

**TOWN OF DURHAM**  
**BOARD OF FINANCE**  
P.O. BOX 428  
DURHAM, CONNECTICUT 06422-0428

BOARD OF FINANCE  
SPECIAL MEETING

April 1, 2008

MINUTES

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**Members Present:** Fran Korn, Loraine Coe, Elmer Clark, Rosemarie Naples, Rob DeSimone and Jay Berardino

**Others Present:** Maryjane Malavasi, Charles Corley (*Town Times*)

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**1) Call to order:**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Fran Korn at 7:35 PM.

**2) Budget Workshop:**

a) Elected Officials Salaries

Elmer Clark questioned why the amount in Allyn Brook Park Maintenance was not \$3,000 as was taken out of budget #2560. Maryjane Malavasi noted that \$1,000 was allocated to the Library and \$2,000 to Allyn Brook Park.

Rob DeSimone asked if the salaries as presented reflect going back to December 2007. It was noted that salary adjustments for the 2008 fiscal year were on the next regular agenda.

Jay Berardino has asked CCM to research whether or not elected official's salaries should remain constant during their tenure. He will report back with further information.

There was discussion regarding different ways in which elected officials salaries have been handled in the past.

Elmer Clark expressed displeasure with the manner in which the Compensation Review Board (CRB) made its motions on March 20. Mr. Clark felt that the BoF should be acting on the motions made on March 6<sup>th</sup> since there were different members in attendance at the March 20<sup>th</sup> meeting. It was noted that there was a quorum at the March 20<sup>th</sup> meeting; therefore the motions are appropriate, regardless of which members were in attendance. It was also noted that the minutes of March 6 requested Randi Frank attend their next meeting to better explain the results of the salary survey. The motions of March 20<sup>th</sup> were made after the committee heard her presentation. Elmer Clark felt that the purpose of the survey was to put all employees at the first step and that is not reflected in the proposed salaries. Fran Korn stated that it had already been decided that it did not make sense to put elected officials on the step system.

Rob DeSimone reviewed the process that has brought us to this point: 1) Board of Finance requested a salary study; 2) Compensation Review Board was re-enacted; 3) Experts thoroughly reviewed the survey

and made a recommendation to the Selectmen; 4) the Board of Finance accepted the recommendation of CRB; 4) BoF sends recommendation to townspeople for their input at public hearing.

It was the consensus of the board to send this recommendation to public hearing. Rosemarie Naples noted that the process has been held up by the CRB having trouble making quorum.

b) Revenues

Rosemarie Naples noted that there is a considerably larger amount of revenue sources in this budget. Fran Korn stated that we have tried to identify all ongoing revenue sources which will cause less money to go into the general fund at year end. Ms. Naples stated that we would need to be very cautious next year when we prepare the budget. Loraine Coe added that this budget is tighter and more transparent.

c) General Budget Discussion

Fran Korn noted that the reduction on the general government side is offset by the increase on the Board of Education side. He added that our revenues have increased and so has the grand list. The bottom line represents no change in the mill rate over the current year.

Rosemarie Naples stated that we need to be prepared to explain each number in the budget. The chairmen of each commission will be asked to attend, especially the chairman of the CRB.

Fran Korn recommended changing the location of the public hearing since the town hall might not hold enough people. Since the library was unavailable, Maryjane Malavasi was asked to see if the hearing could be held in the high school auditorium.

MOTION MADE BY NAPLES, SECONDED BY BERARDINO, TO BRING THE FOLLOWING PROPOSED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2008-2009 TO THE ANNUAL BUDGET HEARING:

\$5,336,939	TOTAL TOWN BUDGET
<u>-1,676,979</u>	LESS ESTIMATED STATE AND LOCAL REVENUES
\$3,659,960	NET TOWN BUDGET

KORN, COE, BERARDINO, NAPLES & DESIMONE – AYE; CLARK – NAY. MOTION CARRIED.

**3) Adjourn:**

MOTION MADE BY NAPLES, SECONDED BY BERARDINO, TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:43 PM. UNANIMOUS AYE.

Respectfully submitted,

Maryjane Malavasi