

**TOWN OF LAKEVILLE**  
**Selectmen's Meeting Minutes**  
**December 14, 2015 – 7:00 PM**

On December 14, 2015, the Board of Selectmen held a meeting at 7:00 PM at the Town Office Building in Lakeville. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Burke at 7:00 PM. Selectmen present were: Selectman Burke, Selectman Powderly and Selectman Hollenbeck. Also present were: Rita Garbitt, Town Administrator and Tracie Craig, Executive Assistant. LakeCAM was recording for broadcast and PS and Matt were taping the meeting.

**Meet with Freetown Board of Selectmen to discuss FY17 Regional School Budget**

*Paul Sadeck, Lisa Pacheco and Lee Baumgartner, Members of the Freetown Board of Selectmen, were present for the discussion. John Healey, Freetown Town Administrator, was also present for the discussion.* Selectman Hollenbeck said she had not received any budget information from the Region. Selectman Powderly said last year when we met with the Region, our respective Finance Committees were there, and it was a venting process. We used to give our suggestions on how they should spend the money. They would ask for a percentage, and we would go back and forth. Last year was the first step in the right direction where we said this is what we will give you. We will not tell you how to spend it, but you are on your own. Our concept has been in the neighborhood of 2.5% for the Town to operate on, because that is our tax increase. For Town employees, we gave people raises of 1.75%. We took the Region's operating budget over Net School Spending (NSS) and said that we would be willing to give 2.5% over last year's operating budget. It should be no higher than that in his mind, but it could be less. 2.5% of the \$11,305,000 is approximately \$200,000 to \$300,000. The Schools should be treated as a Town Department, but they never have been. 2.5% of Lakeville's portion comes to approximately \$283,000. Last year, Lakeville's assessment was \$11,305,000.

Selectman Hollenbeck said last year we had an Old Colony increase of 21%. Our increase was \$300,000 higher than the year before. She had a conversation with the Old Colony Board today, and they are going to be asking for more. Last year was the first year they went over NSS. If we see another increase on Old Colony, it would make her less inclined to give 2.5% to the Region. We were able to absorb that increase on Old Colony last year. If we can capture education spending at 2.5%, that would be great. We heard that Karen Polito said they made a deal that as State revenue increases that will be reflected in Chapter 70. We are just trying to set the maximum parameters, so we are sensitive to each Town's needs. Selectman Powderly said we would like to rein in Old Colony. If they go up 7%, we are going to doom our school system. He doesn't know if we can send a message to them that Old Colony should not be allowed to go up an absorbent rate any different than the Region. Mr. Sadeck asked if Lakeville is a member of Old Colony. Ms. Pacheco said Freetown is not a member. Old Colony does not set the rate, the State does. Freetown gets slapped at a larger % than Lakeville. We tried to cap the number of students that will be going. Mr. Healey said Old Colony would like to talk to Freetown about membership, but it is a big cost initially. However, that may bring costs down going forward. Mr. Pacheco said they want us to pay for years that we were not a member. Each member town would have to vote to approve us being a member and would have to give up some of their student seats. She said five (5) or six (6) years ago, none of the member Towns were willing to do that.

Selectman Powderly said he didn't know that we would be able to etch something in stone. We don't know Old Colony, but Bristol Agricultural is not a problem. Discussion occurred about student enrollment. Selectman Hollenbeck said there is an increase of eight (8) kids this year at a cost of \$300,000. The Region got their E&D certified at \$1.1 or \$1.2 million. After the budget offsets, it still ended up back there. In speaking to Superintendent Medeiros and Mr. Baker, it is attributed to non-spending. The Circuit Breaker receipts came in higher than expected. Mr. Healey said he would like to know how that is calculated. Chairman Burke said to an extent, we have an opportunity that shows whatever budget that we funded last year was not done properly with that much money left over. If it is non-spending, why aren't they spending it. Mr. Sadeck said in the beginning going through the budget process, the Region was saying we won't have good education. Now we find out they have extra money. Chairman Burke asked how many teachers they could hire with this leftover money. Mr. Sadeck said they probably lost kids. Chairman Burke said there are less students coming in. Selectman Hollenbeck said we should see more Chapter 70 money coming in. Mr. Baumgartner said they ended up not replacing certain teachers due to retirement. Selectman Powderly said there are lots of things that rub every individual here the wrong way regarding the Schools. Teachers should be reallocated to the lower grades when we lose kids at the High School level. He doesn't want to not give them their fair share because with a snap of their fingers, the Superintendent and Mr. Baker can say they didn't hire those five (5) teachers because we didn't need them and saved the money. One can say maybe you should have hired more teachers, because if you didn't spend the money and your E & D went up, we are going to give you less money. They can spend it all and make sure that next year's E & D doesn't stay at \$1.2 million. If they are conservative for whatever reason, if we take it away they will be driven to overspend in the budget. Mr. Sadeck said he didn't think it is the Selectmen's responsibility to tell the Superintendent how to run the Schools. Our responsibility is to be fiscally sound, and give them what they should operate with. He would not have an issue giving them up to 2%. They have demonstrated that the Schools have not gone downhill, and they are being fiscally responsible as shown by the E & D balance. Give them a reasonable amount, run your programs and we stay out of it.

Chairman Burke said he was on the School Committee for a while. We go through the charade of coming up with these numbers. It's a lot of work to come up with a budget that size. He does not necessarily care what the message they think we are sending. Here is the money we are willing to provide. It is fair, based on the needs of the Schools and the needs of the Town. He doesn't go to the School Committee Meetings because it is a waste of energy getting sucked into the budget process. Selectman Powderly said in our budget we have Old Colony and Bristol Agricultural at \$1.6 million. He would max their increase out at 2.5%. If you want to make it 2%, he would not lose sleep over it. That might better control the E & D issue. If Old Colony went up a very large amount, he would have to reduce the Region. They will have to address the staffing requirement in the higher grades. Chairman Burke said or not. Selectman Powderly said they would be back for an override. Chairman Burke said you could go to the School Committee and identify the declining enrollment with less children living in the Town and High School students going to different schools. You have been involved in that conversation for years and had to argue that this was happening. It took the Region a long time to even accept that was an issue. We wasted all this energy getting them to accept that fact. He doesn't care where the teachers go. Mr. Baumgartner said the numbers just came out, and most of the system

was above average or way above average. Chairman Burke said it is a marketing issue that they are dealing with.

Selectman Hollenbeck said let's address the major issues that could arise. Required local contribution comes out and all of a sudden, we have one town with a huge disparity. Mr. Sadeck said we had that last year. Ms. Pacheco said this happens almost every year. Selectman Hollenbeck said 3.54% was the increase, and we were at 2%. We need to look at those scenarios and see what the max is that we are willing to accept. We won't have numbers until March for Transportation. We get the first set of numbers from the Schools, and they use the lower numbers. A week before Town Meeting, the Transportation numbers came out. It was too late at that point to get this on Town Meeting. What approach do we want to use on that. Selectman Powderly said he is still thinking 2.5%. Selectman Hollenbeck said the transportation contract is being renewed, so it will go up. Selectman Powderly said \$14,000,000 x 2.5% is the max. He doesn't care where it goes. If they want to write a contract for Transportation that is a 10% increase, he won't pay for it. \$14,000,000 is our budget for all School items. If Old Colony goes up, it will come out of the Region.

Mr. Sadeck said parents make the decisions for the student. If they feel there is a better education somewhere else, they are going to move them. Selectman Powderly said it goes back to marketing. Mr. Baumgartner asked about exit interviews with parents. Selectman Powderly said they are not done. Selectman Hollenbeck said there isn't much more to really discuss about this, but the hope is to keep the dialogue open so both Towns are on the same page. Mr. Sadeck said he is hearing that we worked together last year, but we still got clobbered. We wouldn't be able to do that again. Selectman Powderly said if your assessment went up 3.5% and ours went up 2%, he is open to the dialogue about reducing both numbers. Chairman Burke said that is an approach we should embrace. If one (1) Town is paying in more than a reasonable amount, we adjust down for the sake of giving relief. That is the only thing we can do with the variable, try to keep an open mind. Mr. Sadeck said we have separate line items for that. Chairman Burke said it is matter of getting the information and see what happens. Selectman Hollenbeck said Freetown authorized \$175,000 from Stabilization to Transportation, which we were going to do, but we did not have a Special Town Meeting. We will go into the Annual Town Meeting to give that money back. That might be something that we think about the FY17 assessment. We needed to be at \$115,000 and Freetown gave \$175,000. Selectman Hollenbeck said we can do that at the Special town Meeting and could be a negotiation point when we talk budget. Mr. Sadeck asked if they are showing the E & D figure as a receivable. Selectman Hollenbeck said no, it is certified from a previous year. If that money was in there, it would have been \$1.4 million. Mr. Sadeck said they are going to bill us when yours is approved. Selectman Hollenbeck said that could be a talking point with them. We are giving money that you wouldn't have used in the previous year. Maybe we can use that on the hit either Town may get.

Mr. Sadeck said we negotiate with our Town Departments. We should not negotiate with the Region and give them a proper amount we feel we can give. Our Departments should be given what we give everyone else. Selectman Hollenbeck said if we have a Department Head that needs over 2.5%, that is when we talk. Selectman Powderly said we have sacrificed all the other Town services, raises, and equipment and always give to the Schools. We have four (4) new unions because we did not give raises to our Town employees and we gave to the Schools. He

would rather say that everyone is equal. If a piece of equipment broke that is unforeseen or a building issue occurs, then you address those issues. Everyone must be within the 2.5%. If the Police Budget is at a 3% increase, then some other Department must give up .5%. Usually that doesn't happen anymore. Chairman Burke said there is an assumption with the School Department and School Committee that they are entitled to that negotiation. He has not thought about having a hard line on whether they get to negotiate. Why do we expect that there will be a dialogue? He is not saying that we should. We can listen to them, but they expect a negotiation process. If you look at the history of their budget and where the money goes, it is somewhat disingenuous. Selectman Hollenbeck said the reason why is because of the formula. It can swing either way.

Ms. Pacheco said it changes all the times. Selectman Powderly said if Lakeville built 100 more homes than Freetown did, we would be paying more. We should look at whether both Towns pay 2% or different percentages. What numbers are going through your minds? He treats Transportation the same as salaries. It's all a numbers game. What percentage are you willing to give to the Region for an increase? Mr. Baumgartner said his philosophy is that the Selectmen have done a miserable job at the expense of the other Departments. We have always bent over backwards because the Schools are important. 85-90% of the budget is salary and benefits. No one in the system thinks it is fair. It was obvious that there were no checks in place. We are giving the other departments 1-1.5% for years. We are going to put money in the pot you decide what you spend it on; here is your number, make it work. We have not even come close to discussing this. Chairman Burke said what difference does the variable point make. Our numbers are contingent upon State numbers, and then it is just a formula. Selectman Hollenbeck said last year when we were at the Regional Finance Sub Committee meeting, we said we need the scenarios for each Town. We need to wait for the numbers. If they are trying to keep their budget, but we don't get the State Aid, is that 1% that they kept the budget at resulting in 5% for one (1) Town and 2% for the other. Selectman Powderly said if we lost 100 students last year, that is \$500,000 in Chapter 70 we lost, but they didn't lay off anyone else. If someone says 2%, but you give an 8% raise to 50% of the teachers, the math doesn't work out. Chairman Burke said the budget never reflects the needs of the District. It reflects the needs moving forward to cover the contractual obligations. Selectman Powderly said the Regional Finance Sub Committee did not give a number for them to vote on.

Selectman Hollenbeck said the role that she foresees for the Regional Finance Sub Committee would be to set an overall budget increase for the schools; a limit including what the offsets to the School Budget were; the maximum increase for the assessment for each Town and guidelines regarding the total increase of the School Budget. Mr. Sadeck said the Regional Finance Sub Committee is another layer of smoke and mirrors. They cannot speak for the Selectmen of either Town. It has been pointed out to us in the prior year when Lakeville went for an override, we are just advisory. There were people that didn't want to go for the override. Freetown made a proposal on what we were willing to give. One of the School Committee Members would not even let our Finance Committee Chairman vote. He was there because a Member was sick. The Region's attorney said he cannot vote. What they wanted to do was have the Regional Finance Sub Committee to condone the override. Chairman Burke said is it true that they do not take minutes. Selectman Hollenbeck said she has not seen minutes. Mr. Sadeck said it is a waste of any member's time. Selectman Powderly said he agreed. Ms. Pacheco said if you didn't have

them, someone would complain that there are no checks and balances. Chairman Burke said they don't care. Ms. Pacheco said the public does. Mr. Healey said the override was designed to give the kids the Cloud, but that was never integrated. Selectman Powderly said that was a \$900,000 technology Debt Exclusion Override. Selectman Powderly said they never hired the teachers. Selectman Hollenbeck said they had a presentation by the IT director looking to roll that out this year. Selectman Burke said the \$900,000 was to build the infrastructure and bring your own device. Bring your own device is not the best way to do it, because someone might feel bad that they don't have the same technology, so we will buy the kids Chrome Books. We should wait for the numbers and meet again to look at the numbers and say we are willing to give X. We passed an override to fix the Schools. They already supplement \$1.2 million for their budget. Within a few years from now, they will be cutting services to drum up fear for the sake of another override. It doesn't matter what we do because we don't have control over how the School budget process works. We have to balance that with providing enough resources to not damage the Schools. These meetings are good because for the most part, we are on the same page as far as strategy. Selectman Powderly said we want to tell them out of the gate here is what we are thinking about. If you give Lakeville a bill higher than \$282,000, which could be reduced because of Old Colony and Transportation, we will be even more frustrated. He is not going to pour through 150 pages to ask questions that no one will answer. He doesn't want to wait for the number. Let's pick a number to try to drive their number. He doesn't want them to do a 6% budget and then advertise Armageddon.

Mr. Sadeck asked what is your 2.5% increase. Selectman Hollenbeck said \$282,000 for Lakeville. Mr. Sadeck said yours is more than ours. Your dollar figure amounts to almost half of what you are giving in. Mr. Baumgartner said he would give them a percentage. Selectman Hollenbeck said if they held their budget steady, and all of a sudden they were not using offsets, we would be faced with a 5-6% increase to the budget. Its fine to say 2% over the assessment, but it is including the offsets in the budget. Selectman Hollenbeck said she is nervous to give them that number. Ms. Garbitt said we get Chapter 70 numbers when the State comes out with their budget. At that time, we evaluate it. Selectman Powderly said if Chapter 70 goes up \$100 per student that would be a \$300,000 swing. He doesn't care if they get that. He hopes that they put it into Capital Projects. We are once again going back on how they are going to spend the money. Going up \$300,000 on a \$30 million budget doesn't make a difference. Selectman Hollenbeck said she would like to see their reliance on offsets go down. She would rather see the shift between Lakeville, Freetown and the State, with the State slowly taking on more. Ms. Pacheco said in the 17 years she has been doing this, there is always an offset and use of E & D. Chairman Burke asked what has it been normally. Ms. Pacheco said it is usually \$500,000 to \$1,000,000. If they don't use offsets, the budgets will have to go up. You will be losing whatever services they are talking about. She doesn't mind them using it.

Selectman Hollenbeck said if we get another \$300,000 from the State, she would like to see the shift of the percentages. Chairman Burke said if more money comes in from the State, you don't want to see the budget come up; you want to use it to mitigate the Towns. Selectman Powderly said the Towns were not the ones that gave unbelievable percentages in the new contract. It is two (2) times higher than we can afford to pay. Just give a 2% number of our \$14,000,000. The School Committee has not paid attention to the Regional Finance Sub Committee. Mr. Sadeck said we should meet again in the beginning of February. Selectman

Hollenbeck said let's wait until the State numbers comes out. Selectman Powderly said he doesn't care what Chapter 70 is. We only have 2.5%. Chairman Burke said we should give them a number that we can live with, but there is an urge to want to get your hands in there. He doesn't disagree with either direction and the Region does not need to be on the same page yet. He wants to have hands off approach, but when he hears what Selectman Hollenbeck is bringing up, he wants to get in there and fix it, but he knows better. Mr. Sadeck said he would like a reasonable figure on what the State will provide us, so we know what our required spending is. At that point, we can make a more informed decision. We are trying to come up with a percentage, and we don't know what we are going to get or what the Schools are asking for.

Mr. Baumgartner said we are going to come up with our number no matter what they ask for. Mr. Sadeck said we should tell the Superintendent 1%. He could be pleasantly surprised. Selectman Powderly said he is not going to get into the details of the budget. He encourages you to do this at the Regional Finance Sub Committee. He just didn't want them to say you didn't send us the message. Ms. Garbitt said you have to wait for at least the Governor's Budget. Selectman Powderly said if you think Chapter 70 is changing significantly, it is not.

Selectman Powderly asked about meeting again in the middle of February. If their budget goes up 10% because of the new contracts, that doesn't change the 2%. Mr. Baumgartner said we were kicked out of the negotiating committee for the contracts. Selectman Powderly said you got thrown out on the most important negotiation on the budget, which is 85% of the budget. Mr. Sadeck said why would they want Selectman in there. It was agreed to meet on February 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM at the Freetown Council on Aging.

### **Non Excluded Debt Issue**

Ms. Garbitt said she had given the Selectmen the Debt Schedule for GRAIS. Both Towns agreed that when the debt for the GRAIS Library and tennis courts was paid off, that both communities would still pay \$83,870 towards the GRAIS Debt. The last time this was done in 2013. The debt was refinanced for GRAIS, and the next schedule the \$83,870 went away. She was not given the Debt Schedule for a few years. When she finally got it last year, at the bottom it says the District stopped applying the money in FY14. They had no right to do that. Ms. Pacheco said the Regional Agreement is silent about refinancing the bond. It doesn't take it into consideration. Ms. Garbitt said the intent was until the deb was paid off. We got numbers from the Region for excluded and non-excluded debts. We did not capture all of the debt being excluded. Fred Baker came in not knowing anything about it. Chairman Burke asked if Mr. Baker changed it. Ms. Garbitt said she would say it was Mike Ward. Ms. Pacheco said Mr. Ward changed it because he was doing the technology proposals. When that was redone, the \$83,870 went away. Selectman Hollenbeck said the agreement is silent, but it does not speak to a refinance. Chairman Burke said who would have told him to do that. Ms. Pacheco said it went away.

Ms. Garbitt said the intent was that it would be applied until the GRAIS debt was paid. Selectman Powderly said the debt became zero. Ms. Garbitt said they just refinanced it. Selectman Powderly said it was reduced enough to do away with the \$83,870. Ms. Garbitt said Lakeville has been shortchanged on this. Mr. Sadeck said they would have been shortchanged if

it stayed in. Selectman Hollenbeck said because it was taken out. Our issue is that on this schedule it went away, but we don't know why. That \$83,870 is supposed to be allocated according to the District enrollment. What is left on the GRAIS debt is \$245,000. That gets allocated to our 109 students. The debt is not allocated properly. The \$83,870 should have been allocated. Mr. Sadeck said this debt went away? Chairman Burke said it was refinanced. Selectman Hollenbeck said the debt did not go away. Lakeville has been overcharged by \$54,000. The calculation had 100 students excluded, so they say that Freetown has 100 out of 400 students and Lakeville has 200 of the 400 students. They have given Lakeville 75% of the debt and Freetown 25% of the debt. We look at that and say Lakeville should be paying for 66%. We have asked for an interpretation. The \$83,870 is a separate issue. We brought the calculations to Mr. Baker and Superintendent Medeiros, and it was not received well. We said we would back off of this, because it was right before Town Meeting. We met over the summer to give them our concerns. It was brought up to the Regional School Finance Sub Committee and then to the School Committee. They brought it to their legal counsel, and the next step was to bring it to the independent auditors.

Mr. Sadeck said on the student count, out of 400 total student, how many are Freetown's. Say there is 200 and 200 and they are excluding 100, so the difference would be 100 divided by 400. We would not get the benefit of the 100 exclusion if we drop the base. Selectman Hollenbeck said she is looking for that interpretation. Is the 100 being taken off the top? Mr. Sadeck said it should be 75/25. Chairman Burke said how do we know that. Selectman Powderly said what happens if you take this Debt Schedule and go back to the 58/42%. What is the effect on Freetown? Selectman Hollenbeck said it is substantial. Ms. Pacheco said we would never have agreed to invest in GRAIS if there is no benefit to us. Selectman Hollenbeck said the question is why did the \$83,870 go away. They realized that the calculation changed, but they are unsure why. The other piece is the interpretation is on GRAIS. Ms. Pacheco said the hard thing to ask the School Committee, since none of them are here. Chairman Burke said it should be clear in the language of the contract. Ms. Pacheco said she helped write the contract, and it is clear. Chairman Burke said we can't refer to the people in the Town to tell us what they think it meant. Selectman Hollenbeck is bringing this up because she genuinely doesn't understand it. The School Committee should have an understanding of what this means. He bets some of the Members of the School Committee don't know about this.

Mr. Sadeck said this \$83,870 could be a mistake. Selectman Hollenbeck said they have said it. Mr. Sadeck said if they change it, and we get hit with a \$90,000 bill that is going to come off of what they are going to get this year. Chairman Burke said we have to keep an eye on what they are doing, and when they make mistakes and won't correct them, we have to take matters into our hands. Ms. Pacheco said that's if they made a mistake. Kopelman and Paige got involved because both Boards authorized them to be involved. Mr. Long looked at it as well. Mr. Sadeck asked how you found it. Ms. Garbitt said it goes back to communication. Lisa Dickinson used to be our financial advisor. She would ask for this from Lou Rodrigues and received it every year. Ms. Pacheco said they couldn't send it to me without the School authorizing me to get copies of it. Ms. Garbitt said Mr. Baker gave me permission to get them. As soon as she got them, she said wait a minute. She got this just before Town Meeting. He did not know what she was talking about as he is new. The assumption would have been that the two (2) Towns would split the \$83,870 based on population. Selectman Powderly said perhaps

the \$83,870 should have been prorated. That portion should not have gone to zero. Mr. Sadeck said there were mistakes that were made. Ms. Garbitt said technically all the debt is excluded. Selectman Powderly said if you look at Freetown, their impact went up dramatically and ours is declining. Ms. Garbitt said that was because of full Regionalization. Selectman Hollenbeck said the interest reduced, not the debt. Ms. Garbitt said we are supposed to get these schedules for the recap sheet. They have to show us proof. Selectman Powderly said what are we doing from our end. Selectman Hollenbeck said we are waiting for the auditors. Chairman Burke said our goal is to explain the expectation. This is just for Lakeville. If they made a mistake, it is up to them how to absorb it. Mr. Sadeck asked will it affect us. Chairman Burke said it may, we don't know. If the money they are telling us they need is incorrect, there needs to be some measure of accountability. Mr. Sadeck said the only accountability that any School District has is to hand the bill over to the Towns. Chairman Burke said what if the bill is incorrect. Mr. Sadeck said we need someone to stumble across it. Chairman Burke said we have an obligation to call them on it.

Upon a motion made by Ms. Pacheco and seconded by Mr. Sadeck, it was:

VOTED: To adjourn the Freetown Board of Selectmen's Meeting at 8:37 PM.  
Unanimous in favor.

### **Old Business**

Ms. Garbitt said she would like the Board to authorize Selectman Hollenbeck and herself to look at a job description for the Accountant and interim measures. They met with Todd Hassett on Friday last week. He is working one (1) day a week in Hanson as their Town Accountant. He has one (1) good full time employee in that office. He comes with references, and Ms. McRae knows him. He felt he would need two (2) to three (3) days a week max. He will start at ten (10) hours a week, and maybe more to start to catch up. The main priority is going over the recap sheet. He has been doing this for a while working for a consulting firm. Mr. Hassett came back today to sit down with Ms. McRae for a transition plan. He will come back Thursday to begin work, if we approve. He has done Soft Rite implementations, which is the software the Town has been investigating. He mentioned that Munis is probably is too big for a community this size. If the Board is amenable, this would be a short term solution to help us through the transition. He doesn't necessarily believe the Town Accountant is a full time position.

Selectman Powderly said he wants to make sure that we front load it as much as he thinks he can. He would not mind 15-20 hours a week at the beginning, so we know issues that need to be sorted out. He is for hiring him, but front loading it more than we all think is necessary. Selectman Hollenbeck said his rate is \$140.00 per hour. He has a \$90.00 an hour employee if it comes to that point that we need extra work. Ms. Garbitt said she spoke to Harald Scheid regarding the recap. Mr. Scheid knows the owner of the company very well, and the firm comes highly recommended by Regional Resource Group. Selectman Powderly said we want to hire him, but don't want to limit it to ten (10) hours or perhaps 20 hours a week for the first quarter. Chairman Burke said we want Mr. Hassett to start on January 1<sup>st</sup> for 90 days, two (2) days per week initially. Selectman Powderly said he doesn't want to limit the days he works.



Upon a motion made by Chairman Burke and seconded by Selectman Powderly, it was:

VOTED: To enter into the agreement for 90 days with Todd Hassett with services as needed with Ms. Garbitt signing the contract on behalf of the Town.  
Unanimous in favor.

Selectman Hollenbeck said she sat down with Ms. McRae regarding Munis. There is an upgrade for Munis that will be Munis 11. She said this is coming within the next few weeks. Mr. Hassett had mentioned when certain communities went to 10.5, user permissions were wiped out. Ms. McRae was confident that we would not have those issues with Munis 11, but there is no support for Munis. Ms. Garbitt will call to see if we have to upgrade Munis before the next year. Chairman Burke asked what the cost is. Selectman Hollenbeck said she did not know. It is in the budget. She wants to check with the engineer for the costs. If we know we want to get away from Munis, why spend the money, unless it will stop working on January 1<sup>st</sup>. Chairman Burke said we should not upgrade if we are not going to switch software. Selectman Hollenbeck said the update to Munis requires training for every Department. Chairman Burke said we will have to do that with a new system. Selectman Hollenbeck said we need answers if we will not have support from Munis. We need enough time to transition. We only have a part time IT person. Selectman Hollenbeck said the goal is to ask his company to step into that role. We don't have time to get anyone in right now. We need to see if we will bring in an IT person in house. Selectman Powderly said outsourcing is the way to go. We should increase his hours up front. If he is okay now, you may not have to change anything. Selectman Hollenbeck said we don't know yet. Selectman Powderly said we already have him; just increase his hours and evaluate our next step. Selectman Hollenbeck said we need to talk to them, if they do this in other communities. Can they provide the services we need? Selectman Powderly asked if the accounting consulting company knows DynaTech. Selectman Hollenbeck said she asked Mr. Hassett, and he said no. Selectman Powderly said to keep him and increase his hours if we need to. Selectman Hollenbeck said we want to make sure that someone at his company is capable of server upgrades if he can't do it. Selectman Powderly said he is not in favor of a full time IT person; he would like a full time IT consultant. Selectman Powderly said to meet with the company and increase the hours if there is a need. Ms. Garbitt said she would look at some other IT outsource companies.

Ms. Garbitt said the Board of Assessors received a resignation letter from their Clerk, so we need a short term fix for that Office. She has spoken with two (2) of the Members of the Board of Assessors about an interim employee to cover the office while they assess the staffing the office.

### **Adjournment**

At 9:00 PM, upon a motion made by Selectman Hollenbeck; seconded by Selectman Powderly it was:

VOTED: To adjourn the Selectmen's Meeting.  
Unanimous in favor.