisely would be to dedicate a boiler to the pool itself. It is known

that the pool is draining on all the budgets. Com Rec cannot solely support that pool based on the revenue that it is generating for pool lessons and swim teams which is limited. If the cost of fuel is higher than expected, the cost would only go up more and drive their deficit even further. Com Rec discussed this last night and the mood around the table is that they are not going to close the pool, but it is very expensive to run and if everyone wants it, then we need to come to grips that Com Rec cannot do it alone. It is a wonderful luxury to have the pool, and if people had to go elsewhere it might be a dramatic cost. However, since it has been open for a year we can find out the costs, but if it is more than \$51,000 then we need to have some pretty interesting conversations on what to do with the pool.

Ms. Weeks-Green stated that when the agreement for GRAIS was put together, even the State said there has never been anything like this done, with the community use component. It is not an isolated issue but it is at the heart of a lot of problems we are having here and maybe we will need a committee to discuss that. Mr. Oliveira explained that eight (8) gallons was the estimate. This will be looked at to try and allocate the costs to try to keep the pool open. This year the approach has changed for the eight (8) gallons for the budget year, and hopefully with the help of Mr. Velez, the School Committee will be able to do something better for next year. Chairman LaCamera stated that the same thing needs to be done with the electricity. Mr. Oliveira responded that the same approach will be used for that as well. Chairman LaCamera stated that the electric meters were to be used but the Town is still getting allocated a percentage of the total electric bill for the Region. The Town has said that they would pay the total share of its costs, but for both these areas it is very high. The Town asked for the information last year and this year and now everyone is talking about additional chargeback's. It was 35%, and it is now 42% for the 4th grade chargeback's. The Town is paying a pretty significant portion of these hefty bills (heating oil, electricity). If the Town could save 5% or even 10%, it is a significant amount of money. These two (2) issues are key to the chargeback's and for Assawompsett. When is this going to get this resolved? Mr. Oliveira explained that the School Committee had a very successful meeting last night towards a resolution and feels that they came quite a bit forward on the fuel and electricity. A copy was given to the Town Administrator of what was arrived at. It is more specific and a better approach. It has been a long road. Longer than it should have been, but we continue to go down it in the right direction. Mr. Velez stated that he would make it a priority to focus on those two points, the fuel usage and the electricity.

Chairman LaCamera stated that the Town of Lakeville is committed to paying 100% of its costs, but nothing towards the pool unless the Region wants to. So the pool should not be charged back to Lakeville in the Assawompsett budget. The Town is not paying for the use of the building. If any other organization like Com Rec or the Before and After School Program use the building, they need to pay a percentage of the cost since 42% is a huge dollar amount. There was an override of \$485,000 to cover the operating budget of that building. There have been a number of letters sent to the School Committee and the Finance Committee about these particular issues and now everyone is talking about budget concerns. No one wants to gut the Assawompsett budget, but the allocation of costs from the Intermediate School need to be looked at since they really seem to be higher than they need to be. It is felt that the School Committee and the Finance Committee also agrees with this. Mr. Oliveira mentioned that the School Committee did have a very productive meeting last night towards resolving this matter.

Ms. Weeks-Green stated that she would like to take some time to determine what else is needed to remediate. The past few weeks have been eye opening. It had been forgotten that there was no Business Manager for eight (8) months and the auditor could not find the records to do the audit. The Superintendent and the Business Manager are doing a great job and need to be supported. It is most likely that since Dr. Flynn left and Dr. Furtado came in, more was probably lost in the interim. A plan needs to be put in place to iron all of this out and make the process smoother for all parties concerned. Mr. Velez stated that he sensed tonight that there was some frustration on how the reports were generated. It is not clear how the money is moving, titles are wrong, is it a software issue, and if it is software driven then it should be adjusted to reduce the confusion when people look at the reports. Mr. Rodriguez explained that he is not completely happy with the software and the document that was

produced, but there was a column that should have been dropped. The rest is clear. That is not a tough adjustment, and it will be made. Mr. Goodfellow explained that the column had been added for the School Committee to show the progress throughout the year. Mr. Oliveira explained that adjustments have been made on what the School Committee looks at and how. The Town and the Finance Committee is seeing a lot of the ongoing changes that have been made, and it is new to them. The responsibility of the School Committee is to oversee the School Department and this is being done as a committee. This may not be clear to others this evening since a few budget years are being looked at. Ms. Weeks-Green asked if the School Committee had the tools that they needed? Mr. Oliveira explained that when the School Committee asks for tools this year it will be in the form of a budget request and discussion can take place then. The School Committee does make decisions between software and education and other decisions, but will continue to make requests and look for support.

Mr. Mansfield stated that everyone realizes that there are some significant issues to address, but maybe if a timetable is put into place for when this will be resolved then a deadline might help get this done. A particular date when this all will be implemented and how it will be implemented. Otherwise, even with the best of intentions this may be pushed aside if something else comes up. Chairman LaCamera stated that this it is very important, the Town is either going to cut \$39,000 or \$90,000. That is huge. Mr. Mansfield explained that last thing he wants to see is Assawompsett gutted to the point of the benefit of the Intermediate School. He is not for putting one school against another. Mr. Oliveira explained that the School Committee did have a date set, yet missed it by two (2) weeks. The budget shortfall and having to work with Freetown is another consideration that needs to be kept in mind. Mr. Mansfield asked when the School Committee/Department can reallocate the expenses between the Intermediate School and Assawompsett? Mr. Oliveira explained that that was done yesterday.

Dr. Furtado asked, if, between now and October 10th, Mr. Velez might find it humanly possible to do the heat and fuel analysis so that the School Department can more clearly know the figures going into the Special Town Meeting? If this is the target date, then we will all push hard. This is a swing of about \$58,000 that needs to be resolved. The analysis will help the School Department determine the actuals to know the budgets for the schools. Mr. Oliveira explained that the School Committee did an analysis yesterday. He did not see how that will help on the 10th of October. Dr. Furtado stated that it will make people feel more comfortable if the School Department can identify the amounts. It would show that this can be more accurate. But until it is known what the meters readings are what the boilers are doing no, one will not know. Mr. Oliveira stated that it is all incremental though. It is looking like \$12,600 this year and last year it was half that amount, so it doubled it this year. No one wants to be in the position that drives the answer that there is no money for the pool to continue, and it is not felt that it will get to that point. He stated that he felt the allocation for the pool could take place without the need of this hanging out there until the 10th of October. Chairman LaCamera stated that the Town does not agree with that. The Town does not have anything to do with the pool, and the cost of the fuel and electricity for the pool, needs to be known. The Town is paying 42% and if 5% or 10% can be saved then this will help Assawompsett School. Mr. Oliveira agreed with this.

Mr. Mansfield asked what date would everyone feel comfortable with? Mr. Oliveira explained that he is comfortable with the costs, but does not understand what Mr. Velez just said, technically, and since he is the one doing the analysis, then he will need to provide the date. Mr. Mansfield explained that he was just trying to prioritize all this in the right way. Mr. Oliveira explained that the School Committee came up with an absorption profile to absorb the costs of the school. The first time the pool was in place it was eight (8) gallons a day and so this is why that amount was used. This year an absorption model was used, which took into consideration the programs in the building and what it cost to run the building. This model then doubled the allocation on the pool. Mr. Mansfield mentioned that the model may not be right either. It might be higher or lower, so there needs to be a date that the analysis will be available with more accurate numbers to go with.

Dr. Furtado mentioned that there is a separate electric meter for the pool, so it is then just taking analysis from the data. Mr. Velez added that as long as there is past data to show what the usage has

been, he can complete the analysis. Compiling that data will take care of the electric side. Mr. Oliveira stated that no cost associated with the pool should come across in the Town Warrant. It is complicated though since there is the fire suppression, and it holds the ambient heat, so there are pros and cons with the pool. The School Committee last night felt comfortable that these costs were reasonably accurate and this new study will enlighten us further, but it is not seen why it needs to happen by October 10th. Mr. Velez explained that it would be a push to get this done for January 1st since the data needs to be compiled. Mr. Oliveira stated that the School Committee did feel last night that the approach was a reasonable one to take place. Mr. Velez stated that if the projections here are close enough for now to be able to get comfortable with whether it is \$39,000 or \$90,000. Chairman LaCamera stated that this is an issue that needs to be resolved once and for all whether or not all the people present are still here in these positions. It needs to be documented, and it needs to be done. The Town needs the actual costs, and the Town will pay the actual cost to operate that building.

Mr. Velez stated that there are two (2) real concerns. One is an immediate budget issue, and then going forward that no one wants to be here again so the actual percentage is needed. Chairman LaCamera responded that that is correct. This matter has been discussed year after year after year after year. It is a reasonable request, since, quite frankly, everyone must be tired of having the same discussion. Mr. Velez stated that the actual numbers will be known sometime in January for the pool. The Town Administrator noted that each building has its own electric meter. It should be known how much each building is costing the region. Ms. Carboni stated that Chairman LaCamera asked the School Committee at the last School Committee meeting if they were comfortable with the chargeback's and the School Committee was not. If the School Committee was asked now, since there has been a lot of discussion, the answer would be yes. There may still be some work that needs to be done, but this committee is comfortable with this approach at this time. Mr. Oliveira reiterated that if the School Committee was asked again, one would find that the School Committee is much more comfortable than when asked before. Mr. Mansfield asked if it could be assumed that by January 15th Mr. Velez would have an answer with the electric and the fuel for the School Committee? The School Committee responded in the affirmative since Mr. Velez nodded that this could be done by that time. Mr. Oliveira stated that though January 15th may be a good date for Mr. Velez, however, for the School Committee it is just a policy change in how things are done. Mr. Rodriguez added that there are three (3) meters and the MG&E (Middleborough Gas & Electric Department) can be called about reading them. The Town Administrator noted that this is not up to the MG&E, it is up to the Facilities Manager. Mr. Rodriguez stated that each meter would then be read from one date to the next.

Chairman LaCamera referred to the #9 packet, page 4, regarding the Intermediate School. It must have been an oversight, but what was budgeted for the Intermediate School actually shows a savings of \$4,600. Dr. Furtado explained that this has not been done yet. It will be done in the next few weeks, when the actuals are there. Chairman LaCamera asked why there was such a significant difference in the cost between the Intermediate School Special Needs teachers and the amount Lakeville is paying? Dr. Furtado explained that it is based on the grade 4 students that require Special Needs Services. Mr. Rodriguez further added that it is a shift. That person was in the budget for last year, and a salary line item was added that says additional. That was the FY06 number. It was put into the actual classroom salary, thus that line does not exist anymore. It is only from last year. The salaries went up, and there may have been a change of degrees from Bachelors to Masters.

2. FY 2007 Budget

a. Detail review of 2007 budget

Chairman LaCamera then referred to page 6 regarding the Intermediate School charges for 07 since things have changed since town meeting. Dr. Furtado stated that nothing has changed. The Town Administrator asked about the new hires? Mr. Goodfellow explained that no one was hired. Chairman LaCamera noted that there was a \$23,000 increase for the custodian that was not voted to be paid for in 06 by the School Committee. So, what is the number being reduced by? Mr. Oliveira

responded \$42,516. Chairman LaCamera stated that that is then another \$5,000 savings. Mr. Oliveira explained that it is actually \$13,000 savings. The School Committee changed that last night. We are not taking that approach this year. This was not resolved until last night. It has been unresolved since July 24th. Mr. Rodriguez explained that this budget was originally handed into the Town by December which is really a very very early start in the process. But in order to be clear on it, it was voted on April 4th, and nothing was resolved until July of this year. Mr. Oliveira explained that the School Committee talked in depth about not budgeting this, and it was taken out again. Chairman LaCamera asked what was the custodian for? Mr. Oliveira responded that it was the pool possibly. Chairman LaCamera asked why it was in the Town's budget? Dr. Furtado responded that it is the other half of what the custodian does for the building and the rest is for the pool. Mr. Oliveira explained that the School Committee fixed that. It was not supposed to happen, but now the right people have been put in place and this has been fixed.

Chairman LaCamera stated that transportation was \$47,000 last year and now it has gone down to \$29,300. The question is why the Town has to pay when Freetown does not have to pay to have their Old Colony students ride the buses? Dr. Furtado responded that that was also adjusted last night. Mr. Oliveira cautioned that this should not be added up at this time. There is an offering being made to try and resolve the Town's issues. Dr. Furtado explained that the School Committee would like to use the money in other areas to benefit the students better. Mr. Oliveira explained that this is just a line by line and the School Committee will follow the Town's process and then will go to its own process after the Selectmen's process. Ms. Weeks-Green mentioned that end of the year transfers need to be taken into consideration. Chairman LaCamera stated that this is taking money from an account that is not going to be expended and then used elsewhere. Mr. Rodriguez mentioned that he would hesitate to say putting the \$23,900 into the budget was a mistake, a bus was paid for and the money was honestly put in there.

Chairman LaCamera referred to page #10, it was his understanding from attending the last School Committee meeting that there was a reduction of \$15,000 for transportation in Special Education? Dr. Furtado responded that that is correct. Chairman LaCamera asked about another salary line item. The school nurse at Assawompsett School is \$4,000 higher than anticipated? Dr. Furtado responded that that was correct. It was not anticipated that a nurse would be resigning in the summer.

3 & 4. Discuss Com Rec and the Before and After Program at GRAIS

Chairman LaCamera stated that discussions have taken place over the last few years regarding the allocation of costs both at the Regional level and the Intermediate School for the Before and After program and the Com Rec program. It is felt that Com Rec is not paying their fair cost for the operation of the buildings. Are they employees of the Region and are they involved in pension, health insurance costs? Dr. Furtado responded that yes, and some are. Chairman LaCamera asked who is paying the costs? Dr. Furtado responded that it is the Region. Chairman LaCamera asked if the property and liability insurance was being paid for by the Region? Dr. Furtado responded yes. Chairman LaCamera asked if it was known what the costs are and was the Region charged for everything? Dr. Furtado responded that it is in the Region's budget. Chairman LaCamera asked if the Town is paying for health insurance and if so, for how many? Dr. Furtado responded that it was two (2) he believed. Chairman LaCamera stated that he did not think the Town should be subsidizing the Com Rec Program and the Before and After School Programs with tax dollars. Dr. Furtado responded that this is not done. Chairman LaCamera stated that it was just stated that money is being taken out of the Region to pay for it. Mr. Rodriguez explained that it is in the Region's budget, and there is a line item that says. "Other Charges". It is broken down into the pool, Comrec, and the Before and After Program. If the Town pays for it, then they will pay it back. It should be #19. The programs have been broken down into seasons, and this will be sent to the Town. This is a composite of the entire year, and it is spread onto the next sheet and that is, as of, July 1st. No expenses, just the budget. The sheet after that is all expenses to date, for Com Rec and the pool.

Chairman LaCamera asked if the numbers from 07 were in there? Mr. Rodriguez responded that it is in there. That is the 07 budget. Chairman LaCamera stated that he did not see anything in there for health insurance costs. Dr. Furtado explained that it does not break it down there. Mr. Rodriguez further explained that it is where the Director position is, a portion of his budget. The salary coming out of the Region itself right now is a one time decision and also health insurance is in there. It is probably about \$12,000. Ms. Weeks-Green asked if there was a separate charge for property and liability insurance, and would it decrease if Com Rec went away tomorrow? Mr. Rodriguez responded no. There would still be a pool and students using it. Chairman LaCamera asked if the pool was being used during the day when students are in school? Mr. Rodriguez responded that yes, the physical education teacher is teaching instruction and also outside people come in to swim. Chairman LaCamera stated that he did not feel that others should be in the pool from outside that are not part of the school staff. The Town is responsible from a liability standpoint. Outsiders should not be in the building while the students are in school. Mr. Rodriguez responded that he agreed with that, however, it will limit the amount of revenue. The types of people that use the pool are senior citizens, mothers and their young children, and others that would not otherwise be able to use the pool. It is not felt that this is a security risk. Ms. Carboni explained that during discussions the previous night, with respect to the pool and saving costs and increasing revenue, there was discussion about a (security) door. It did not go any further about the usage of securing the building during the day. Mr. Rodriguez explained that Com Rec was going to pay for the door. Chairman LaCamera stated that he was concerned with the use of the building with the gym and having common locker rooms. It is not appropriate to have other adults in that building during the day and the School Committee will have to take the responsibility if something happens. The Town of Lakeville is responsible for the staff and the 4th graders in that building. Ms. Carboni stated that this will be taken under advisement.

Chairman LaCamera asked if office space was being provided for Com Rec and the Before and After school Program? Dr. Furtado responded in the affirmative since it was agreed upon by past administration. Chairman LaCamera asked if space at the Intermediate School is being by others why aren't they paying rent? In the past they had a small office in the building, they moved out and now they are back. Ms. Benard stated that it is not the vote of the School Committee to decide where people are housed, the Superintendent makes that decision. Robert Marshall gave a further explanation of the history of the office situation. There was an office being used in the former middle school and now in the new intermediate school, however, he is relatively sure that the program has never paid any rent for office space. The program was funded with \$15,000 for the first year when it first opened up in 1972. A decision was made in the mid to late 1970's that it had to fund itself. Then there was a change in organization, and supervision. It started to make money, and this went on into the mid to late 1990's. This was a service being provided to the Town of Freetown and Lakeville alike, so personally I do not know why it is an issue now. Chairman LaCamera stated that he was on the Building Committee and is aware that an office was put in the other building. So why isn't it being used? Mr. Marshall responded that it was a decision made by a former Superintendent.

Ms. Weeks-Green stated, to clarify the matter, the programs using the office space need to find a way to pay rent or move to another building. Mr. Oliveira stated that if the program was moved to another facility, the rent of a building may not fit with the reimbursement for a community use building, but certainly for the operating side. It was a drag on the operation side for the educational programs in the school. \$50,000 of revenue was put into the Com Rec side last night. Com Rec has committed to generate that for the Region. It was found that there were costs associated with that revenue that were being born by the Local side and now the document moves those costs to the Region so that the revenue can be offset. Thus, the absorption model, based on usage hours, with the approach of who (program/sports, etc.) is in the building came out to be \$52,000. The piece of that which was the local aspect was moved and now the Region will absorb that. But with the rent, it was never space rented like the collaborative. An application was put in for community use. When the School Committee got down to the facts last night, it ended up that the associated revenue was already there, and just had to be moved to the Region.

Chairman LaCamera stated that if the Town is paying 100% of the capital costs, then the Town can move some of its people from the Town Office Building to the School for office space? Mr. Oliveira explained that the cost is .58 an hour. However the building was designated as a community use building and that was on the application to the state. Chairman LaCamera asked if it included an office for Before and After personnel? Mr. Oliveira explained that the project did not have a designated spot for the Director of any of the programs. Chairman LaCamera stated that was his point. There is an office at the other building that was built for that purpose. Mr. Oliveira stated Ms. Bernard made a valid point. This is a decision of the Superintendent and not the Local School Committee. However, this has been accommodated on the Regional level. Mr. Velez asked if there anything restricting moving the office back to the other place? Ms. Weeks-Green asked if a formal request could be made so that this can be addressed at another time rather than by using up our time on it tonight?

5. Finalize charge backs for GRAIS

Chairman LaCamera stated that the chargeback plan of Mr. Oliveira's should be reviewed next. Mr. Oliveira stated that the School Committee voted in June to use this approach (chargeback plan developed) to determine the envelope of the people which is based on people hours. The Superintendent and the Business Office were asked to list all the groups that use the building, the number of people in the groups, and the whereabouts of the use. It turns out to be 609,488 hours of use. Then a request was asked for the costs for the phone, electricity, etc., that is used and that is \$350,000. The 4th grade is charged about 29% of these costs. With this, it is \$35,000, but the current budget was over \$40,000. So those monies will be moved over to the Regional umbrella. This approach will be used going forward with the budget, and Com Rec is being conferred with on this. \$52,000 would be used by community programs. So the costs and the revenue would then take care of that, so there is no impact to the Com Rec program since it is taken care of. The allocation of costs with the operation of the building, are no longer in the Local budget but are in the Regional budget to take care of it. The same model will be used for the next budget cycle and then we can allocate other money for education. This approach was worked on by many and a lot of time went into creating it to allocate the costs. The new sheet was adjusted since two (2) other costs were put in the system, one was the water treatment. In this year's budget it is at the system-wide level and we can talk about it for next year. The transportation was not related to the envelope so it was taken out. Also, Dr. Furtado put it in to show his plan of how it will be reduced. As for the actual costs, it would be expected that it would be a portion of the expected column. So when the bills come in, the Local side will pay 28%, and the balance going over to the region. On the pool side it is a simple wash. It looks like the actual numbers can be obtained with the meters being read. Then the analysis will be done. After that work is done then we can work in the Regional aspect. The bottom line is that it is not in the Local side. They can use E&D or whatever. When this was all put on paper, it was a simple. We put this here and that there, and it should not effect to the Region. The only number that is interesting is the 28.7%. The rest goes to the Region and they can figure out how they want to allocate it.

Chairman LaCamera asked how Mr. Oliveira came up with the people and the number of hours for the pool and the pool in the summer? Mr. Oliveira responded that he asked the Com Rec people. He was thinking about using the past data, but was able to get the actual data of what they plan to have for these programs this year. Chairman LaCamera stated that that is less than what they are paying now. Mr. Oliveira explained that there are all kinds of expenses for the pool, chemicals, etc. It is agreed that there is more discovery to take place on the pool. If there are other costs associated with it, they will be added in. Ms. Weeks-Green asked if they had agreed upon a model that will get clearer as it moves along. Mr. Oliveira responded that that was correct. Chairman LaCamera asked, outside of the pool, what will the other people pay for the year? Mr. Rodriguez responded that Com Rec is being taken out of the equation, so if there is anyone else using the building, they will absorb the costs. If not, then out they go.

Mr. Oliveira explained that adding all the costs together was \$52,240. Then he took the delta money and moved it. Chairman LaCamera stated that once again he did not agree with the pool costs.

Mr. Oliveira explained that once the actual analysis is done and the meter situation taken care of we may find it is disproportionate for the running of the pool and the school. At this point all costs are equal. If it is discovered that it is not, then changes will be made. Chairman LaCamera asked about the 294 days and the 6 people (lifeguards)? Mr. Velez asked if it is supposed to be who is swimming in the pool. Dr. Furtado stated that he wished this conversation had taken place four (4) years ago. Chairman LaCamera responded that they had. Mr. Oliveira explained that he did not go into the Com Rec category and challenge the numbers. He just wanted to allocate the costs to run the programs. The costs were fixed for the higher volumes of use and this model benefits everyone. Hopefully revenues in Com Rec will go up. If the numbers in the pool change, then these figures will change. Chairman LaCamera stated that then everyone is back where they started. Mr. Oliveira explained that real numbers will be plugged in and everyone is committed to working with this model. It appears that it is 80% complete.

Dr. Furtado mentioned that Coyle-Cassidy and Bishop Stang also use the pool, along with the swim team. Selectman Evirs stated that this should be factored into the operating costs of the school. Mr. Oliveira responded that that was correct. The intent is that all programs are in there to understand that they share a piece of the cost. The Local will know what it needs to pay. Dr. Furtado mentioned that the Athletic Director is for all sports. To be honest, the cost of the pool may not be factored into the High School side. I.E. the School would not charge the baseball team to pay for the fields. Selectman Evirs stated that if it is from the Region then they are sharing those costs. Mr. Oliveira explained that as more actual data for the pool becomes available, no warrant should come across to the Town, and it will not. We are just dealing with how to budget for it.

6. Finalize budget cuts for Town Meeting

Chairman LaCamera stated that it is still not certain what cuts are going to be made with the Finance Committee and most likely a separate meeting will need to be set up to discuss that. Everyone does understand the moneys that potentially need to be cut and also the allocations.

7. Audits for Building Projects

Chairman LaCamera explained that the information was received back from the state on the three (3) building projects. The State is looking at items will be reimbursed. The process will be to look at each individual line item and then discuss it with the State. That will be addressed shortly and if anyone wants to participate in that process, please let The Town Administrator know. Dr. Furtado stated that \$1,176,000 will be received for the Intermediate School. The Middle School and the High School is getting \$17,000 more than expected. To update everyone, Jim Marot is looking at all of the costs for the buildings and then information will be sent up to the S.B.A. within ten (10) days, or by next Thursday. Mr. Marot and Mr. Ross will be meeting with the Superintendent. There are very few items that can be challenged, but there are some, and it is hoped to get a little more back in from those projects. Chairman LaCamera stated that both towns should be very proud of the budget, since they came in way under budget. All who were involved in that should be proud. The Town Administrator added that it also helped with the interest rates being low for the bonding of the projects.

Mr. Oliveira distributed some information to review. He explained that when looking at the education costs, post Town Meeting, the document shows the cost savings and cost increases as it relates to education. Certainly there are other ideas that can be brought to the table. Everyone has challenges that can be brought forward. The steamer failed at the Assawompsett School during an annual mechanical inspection, not a health inspection, so there is a warrant article being submitted to replace it. Chairman LaCamera stated that that will be dealt with through the Stabilization Fund.

Mr. Oliveira stated that he wanted to thank everyone who came to the meeting tonight and their commitment to the Town. Everyone is trying to do the right thing for their Town. It is also to be noted that \$12,000 was lost in Chapter 70 monies.

Mr. Oliveira explained that with respect to budget savings, there were two (2) students that did not go to Bristol Aggie that were budgeted to go. With the roof design it was thought that design services

would be needed first. Only \$1,000 needs to be spent, not the \$35,000 that was budgeted. The School Committee has multiple warrants that will go to Town Meeting. These are only warrants that pertain to education. The School Committee is prepared to work with anyone and everyone to work for the kids. If we take the roof design and steamer off of the analysis, it is very close to the \$78,000 on each side. If more money is needed, then programs will have to be looked at. The School Committee will have further discussion on this. Minor further information was given by Mr. Oliveira

The Town Administrator mentioned that there is additional money in there for salaries. Mr. Oliveira explained that that is needed if someone goes on leave and more substitutes are needed. This is something that is dealt with each year. Chairman LaCamera stated that he did not see Mr. Oliveira's point. When the salary was pointed out, it was due to the fact that a particular person was being paid. What is being said now is that there are positions that were budgeted higher than they should have been. If the principal's salary of the Intermediate School was budgeted \$10,000 more than is being paid, then there is a savings.

Chairman LaCamera explained that when Town Meeting took place, the goal was to make sure no bus fees were charged, no staff was let go, etc. \$85,000 was cut from the Town budget across the board in order to fund the \$300,000 that was needed at the Region. This is a partnership, and all salary budgets on the Town side are to the penny. Further discussion took place between Chairman LaCamera and Mr. Oliveira regarding Title I, the Stabilization Fund and other revenue and expense areas.

The meeting was adjourned by all committees present at 10:05PM