

*Board of Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
7:00 p.m., Monday, October 27, 2008
3 Floor Meeting Room, Town Hall*

Meeting Minutes-unapproved

Call to order and roll call

Laura Francis called the meeting to order and led with the pledge of allegiance. John Szewczyk present.

Approval of the agenda

MOTION BY LAURA FRANCIS SECONDED BY JOHN SZEWCZYK TO APPROVE AGENDA. 2 AYE

James McLaughlin joined the meeting @ 7:05 P.M.

Public Comments

Scott Wright thanked Kurt Bober and the Public Works Crew for the emergency work to replace the furnace at the Ambulance building over the weekend. L. Francis talked about the buildings ill repair and the need to move forward with a solution.

Re-adopt Incumbency Certification

MOTION BY LAURA FRANCIS SECONDED BY JOHN SZEWCZYK TO RE-ADOPT INCUMBENCY CERTIFICATION. 2 AYE

Tax Refunds

MOTION BY LAURA FRANCIS SECONDED BY JAMES MCLAUGHLIN TO APPROVE (8) EIGHT TAX REFUNDS TOTALING \$1,456.74. ALL AYE

Public Safety Renovations Committee Discussion

L. Francis informed the Selectmen that Susan Wimler volunteered to serve and the Fire Chief and Chief of Service of the Ambulance Corp would like to be ex-officio members of the committee. A brief discussion was held and the following (11) eleven were selected as members: John Brownell Jr, Edward Mik Jr, B.J. Joyce, David Heer, Duncan Milne, Frank Behrens, Rick Parmelee, Peter Lowe, Andy Meiman, Jay McKernan, and Susan Wimler. *Harry Hall and Scott Wright were selected as ex-officio members. *to include Emergency Management Director, Francis Willett.

L. Francis asked the Selectmen to review the Final Report of the Emergency Services Facilities Committee dated August 27, 2007 stating if an endorsement needs to be made she would like to do that at the next meeting.

Fiscal Analysis September 2008

L. Francis reviewed the fiscal analysis for September 2008 prepared by Maryjane Malavasi.

At a special meeting held in September 2008, the Board of Finance recommended the Selectmen call a town meeting to approve a transfer of \$99,000 from fund balance for the purchase of a roadside mower. This decision came after a series of meetings and considerable debate. A cost-benefit-analysis revealed that the best option for roadside mowing was to purchase a mower for the town crew to operate on its own. Other options such as leasing and contracted services were also included in the analysis.

The residents at the town meeting did indeed approve the purchase, and that amount is included in the "Additional Appropriations" figure in the box below.

As of September, 2008, the budget stands as follows:

	Original Appropriation	Additional Appropriations	Carryovers from 07-08	Revised Budget	Actual	Balance
Expenditures	25,714,652	186,700	402,793	26,304,145	7,378,519	18,925,626
Revenues	25,714,652	0	0	25,714,652	10,853,674	14,860,978
				YTD Net	3,475,155	

A comparison of revenues between the first quarter of the current and previous fiscal years is being compiled. An estimated \$100,000 budget deficit is anticipated for the current fiscal year based on that analysis. The First Selectmen has reviewed this information with the Board of Finance and will be working on a budget reduction plan for discussion their next meeting.

Tax collections are coming in steadily and are on track for this time of year. Economy-based revenues such as building fees and interest are examples of the types of revenues that are below anticipated levels. These revenue losses added to overages in heating oil and fuel costs account for most of the anticipated deficit.

As of the end of September, no transfers have been made from the contingency fund. It should be the goal of those involved with budget decisions to use the contingency fund only when absolutely necessary, and for true contingency needs. Balancing the budget deficit should not be accomplished through the use of this fund.

MOTION BY LAURA FRANCIS SECONDED BY JOHN SZEWCZYK TO ACCEPT SEPTEMBER 2008 FISCAL ANALYSIS.
3 AYE

Town Engineer request for Selectmen's approval of Brian Ferris, Crooked Hill Road partial bond release

MOTION BY JAMES MCLAUGHLIN SECONDED BY LAURA FRANCIS TO APPROVE SECOND PARTIAL BOND RELEASE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$181,767.80 PERTAINING TO ROAD, DRAINAGE AND RETAINING WALL WORK COMPLETED THROUGH OCTOBER 22, 2008 AS REQUESTED BY BRIAN CURTIS, TOWN ENGINEER. ALL AYE

Reschedule November 10, 2008 meeting to November 17, 2008

MOTION BY JAMES MCLAUGHLIN SECONDED BY JOHN SZEWCZYK TO RESCHEDULE NOVEMBER 10, 2008 BOS MEETING TO NOVEMBER 17, 2008. ALL AYE

Set Special Town Meeting date and approve call

MOTION BY JAMES MCLAUGHLIN SECONDED BY JOHN SZEWCZYK TO SET SPECIAL TOWN MEETING DATE, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 17TH, 2008 AND APPROVE CALL. ALL AYE

CALL TO A SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
TOWN OF DURHAM

A SPECIAL TOWN MEETING of the Electors and Citizens qualified to vote at Town Meetings of the Town of Durham will be held in the 3rd Floor Meeting Room, Town Hall on Monday, November 17, 2008 at 8:00 p.m. for the following purpose:

1. To transfer \$1,800 from #9140 Reserve for Ambulance and \$1,800 from #9580 Reserve for Fire Equipment to #6700-494 CIP Fire Department for the purchase of a Kimtek Fire/EMS Combo Slide-In Unit as recommended by the Board of Finance at their meeting of October 21, 2008.
2. To transfer \$4,500 from #9840 Reserve for Town Green Repair to #6700-482 CIP Town Green for repairs as recommended by the Board of Finance at their meeting of October 21, 2008.

Laura L. Francis
First Selectman

John T. Szewczyk
Selectman

James W. McLaughlin
Selectman

Approval of Board of Selectmen meeting minutes October 6th and October 9th, 2008

MOTION BY JAMES MCLAUGHLIN SECONDED BY JOHN SZEWCZYK TO APPROVE OCTOBER 6, 2008 MINUTES.
ALL AYE

MOTION BY JOHN SZEWCZYK SECONDED BY LAURA FRANCIS TO APPROVE OCTOBER 9, 2008 MINUTES WITH
CORRECTION. ALL AYE

Old/New business

L. Francis discussed the following old business.

- L. Francis provided the Selectmen with a spreadsheet that projected a budget shortfall for FY08-09. She stated she was going to ask all departments and boards to halt or defer spending until the end of the year. She will also be asking for prior approval of any single expenditure over \$1,000.
- The Foothills Road project is complete. An audit of the project will be done once all billings are received to compare projected to actual costs.
- An organizational meeting of the Lake Grove Task Force was held on October 15th. Members Geoff Colegrove, Peter Casini, Hugh Curley and Laura Francis will meet every two weeks. They currently are working on determining capacity use of the property. She spoke with Mr. Brayson who continues to get interest for school use and noted he appreciates the town working on this project.
- L. Francis and J. Brayshaw met with the East Shore Health District. Any decision to join has been put on hold because of particular concerns around Durham's water company depending heavily on the towns' sanitarians expertise. L. Francis also stated the numbers to join at this time are not as attractive as before, revenue is down and the buy in would be more.
- The flu-clinic was very successful this year; over 200 shots were given out. L. Francis thanked Francis Willett, Janet Muraca and Bill Milardo for their help.
- There is an offer on the table in reference to Mountain Road that L. Francis stated would be on the next agenda in executive session. She asked the Selectmen to review the file at town hall prior to this meeting.

L. Francis discussed the following new business.

- L. Francis talked about the Lincoln Commemoration - Bicentennial on February 12, 2009. She is seeking volunteers to work on a municipal celebration. Valerie Kilmartin and John Corona have already volunteered.
- The ambulance building furnace was replaced over the weekend for approximately \$5,500 and was out of service for 63 hours. She thanked Kurt Bober and his crew for resolving the problem so expeditiously and ambulance and fire personal for their cooperation during this period.
- L. Francis will be attending a meeting in Hartford tomorrow with the DEP, EPA, DPH, City of Middletown, Geoff Colegrove, and Bill Milardo to review the study progress to date on the Water Main Extension Feasibility. Cases will be studied; superfund area, fire protection areas,

interconnection with the existing Durham Center Water System. There will also be a general discussion of the adequacy of Middletown's supply and infrastructure improvements needed to supply Durham. An environmental impact evaluation public hearing is scheduled for November 12th, 7:00 pm at the Durham Library.

- She talked about the Middlefield Board of Finance's desire to hold back bond payments due to the fact that Durham did not properly notice the referendum. Durham's Board of Finance has decided to wait to see if the motion that Middlefield made was legal. L. Francis spoke with J. Brayshaw asking him if he requested, or if a legal opinion was requested, and he responded no. J. McLaughlin asked if anyone spoke to the school system about this. L. Francis stated the schools intention is to put the money into an escrow account or contingency fund while we wait for an opinion; she noted there are attorneys at the State Board of Education that she would contact. She ended by saying she has a commitment from Rep. Raymond Kalinowski and Senator Edward Meyer once the session opens they will put in the validating legislation which may happen as early as March to be voted on but noted it may be a little unpredictable.
- Middlefield's Board of Finance has asked for a joint meeting with Durham's Board of Selectmen and Board of Finance to strategize on areas of mutual concern; Board of Education, DMIAAB, etc. November 6th or 13th were two available dates.

Selectmen's comments

None

Public comments

S. Wright asked for clarification on Lake Grove road names. There is continued confusion when being called to an emergency at this location; Brayson Drive not being a town road name. L. Francis confirmed she would talk to the Assessor's Department.

Scott Wright echoed L. Francis's comments on the ill repair of the ambulance building and the uninhabitable conditions for volunteers to live in. L. Francis stated she thought the building on 37 Main Street could be renovated with a STEAP Grant allocation expeditiously and asked S. Wright if this would serve the ambulance corps needs. S. Wright stated although this was a generous offer he is concerned about the housing of their current vehicle and the need for an additional vehicle.

Maryann Boord asked if the Board received a guarantee to rid 51 Main Street of successfully removing the mold. J. McLaughlin said architects and engineers have said it is possible and referred to the Town Hall renovation. He agreed that an expert opinion should be sought out by the newly formed committee (PSFRC) and asked that it be added to their charge.

S. Wright announced that Durham's EMS celebrated a milestone this week; they went one full year without passing emergency calls onto other agencies as first responders. He praised the team for working so well with each other.

Adjourn

MOTION BY JAMES MCLAUGHLIN SECONDED BY LAURA FRANCIS TO ADJOURN MEETING AT 8:10 P.M.

Respectfully submitted:

Beth Moncata

RECV'D: Office of the Town Clerk
November 4, 2008 at 11:30 am