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APPROVED

MINUTES OF THE MILFORD BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING

January 12, 2009

PRESENT: Gary L. Daniels, Chairman
Tim Finan, Vice Chairman
James Dannis, Member
Mike Putnam, Member
Katherine Bauer, Member
Guy Scaife, Town Administrator
Darlene J. Bouffard, Recording Secretary

1. CALL TO ORDER, BOARD OF SELECTMEN INTRODUCTIONS & PUBLIC SPEAKING

INSTRUCTIONS: The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. Chairman Daniels led the Pledge of Allegiance and then introduced Board members, noting that those people in the audience who want to speak or add to the discussion should please go to the microphone in order to be heard on the PEG Access live broadcast.

2. APPOINTMENTS:

5:30 p.m. – Non-Public Session (RSA 91-A:3, II(e)). Selectman Putnam moved to enter into non-public session at 5:31 p.m. in accordance with RSA 91-A:3, II(e) for a legal discussion. Selectman Bauer seconded. All were in favor. Motion passed 5/0. After discussion, Selectman Putnam moved to come out of non-public session at 5:40 p.m. Selectman Bauer seconded. All were in favor. Motion passed 5/0. There was no announcement.

5:45 – Warrant Article Discussions – DO-IT Operating Budget Support & Pumpkin Festival, Holiday Decorations and Plantings. Tracey Bardsley, DO-IT Director, was in attendance and provided a review of the 2008 budget, noting that 45% of the budget revenue is from grants and private contributions. The Kaley Fund did not invest as much last year as in the past. Ms. Bardsley indicated considerable work was done in 2008, such as the oval light posts being painted through the Corrections Department, downtown weekly drawings during the summer, summer concerts, Farmer’s Market and special events; the Holiday Tree Lighting was expanded; DO-IT is working with downtown businesses for facade lighting; two diseased maple trees were removed and replaced, and provided input on the South Street project grant. DO-IT will introduce a brochure for the Main Street program; the brochure markets the town in its entirety and will include recreational and cultural activities in Milford. 2009 will also see DO-IT recruiting new businesses to town to fill the open store fronts. Ms. Bardsley is working on a marketing analysis with demographics and zoning/planning regulations. The traditional DO-IT events will continue such as Pumpkin Festival and the new Holiday Stroll. Ms. Bardsley feels it is very important to promote a healthy and vibrant downtown. Hiring a marketing consultant would be much more costly than the \$20,000 being requested for a DO-IT Warrant Article, which ends up being used to pay town staff for the festival activities. Ms. Bardsley noted that 2009 is the 20th anniversary of the Pumpkin Festival, which was originally started as a fundraiser. The \$20,000 allocated in Warrant Article 19 for the Pumpkin Festival, is also used for the plantings on the oval, holiday decorations and bridge flowers as well as police, fire and ambulance coverage for the Pumpkin Festival. There was \$3,000 over and above the 2008 DO-IT allocation for flowers that will come out of the DO-IT budget; this item will be cut back in 2009. The 2008 Pumpkin Festival was very highly attended due to good weather. The weather is variable and the festival is dependent on the weather. The last two good years of the Pumpkin Festival have restored a diminished budget from the years with bad weather. The Pumpkin Festival is the primary fundraiser for DO-IT and other community groups, and provides a lot of business to the oval businesses for two and a half days. Ms. Bardsley asked for questions from the Board.

Selectman Bauer asked how many people are employed by the businesses in the oval area. Ms. Bardsley did not have that information but will find out and get back to the Board. There are about 72 businesses in the oval area plus the town hall employees. Selectman Dannis asked what the boundaries of the “oval” are. Ms. Bardsley responded the oval area includes Middle Street, Amherst Street (up a distance), Mont Vernon Street (up a distance including Boys & Girls Club), Nashua Street, Elm Street to Sunapee Bank, South Street to Mori Books. Chairman Daniels asked about the payment of town staff during the Pumpkin Festival. Ms. Bardsley responded that is for the expense for Pumpkin Festival emergency services and assistance in installation of holiday decorations. Selectman Dannis indicated on the DO-IT budget, it indicates revenue of \$62,000 and expenses of \$54,000, leaving \$8,000 to

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1 carry forward into next year, he asked what the retained earnings are for the DO-IT organization. Ms. Bardsley
2 responded that there are some retained earnings in savings for leaner years. She said she can get back with more
3 clear information when her accountant comes back from vacation. Selectman Dannis asked what the reserves for
4 the organization are. Ms. Bardsley responded DO-IT has about half of an operating year saved. Selectman Dannis
5 indicated that is about \$40,000, asking how is that spent? Ms. Bardsley replied that money helps make up the short-
6 falls. Selectman Dannis said the 2008 Pumpkin Festival was a great success, the revenue had great results, in think-
7 ing about DO-IT, are the businesses assessed any fees to fund DO-IT? Ms. Bardsley stated that some of the busi-
8 nesses provide contributions, and some make in-kind contributions. For 2008, Selectman Dannis said \$20,000 was
9 budgeted in private donations, if they have only contributed 25%, why should the taxpayers be asked for the full
10 100% contribution? Ms. Bardsley responded that DO-IT did not do a private appeal for donations this year, it was a
11 corporate appeal, for which a mailing was done for every business in Milford and down a portion of Route 101A
12 and only came out \$80 ahead after the cost of mailing. If people do not have enough money for this item, Select-
13 man Dannis said there is \$40,000 in retained earnings, so DO-IT can go forward for the year with that money. Ms.
14 Bardsley said yes, that will carry DO-IT for part of the year. Chairman Daniels asked what the priority is for DO-IT
15 in 2009. Ms. Bardsley responded marketing is the priority and she would like to bring businesses in, she wants to
16 try to fill the open store fronts in the oval. She is hoping she can get those spaces available and filled.

17
18 Chairman Daniels said for the financial support given DO-IT to businesses, is each of those businesses required to
19 give something back? Ms. Bardsley said they are not required, but it is something that she would like some of them
20 to provide in-kind assistance. Some businesses give of their time or goods and services. Not all businesses donated
21 monetarily. Chairman Daniels asked why taxpayers should provide monetary support to businesses that they may
22 not support, when the businesses outside of the oval do not get assistance from DO-IT. Ms. Bardsley responded
23 DO-IT does work with businesses outside of the oval, the oval represents the heart of downtown Milford and tax-
24 payers may want to contribute because it provides a positive reflection of the town. Businesses have come to town
25 because they drove through the oval and saw that it is vibrant. Chairman Daniels asked how this is not a bail-out.
26 Ms. Bardsley responded when downtown looks good, it helps the tax base and the entire town. Chairman Daniels
27 sees some businesses that get taxpayer money to do improvements; why should taxpayers be responsible for how
28 that business looks? Ms. Bardsley responded the facade grants are matching grants, for every \$100 that DO-IT pro-
29 vides to the business for the facade, the business has to invest \$200 for that amount provided. Chairman Daniels
30 asked how the marketing will be expanded. Ms. Bardsley responded the brochure will pay for itself with advertis-
31 ing space and will be distributed to Chambers of Commerce and local businesses. The marketing analysis is com-
32 plete, the business recruiting package is ready to be collated. Chairman Daniels asked if there was only \$50,000 in
33 the budget, what would it be spent on. Ms. Bardsley indicated the biggest expense is overhead (rent, salaries). Se-
34 lectman Bauer is the Board representative for DO-IT; this year she learned a lot about it. \$20,000 is a good invest-
35 ment in downtown. In the 1970's the oval center was struggling; what makes a difference is when a person is hired
36 and focuses on improvements and grant writing for improvements, more businesses will come in and that is ex-
37 tremely important. Milford wants the town center to be attractive and vibrant; in the group of people in DO-IT, not
38 everyone contributes with money but the group is made up of many merchants. It is a valuable group to have and
39 she thanked Ms. Bardsley for the work she does.

40
41 Guy Scaife indicated the town is basically contracting out to DO-IT to provide a vital service. The items making
42 the oval look nice need to be done by someone to coordinate the purchase and organization and we do see how good
43 it looks, most people are impressed by the Christmas decorations on the oval and it does a lot for the community.
44 Guy Scaife added that the invoice for the Pumpkin Festival detail services was \$19,000 out of \$20,000, so it was
45 used up, the DO-IT organization has no say how many people are required for police detail, that is a decision the
46 Police Chief makes. The event has been a success so it has grown since five years ago. The \$20,000 Warrant Arti-
47 cle is coming up short this year because of the size of the event. DO-IT is billed for every single penny that is
48 charged for the Pumpkin Festival. The police have a bargaining unit contract, which has a fixed rate for hours and
49 rate of pay for police details, we cannot staff with only Milford police and must use officers from other towns. DO-
50 IT is coming up \$4,000 short of the real costs. All members thanked Ms. Bardsley for her presentation.

51
52 **6:15 p.m. – Budget & Warrant Article Discussions – Conservation Commission.** Diane Fitzpatrick, Conserva-
53 tion Commission Chairperson, and Rita Carroll, Conservation Commission Coordinator, were present for this pres-
54 entation. Diane Fitzpatrick explained that one Conservation Commission Warrant Article is for the discontinuation
55 of a portion of Hartshorn Mill Road as was discussed with the Board of Selectman a month or so ago and has no tax
56 impact. This article needs to go to town vote in order for it to be done as part of the Hartshorn Pond area enhance-
57 ment. If approved by the voters, this will go to the Planning Board to lay out the new road. There were no ques-

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1 tions. The other two Warrant Articles for the Conservation Commission (CC) have been suggested. The first
2 would allow the CC to expend funds on land protection, without taking property, to outside organizations; the sec-
3 ond would allow the CC to expend funds to purchase interest in lands outside town boundaries. Attorney Drescher
4 has advised the CC that it cannot just contribute money to non-profit organizations and walk away, there needs to be
5 a connection with the organization. Diane Fitzpatrick indicated there are two changes to the RSA, we could buy
6 land outside the town boundaries; this would allow for the purchase of land outside of the town, such as buying a
7 well head. If money is donated to an organization in town, we do not need to go to the Board of Selectman for ap-
8 proval, but if buying land outside of town, the Board of Selectman would need to approve. Diane Fitzpatrick indi-
9 cated when the legislature changes the RSA it is black & white, in this change it was an agreement that these
10 changes would go to the voters before the town was required to follow it. Chairman Daniels said it would need to
11 be voted in by the town, then the town can operate under them. Diane Fitzpatrick said that is correct and it goes to
12 the Board of Selectman first. If the voters agree for the CC to purchase land outside of the town, Chairman Daniels
13 asked if it would need to go before the Board of Selectman? Diane Fitzpatrick said it would. Selectman Dannis ask
14 why does the CC have to come before the Board of Selectman? Diane Fitzpatrick said it is in RSA 36. It would be
15 adding liability to the town. Selectman Dannis said this would authorize the CC to donate funds without coming to
16 the Board of Selectman to purchase land outside of town, why wouldn't there be some protections to limit the au-
17 thority so it has a link to the town? Diane Fitzpatrick recommended having that language, but it would be a third
18 Warrant Article to do that. Selectman Dannis asked why that isn't here? Diane Fitzpatrick has not gotten to that
19 point yet. Chairman Daniels noted that language is in the other article. Diane Fitzpatrick said the group that
20 worked on the language did not put it in the first Warrant Article but recommended that to be a third Warrant Arti-
21 cle to require that it come to the Board of Selectman. Diane Fitzpatrick said they are separate issues. Guy Scaife
22 said this is for a specific RSA and if you modify the language that's in the RSA, it needs to be a separate Warrant
23 Article. Selectman Dannis noted the Board can adopt anything it wants, he thinks the first Warrant Article with the
24 added language will allow what is desired. Diane Fitzpatrick agrees with Guy Scaife.

25
26 Budget Items: Selectman Dannis indicated there is a Forest Management Plan that was left for Board members by
27 the CC but never discussed. Diane Fitzpatrick responded that report is being shared with the Board because there
28 was interest expressed. Selectman Dannis indicated the CC has a budget of \$20,000, the Forest Management Plan
29 seems to be well prepared and provides plans for 558 acres, about half of the town-owned land. Diane Fitzpatrick
30 noted the Mile Slip Forest was not included. Selectman Dannis continued there is a current standing wood value of
31 \$690,000, about \$10,000 per year for ten years could be harvested; shouldn't we offset some of the annual expenses
32 by these revenues? Can the town start doing some of that next year? Diane Fitzpatrick said timber prices are down
33 right now. There is value in the town forest. The CC has discussed this and does not have a problem with sharing
34 the revenue with the town; we need to timber in a logical manner as appropriate. Most likely, a timber harvest will
35 be done in 2010. A budget will be worked out ahead of time. Selectman Dannis said things are bad out there, why
36 are we not going to do that in 2009? Selectman Dannis will do a timber harvest next year; low grade prices are
37 high; shouldn't we be aggressive to find a way to save taxpayers money? Diane Fitzpatrick indicated a Warrant
38 Article would be needed to move those funds to the General Fund. Every property has an issue with slopes, wet-
39 lands, access, or being close to the population, etc. This was discussed before, after which there were phone calls,
40 e-mails, etc. from people to not turn the town forests into a commercial operation.

41
42 Selectman Bauer said if a harvest is done, what is the procedure? Diane Fitzpatrick said there is a property in the
43 file that was looked at and has high quality timber. Some areas are overstocked and the going rate has slowed
44 down. The town would identify the areas to map, but not damage the property. The hired professional would mark
45 the trees to be cut; then come up with an estimate of what it is worth; the fee comes out of the harvest. A profes-
46 sional forester marks trees and the timber company cuts them. Cord wood is another product, but no commercial
47 operation goes in for cord wood. The saw logs are where the value is. Cord wood is a by-product and is about
48 \$10/cord. If trees need to be cut to clear for saw logs, that could be used for cord wood. Selectman Dannis said the
49 value of the standing wood is about \$700,000, which is \$100,000 over the next ten years. The revenues from the
50 wood will be shared with the town General fund. Diane Fitzpatrick indicated if a recommendation has a decision
51 making component, another town forest has an access problem. Selectman Dannis said this plan is not for a com-
52 mercial operation, it is for a CC operation. He is glad that the Board of Selectman is taking an interest in this and
53 plans to do something in the future.

54
55 **7:00 p.m. – Community Facilities Advisory Committee Assessment – Ambulance/Fire & Town Hall Report**
56 **Presentation.** Rodny Richey, Chairman of the Community Facilities Advisory Committee, was present along with
57 members of the committee for this presentation. Mr. Richey explained the first order of business was to define the

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1 problems; the committee toured the facilities and broke into three subcommittees: Ambulance, Fire/Emergency
2 Management and Town Hall. The findings and recommendations were presented and indicated the Committee is
3 looking for \$25,000 for professional assistance with the electrical and architectural needs for the various options so
4 that when the options can be put into effect they will be ready to implement. Selectman Bauer thanked the commit-
5 tee for coming to this meeting noting the Board of Selectman charged this committee to find out the current status of
6 the Fire, Ambulance and Town Hall space needs. The committee is hoping the Board of Selectman will endorse
7 funding to get professional assistance. Mr. Richey added that it is more of a recommendation than a request, the
8 Facilities Committee is acting on behalf of the town. If the Board of Selectman wishes for the Facilities Committee
9 to continue with a consultant, the Board of Selectman, Town Administrator and staff must make sure the facilities
10 are adequate. Planning should be addressed just as maintenance should be addressed, the committee would like to
11 assist in the future. The recommended funding would be to develop options using professional assistance to look at
12 the facilities in place. Even in Town Hall the space analysis would show how the space can be better utilized. Se-
13 lectman Bauer asked about the roof at the Fire Station, which leaks, and noted if the town keeps the facility, the roof
14 should be replaced and will cost about \$65,000. Mr. Richey answered that a quick fix for that roof would cost
15 about \$1,500-\$2,000, the \$65,000 would allow insulation to be added, and fix the roof, for more long term use.
16 Selectman Dannis thanked the committee, adding the Board of Selectman is looking to save money to keep the tax
17 increase as low as possible. Selectman Dannis asked if there is a crisis. Mr. Richey responded the committee find-
18 ings show there is not a crisis now, but the committee sees a need for planning now. The planning of the police
19 station was done prior to this committee being involved. That could have been handled as a crisis at that point, but
20 now is the time to plan the options for these departments. Selectman Dannis asked what the downside is for waiting
21 one year. Mr. Richey said the downside would be to lose the momentum that the committee has accomplished. It
22 could be put on the shelf for a year, but the momentum would be lost. You would lose less if the options were de-
23 fined.

24
25 Selectman Dannis asked if the committee looked at other towns and how they handle their facility needs? Mr.
26 Richey said that was done to a limited extent. The committee wanted to try not to get into a solution situation until
27 the problems were identified. The use of space in Town Hall for ambulance services was appropriate at the time,
28 now the need for a better situation at Town Hall makes that a need to consider. The need right now is to do the plan
29 to see what is feasible and what isn't. If the Board goes forward and appropriates the money to get a consultant
30 now, Chairman Daniels asked how relative would that study be if it cannot be done it for 5-6 years? Mr. Richey
31 responded if it were to be put off for 5-6 years, that information is going to have a shelf life that will not last that
32 long. It would make sense to evaluate the options and eliminate those that are not good and maybe act on it within
33 1-2 years. Depending on the information, some might be useable and some might not. Guy Scaife thanked the
34 committee, noting the presentation was informative, but if members have not read the full report they should; Mr.
35 Scaife indicated he has not seen a more thorough, in-depth report done by a volunteer committee.

36
37 Guy Scaife came to Milford prior to the move into the new police station. The old station was appalling at the time
38 the new station opened. These facilities are nowhere near that, but we need to make sure we do not get to that point.
39 Mr. Scaife believes the shelf life on that report will be longer than 1-2 years. The price tag has been lowered from
40 \$25,000 to \$18,000. Without a preliminary plan, the town cannot determine what size lot is needed for facilities; it
41 will take a long time to plan and get a plan approved. It will take 3-4 years to get a plan together, keeping mind, the
42 next ambulance replacement might not fit in the existing bay. The town is within a short time frame of replacing an
43 ambulance; a shorter time frame than it will take to build a new facility. If it does not get started, it will continue to
44 get pushed out. Guy Scaife believes this is an operational type expenditure and belongs in the budget. The ambu-
45 lance calls were up 9% in 2008, fire calls were up 7%. Selectman Bauer commented that the full report prepared
46 by the Facilities Committee is very thorough. A study was done in 2002 and at that point the Facilities Committee
47 was saying various things were urgent for ambulance and fire. She is hopeful that this report will not just fade
48 away; we should keep going with it. When you go into the ambulance service you can see there is no decontamina-
49 tion area, no exhaust removal, and no expansion space. We know that the fire station needs a new roof and is
50 cramped. If people visit the Town Hall basement, it is obvious that IT, Community Media and Recreation are
51 cramped, poorly ventilated and there is no egress and no room for them to do the best job they can do for the town.
52 The employees are doing a good job under poor conditions and meeting the mission is just not enough. The Facili-
53 ties Committee is trying to prevent the situation that happened at the previous police station. Selectman Bauer
54 thinks the Board should support the \$18,000 for this consultant and it should be a budget item.

55
56 Gil Archambault, Facilities Committee, indicated times are tough in a recession, but does Milford need \$10,000 for
57 fireworks that last 45 minutes, or band concerts for \$9,000, or can that be used for the \$18,000 needed for a consult-

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ant? Tonight's presentation is more crucial. Mr. Archambault also noted the Pumpkin Festival was profitable in 2008, maybe we could use that money or maybe cancel it for 2009. Mr. Archambault said the longer the town waits the more it would cost. Selectman Dannis said the Board made a decision on those items (Fireworks, Concerts) and they passed 3/2, even though there might be items needed more, the Board voted to approve those items. Gil Archambault asked if those decisions are in granite or could they be reconsidered? Selectman Dannis said they could be reconsidered. Bill Fitzpatrick explained the Budget Advisory Committee is frugal and the Facilities Committee consultant could create a plan that will be in place in the next few years when some infrastructure monies might become available with the new administration. There is lot money available, Milford has over \$90,000 sitting in a fund for Osgood Pond dredging, the town could pull that money out to get the consultant without eliminating anything else. Mr. Fitzpatrick visited Brookline regarding their ambulance facility, they built a state of the art facility without bonding. This town is frugal and at times too frugal. Selectman Bauer indicated if the town wanted to have those funds available it would require a warrant article to move them. Mr. Fitzpatrick said that is correct; it would be released in a Warrant Article to the voters. Chairman Daniels thanked all members of the Facilities Committee for giving the Board an excellent place to begin deliberations. Rodny Richey noted that he does not feel the Facilities Consultant should be a Warrant Article, but instead should be part of the budget.

3. PRESS AND PUBLIC COMMENTS (regarding items that are not on the agenda): There were none.

4. DECISIONS:

a) CONSENT CALENDAR. Chairman Daniels asked if there were any items to be removed from the Consent Calendar. He explained that if they are taken off the Consent Calendar, they will be discussed fully; otherwise they will be accepted together without discussion. There were no items removed for discussion. Selectman Putnam moved and Selectman Bauer seconded to approve the Consent Calendar, as follows, with all members in favor.

(1) Request for Approval of (1) Property Tax Abatement Application. A Property Tax Abatement request was submitted by Kathy Doherty, Tax Collector, and approved by the Board for the property at 54 Birchwood Drive for the amount of \$1,339.18 for the period of April 1, 2008 to August 20, 2008 when the property was owned by NH Housing Finance Authority, in accordance with RSA 204-C:49, which states NH Housing Finance Authority is exempt from paying real estate taxes.

(2) Request for Partial Release of Securities. Sarah Marchant, Town Planner, requested and was granted Board approval for the partial release of securities for Falcon Ridge, Map 3, Lot 5 in the amount of \$362,628.02 for the Falcon Ridge Off-Site Improvements project leaving a balance of \$28,738.16.

(3) Request to Approve Issuance of Timber Yield Tax Levy & Warrant (3). Kathy Doherty, Tax Collector, requested and was granted approval to issue timber tax levies and collect taxes as follows:

NAME	ADDRESS	AMOUNT
Robert & Janet Wisniewski Trustees	38 Woodward Drive, Milford	\$1,825.92
Roland Ayotte	PO Box 208, New Boston	\$1,280.38
William Kokko Sr. & Ruth T. Trustees	97 Osgood Road, Milford	\$ 562.93

(4) Acceptance of Unanticipated Funds Under \$5,000 (31:95(b)). Unanticipated funds were accepted by the Board as follows:

Source	Amount	Purpose
Milford Lions Club	\$100.00	General donation to the Police Dept. The Police Dept. wishes to designate the donation to the Law Enforcement Memorial Special Purpose Fund

b) OTHER DECISIONS

(1) Consideration of Deliberative Session Location. Guy Scaife indicated this discussion is regarding the physical location of the town deliberative session. The session can be either at the Town Hall auditorium or at the High School. Last year it was moved to the school primarily because we could not broadcast live from the auditorium. Guy Scaife thinks it should be held in Town Hall for live broadcast instead of a delayed broadcast. Parking was an issue in the past. If the deliberative session is held in the Town Hall audi-

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1 torium, the Town will work hard on signage, web site and newspaper advertising explaining not to use the
2 front parking but rather to use the Library or Putnam Street parking lot. Selectman Dannis asked what Guy
3 Scaife's recommendation is. Guy Scaife would rather have it broadcast live in the auditorium. Selectman
4 Putnam thought it was moved to the high school because of parking, it was fine having it at the school and
5 worked out well. Selectman Bauer agreed with Selectman Putnam, the parking was much better at the
6 school although she favors the Town Hall. Vice Chairman Finan would prefer it to be in the auditorium, if
7 the parking can be resolved. Vice Chairman Finan asked if there were complaints two years ago when it
8 was held in the auditorium. Guy Scaife knows there were a couple of complaints, but if we can use the
9 auditorium for live broadcast, we should. Selectman Bauer noted downtown on a Saturday is busy. Chair-
10 man Daniels agreed it should be live on PEG, if people are waiting for a certain warrant to be discussed
11 they could come out just for that discussion. Guy Scaife added there are no live capabilities for live broad-
12 cast at the school. Selectman Bauer thinks the live broadcast is good, maybe the town could look into us-
13 ing some of the private parking around the oval. Selectman Dannis indicated it comes down to live versus
14 parking. Selectman Putnam said PEG does not do anything for him; it doesn't make any difference to him
15 for a live broadcast. Selectman Putnam thinks it is easier to get around at the high school than at Town
16 Hall. Guy Scaife said the last two year's crowd at the high school was smaller than the previous two years,
17 however that could be based on what was being discussed. If people are interested, they come in. Select-
18 man Dannis is not sure how many people are watching it live.

19
20 Bill Parker asked if it is in stone to have it in the morning. Chairman Daniels said that is an option; it is
21 felt people could come in to the meeting and be out by noon and have the rest of the day. Selectman Put-
22 nam moved to have the deliberative session at Milford High School. Selectman Bauer seconded. Select-
23 man Putnam and Selectman Bauer were in favor, with Selectman Dannis, Vice Chairman Finan and
24 Chairman Daniels opposed. Motion failed 2/3. Vice Chairman Finan moved to hold the deliberative ses-
25 sion at Town Hall. Selectman Dannis seconded. Vice Chairman Finan, Selectman Dannis, Chairman
26 Daniels and Selectman Bauer were in favor, with Selectman Putnam opposed. Motion passed 4/1. Select-
27 man Putnam moved to keep the deliberative session at 9:00 a.m. on February 7. Selectman Dannis sec-
28 onded. Selectman Putnam, Selectman Dannis, Vice Chairman Finan and Chairman Daniels were in favor,
29 with Selectman Bauer opposed. Motion passed 4/1.

30
31 Chairman Daniels suggested handing out a survey asking people if they would rather have deliberative ses-
32 sion at Town Hall or the High School and in the morning or afternoon, to be used for next year.

33
34 (2) **Request for Partial Release of Securities.** Selectman Dannis stepped down from the Board for this dis-
35 cussion. Chairman Daniels indicated this has been presented to the Board previously and the Board re-
36 quested legal advice for the release of securities (bond) in the amount of \$18,750 for Federal Pointe and
37 Wallingford subdivisions. Chairman Daniels indicated the money that was set aside has nothing to do with
38 what was talked about regarding its use. Vice Chairman Finan clarified that this is just to release the funds,
39 but is not to approve the road. Vice Chairman Finan moved to authorize the release of \$18,750 as recom-
40 mended by Town Counsel, leaving a balance of \$28,933.86 which will be kept for one year as a Road
41 Maintenance Bond for those roads previously accepted. Selectman Bauer seconded. Vice Chairman Fi-
42 nan, Selectman Bauer, Selectman Putnam and Chairman Daniels were in favor. Motion passed 4/0. After
43 the decision, Selectman Dannis stepped back up to the Board.

44
45 (3) **Request for a Town Company's Addition to Town Tow Rotation List.** Payless Towing and Recovery
46 has requested to be added to the Town Tow Rotation List. Chairman Daniels indicated as long as the company
47 agrees to the town policy for towing, they could be added to the list. Selectman Dannis stated there is no recom-
48 mendation from staff. If the town requirements are met, there should be a recommendation on this type of activity.
49 Selectman Putnam asked why there isn't a recommendation from Chief Douglas? Chairman Daniels said the re-
50 quest came through Administrative Assistant Dawn Griska to forward to the Board of Selectman. Chairman
51 Daniels asked how the Board would know if the requirements are continued to be met by any towing company.
52 Selectman Bauer asked if the Police Department was involved in other towing companies being added to the list?
53 Chairman Daniels did not know, stating this is the first time since he joined the Board that a tow company has made
54 this request. Selectman Dannis moved that the application be provided to the Police Department and ask for a rec-
55 ommendation from the Police Chief as to whether or not the company meets the requirements. Vice Chairman Fi-
56 nan seconded for discussion. Selectman Bauer reviewed the towing company packet and did not see any conflict.
57 Vice Chairman Finan asked if the Police Department must be involved? Selectman Dannis believes there should be

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1 a recommendation; he will support an approval as long as Selectman Bauer did the work. Selectman Dannis with-
2 drew his motion. Selectman Putnam moved to add Payless Towing to the tow rotation. Selectman Bauer seconded.
3 Selectman Putnam, Selectman Bauer, Selectman Dannis, Vice Chairman Finan and Chairman Daniels were in fa-
4 vor. Motion passed 5/0.

5
6 **5. TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:**

7
8 a) **Miscellaneous.** Town Administrator Guy Scaife had nothing further to expand upon.

9
10 **6. DISCUSSIONS:**

11
12 (a) **Budget Update/Warrant Articles.** Selectman Dannis asked Chairman Daniels if the WWTF Director
13 Larry Anderson could be addressed regarding his Warrant Articles, in order that the Board can address any
14 issues and he need not stay for the remainder of the meeting. Chairman Daniels recognized WWTF Direc-
15 tor Larry Anderson, who indicated there is a WWTF Warrant Article on the ballot and asked for any ques-
16 tions from the Board in order for them to be addressed prior to deliberative session. Selectman Bauer
17 asked how many employees are at the WWTF. Larry Anderson responded 17 employees. Selectman
18 Bauer asked if the salary increase issue has been dealt with? Larry Anderson said the salary increases are
19 handled the same as town employees; he has talked with Guy Scaife on that and will follow the town pro-
20 tocol.

21
22 Chairman Daniels reviewed the decisions made at the last Budget Work Session, January 5, as follows:

- 23 Fireworks \$10,000 – Board support 3/2
- 24 Band Concerts \$9,000 – Board support 3/2
- 25 Parades - Board support 4/1
- 26 Police Cruisers – left in budget
- 27 Paving Machine – left in budget
- 28 Fire SUV – look into used vehicle (pending)
- 29 PEG Equipment \$6,500 – left in budget

30
31 Items still pending include the possibility of purchasing a used SUV for the Fire Department, and looking into
32 replacing the engine on the best police cruiser due for replacement, which Chairman Daniels looked into and
33 received a quote for \$5,000 to replace the engine from Winkel Auto Body. Selectman Putnam asked what the
34 engine replacement encompasses, he does not see the benefit since there are so many parts and the vehicles will
35 fall apart around the engine. Chairman Daniels stated the vehicles are for in-town driving and idling, but the
36 car repairs will still be less than the \$53,000 in the budget; he asked what the mileage is for the vehicles due for
37 replacement. Guy Scaife responded both vehicles due for replacement will have about 120,000 miles. Select-
38 man Bauer would like to stay with the vehicle rotation schedule. Selectman Dannis suggested if someone in the
39 majority of the votes last week wants to reconsider the vote, they would need to make a motion to reconsider.
40 The Work Session was not broadcast on PEG and the Board did not remove any spending, the big items were
41 not discussed. Selectman Bauer agreed but the budget work session was a public session and there was a lot of
42 good discussion.

43
44 SALARIES/SICK TIME BUY-OUT (PART 1):

45
46 Selectman Dannis would like to look at the sick time buy-out policy first. Chairman Daniels indicated the sick
47 time buy-out has a problem in that it goes into contractual employees. Selectman Dannis suggested 15 days of
48 sick time is given to employees, that is three weeks of paid time. The average number of sick days used is 4.5
49 per year. In Milford, employees are given 3 times more sick days than the average. Selectman Dannis finds it
50 hard to allow that much sick time to each employee, if there is a union problem, we should address it for non-
51 union. Buying back up to 7.5 days of sick time at the end of the year is a week and a half of wages. This is an
52 area that the Board should look at cutting back. Selectman Bauer wished this had been discussed before the
53 Teamsters agreement was signed, if the Board votes on this there will be a discrepancy between union & non-
54 union. Selectman Dannis understands wanting equal treatment, but the town will never have equal treatment of
55 different classes of employees. The Teamsters contract includes a merit increase of 1.5%, we have differences
56 in how we treat employees in areas such as healthcare. To vote for more inequality is not right and Selectman
57 Bauer will not support it. Everyone is going to have to tighten their belts but they will not be out on the street.

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1 Selectman Bauer agrees that the sick time buy-out policy is ridiculous, this Board could have gotten this ironed
2 out at the last meeting, but she cannot go for changing policy now when we are on the wire. Guy Scaife said
3 looking at compensation is the right thing to do, many towns do have the sick time benefit. If comparing bene-
4 fits against the private sector, the entire compensation package must be looked at, this was discussed earlier in
5 the year, but never progressed, but trying to isolate one item in the compensation package is not appropriate.
6 Vice Chairman Finan said he brought this up thinking the sick time buy-out program could be suspended for
7 one year. It was not supported because it goes across the unions. There is a difference in the way the groups
8 are treated; it would bother him to make the difference even greater. Selectman Dannis stated the overall ex-
9 pense needs to be understood by taxpayers; it costs over \$70,000 per year; he believes it is a mistake to have a
10 policy such as this tied up in collective bargaining units. If the Board wants to address it by suspending it for a
11 year, fine.

12
13 Selectman Dannis moved that the 2009 budget suspend the sick time buy-out policy for non-union employees.
14 Vice Chairman Finan seconded for discussion. Selectman Dannis made this motion because it is a much less
15 disruptive way to get at the question of saving money for taxpayers than going into a salary freeze. This is a
16 payment for being honest. Chairman Daniels understands the rationale, but has a problem with the timing and
17 would prefer to have advance notice given, not just bring it on abruptly. Chairman Daniels has tried to preserve
18 the wages and benefits, only taking from them as a last resort and will probably vote against it. Selectman Dan-
19 nis withdrew the motion and will resubmit after the Board goes through other items. After further discussion,
20 Salaries/Sick time buy-out was discussed again (see page 10)

21
22 FUND BALANCE:

23
24 Selectman Dannis indicated until other numbers are discussed, the fund balance ends up being the last resort
25 and should be discussed after all other items are gone through, then come back to compensation and fund bal-
26 ance.

27
28 BUDGET:

29
30 Guy Scaife and Jack Sheehy have gone through and reduced the merit increases from 3.5% to 3.0%; the gas
31 and diesel have been reduced as well. Mr. Scaife will not support further cuts, he and Jack went through this
32 recent cut and balanced fairness and long term needs of the community; there is no leeway to recognize out-
33 standing employees. The cost of living will be less than the Cost of Living index and it is not fair to employ-
34 ees. Selectman Dannis asked what are the expectations for the value of the job market value of jobs and cost
35 of living. The view is that we are in tough economic times and should see zero inflation. Selectman Bauer
36 does not have a lot of faith in the market, she asked if this increase is based on the performance of employees
37 for 2008. Mr. Scaife responded it is performance-based, which looks at a person's past performance. It is sal-
38 ary that is in conjunction of doing a performance evaluation that was agreed to by that person's manager. A
39 raise is not given in advance of doing the job, it is post-performance. Selectman Dannis asked about 2010,
40 when we have deflation and we have a great employee but the market value of the job goes down?

41
42 SUV (Fire):

43
44 Mr. Scaife indicated a used vehicle for the Fire Department needs to have the proper standard equipment. If the
45 amount is lowered, it is tying the hands of the Fire Chief. Selectman Putnam asked if this is to replace the old
46 SUV? Mr. Scaife responded yes, we are asking to replace the 1996 Ford Explorer that has 98,000 miles. That
47 vehicle will then be sold. Vice Chairman Finan asked if it could be suspended for one year if it is just for fire
48 inspections. Mr. Scaife responded that the vehicle is used for fire calls as well. This is a \$26,000 vehicle, if it
49 is a used vehicle it will need to be painted and have all the equipment moved over. Selectman Putnam sug-
50 gested getting an older used vehicle like a 2004 to replace the vehicle that will be gotten rid of. It is bother-
51 some to Mr. Scaife that the Board supports fireworks, but tries to save money when looking at a vehicle. Se-
52 lectman Dannis agreed, asking for those in the majority of that vote to reconsider and make some trade offs to
53 save some money. Selectman Bauer is fine with \$30,000 for an SUV, noting Guy Scaife and the Department
54 Heads have done an extremely good job and she is not going for a flat tax increase just for the fact of doing it.
55 The County has a 4% increase, the school is looking at a 3.8% increase, everyone has presented a lean budget
56 and is now trying to make some questionable changes from the last meeting. Selectman Dannis said it is not
57 right to say people are looking for a zero increase because they like a zero. All of the Board members feel we

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1 need to be as strong as we can for the taxpayers, we want to be as frugal as we can. With \$70,000 of sick time
2 buy-out money, we are far from being frugal. We should make the hard decisions of wants versus needs. The
3 Board would rather have everything, but needs to take away some goodies. Selectman Bauer said the Board is
4 doing a very responsible job with the budget.

5
6 Chairman Daniels moved to take out the Fire Department SUV at \$30,000. Selectman Dannis seconded.
7 Chairman Daniels, Selectman Dannis and Vice Chairman Finan were in favor, with Selectman Bauer and Se-
8 lectman Putnam opposed. Motion passed 3/2.

9
10 SOCIAL SERVICES:

11
12 Chairman Daniels moved to reduce the Social Services budget by \$10,000. Selectman Putnam seconded. Se-
13 lectman Bauer suggested the Board identify from where the \$10,000 reduction be taken. Chairman Daniels
14 suggested the programs mandated by the courts should stay. There was a discussion of which programs are
15 mandated by the courts; to which Chairman Daniels indicated that the Town Administrator and Welfare Direc-
16 tor should be able to identify those programs and fund them appropriately. Chairman Daniels, Selectman Put-
17 nam and Selectman Dannis were in favor, with Vice Chairman Finan and Selectman Bauer opposed. Motion
18 passed 3/2.

19
20 LIBRARY:

21
22 Chairman Daniels moved to not re-instate the Library Friday hours. Selectman Putnam seconded for discus-
23 sion. Selectman Bauer wished the Board had done this in time for the Library Trustees to do a petition Warrant
24 Article; if the Board does not support this, it does not go before the voters. Guy Scaife indicated that is correct,
25 in response to the Library Trustees, it is only fair for the voters to decide on this, if that is denied, it is not fair to
26 those Library Trustees who are also elected. Chairman Daniels asked if the Library budget is approved by the
27 Board of Selectman? Guy Scaife said it is and the Library budget is lower than last year; the Library Trustees
28 did not put this amount in the budget, but instead wanted to put it in front of the voters on a Warrant Article; it
29 was turned in timely but there was a town hall staff error and was not brought before the BOS until now. Se-
30 lectman Dannis requested for the motion to be amended to have it on the warrant with no Board recommenda-
31 tion.

32
33 Chairman Daniels moved to put on the warrant the re-instatement of the Library Friday hours as “not recom-
34 mended”. Selectman Dannis seconded. Chairman Daniels and Selectman Putnam in favor, with Selectman
35 Bauer, Selectman Dannis and Vice Chairman Finan opposed. Motion failed 2/3.

36
37 Selectman Dannis moved to put on the warrant the re-instatement of the Library Friday hours. Vice Chairman
38 Finan seconded. All were in favor. Motion passed 5/0.

39
40 Selectman Dannis moved to make no recommendation on the Library Friday hours re-instatement Warrant Ar-
41 ticle. Selectman Bauer seconded. No vote was taken. Selectman Dannis withdrew the motion.

42
43 Vice Chairman Finan moved to support re-instating the Library Friday hours. Selectman Bauer seconded.
44 Vice Chairman Finan and Selectman Bauer were in favor, with Selectman Putnam, Selectman Dannis and
45 Chairman Daniels opposed. Motion failed 2/3.

46
47 Selectman Dannis moved to not provide a BOS recommendation for the Library Friday hours Warrant Article.
48 Vice Chairman Finan seconded. Selectman Dannis, Vice Chairman Finan, Selectman Bauer and Selectman
49 Putnam were in favor, with Chairman Daniels opposed. Motion passed 4/1.

50
51 FIREWORKS/BAND CONCERTS:

52
53 Selectman Putnam moved to reconsider the vote on Fireworks and Band Concerts, made at the January 5, 2009
54 BOS budget work session. Selectman Dannis seconded. Selectman Putnam, Selectman Dannis, Selectman
55 Bauer and Chairman Daniels were in favor, with Vice Chairman Finan opposed. Motion passed 4/1.

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1 Selectman Putnam moved to place on the Warrant the articles for Fireworks and Band Concerts with no BOS
2 recommendation. Vice Chairman Finan seconded. All were in favor. Motion passed 5/0.

3
4 FACILITIES CONSULTANT:

5
6 This request has been lowered from \$25,000 to \$18,000. Vice Chairman Finan believes it belongs in the
7 budget, not a Warrant Article. Chairman Daniels feels this is more important than Fireworks or Band Concerts.
8 Chairman Daniels asked how soon any facilities plan would be used? Selectman Dannis indicated it is desired
9 to have this in the budget because warrant articles sometimes have problems, which tells him the voters should
10 vote on it. The BOS is looking at expenditures for 2009, there is no facility crisis, it is \$18,000 that could be
11 spent next year for the plan. It should be deferred and move on. Selectman Bauer said some of the departments
12 in Town Hall are approaching a crisis. She sees it going forward within two years. Vice Chairman Finan
13 feels it is an operational budget item. If it is in the budget and we don't spend it, that's okay. What exactly will
14 be done for \$18,000. Guy Scaife explained the consultant would identify space needs in order to size a foot-
15 print for the future, that is where the committee gets bogged down; it has to do with the amount of land that
16 would be needed for a Fire Station, so that needs to be pinned down. Mr. Scaife noted the Facility Committee
17 has spent a lot of time researching this, however, if it is a warrant article the Committee would need to educate
18 the public to make an informative decision; in the budget it is the BOS decision. Selectman Dannis indicated
19 this expense is about planning for the future space needs of two important departments and Town Hall. He
20 thinks about this as a family would; will 2009 be the year people would hire an architect to plan an expansion
21 on his home? This is not the year to hire a consultant; maybe if we save money in 2009 we can use that to hire
22 a consultant next year. Selectman Bauer thinks this should be in the budget, this is to get a well planned, well
23 researched project for the future.

24
25 Selectman Dannis moved to defer the expense of \$18,000 until next year and not put it as a warrant article or
26 budget item in the 2009 budget. Chairman Daniels seconded. Selectman Dannis and Chairman Daniels were in
27 favor, with Selectman Bauer, Selectman Putnam and Vice Chairman Finan opposed. Motion failed 2/3.

28
29 Selectman Putnam moved to put \$18,000 in the budget for the Facilities consultant. Selectman Bauer sec-
30 onded. Selectman Putnam, Vice Chairman Finan and Selectman Bauer were in favor, with Chairman Daniels
31 and Selectman Dannis opposed. Motion passed 3/2.

32
33 DO-IT:

34
35 Selectman Dannis indicated DO-IT has \$40,000 in retained earnings. Selectman Dannis moved to reduce the
36 Town contribution to DO-IT from \$20,000 to \$10,000. Chairman Daniels seconded. Selectman Dannis,
37 Chairman Daniels and Selectman Putnam were in favor with Selectman Bauer and Vice Chairman Finan op-
38 posed. Motion passed 3/2.

39
40 SOUTH STREET GRANT:

41
42 Vice Chairman Finan had spoken to Bill Parker regarding lowering the amount the town set aside from
43 \$155,000 to \$55,000 for this project. After discussion, it was decided that this could not be done.

44
45 PUMPKIN FESTIVAL, OVAL DECORATIONS AND PLANTINGS:

46
47 Selectman Dannis moved to reduce the town support for Pumpkin Festival, Oval Decorations and Plantings
48 from \$20,000 to \$10,000 because DO-IT has \$40,000 in retained earnings and the 2008 Pumpkin Festival oper-
49 ated at a significant profit. Chairman Daniels seconded for discussion. Selectman Dannis said just because the
50 town employee costs for the Pumpkin Festival happen to be about the same amount the town contributes to the
51 Pumpkin Festival/Oval Decorations and Plantings, does not mean anything. Selectman Dannis suggested that
52 DO-IT is the kind of organization that should be run as a charity, this year the festival operated at a profit. Vice
53 Chairman Finan appreciates the motion, but the Pumpkin Festival is huge to this town, they ran a profit this
54 year but the previous two years were rainy. Selectman Bauer indicated the Pumpkin Festival continues the suc-
55 cess of the town, we should continue to support it at \$20,000. Selectman Dannis withdrew the motion.

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1 Vice Chairman Finan moved to support the Pumpkin Festival, Oval Decorations and Plantings at \$20,000. Se-
2 lectman Bauer seconded. Vice Chairman Finan, Selectman Bauer and Selectman Putnam were in favor, with
3 Selectman Dannis and Chairman Daniels opposed. Motion passed 3/2.
4
5
6

7 SICK TIME BUY-OUT:
8

9 Selectman Dannis moved to defer for 2009 the sick time buy-out for non-union employees (approximately
10 \$40,000). Vice Chairman Finan seconded for discussion. Selectman Bauer indicated if this is deferred for one
11 year, will it be voted on every year by selectmen? Vice Chairman Finan said the Board can do what it wants, it
12 is only a one year deferral. Selectman Putnam stated some employees might be upset and quit. Selectman Dan-
13 nis said the motion is to defer the sick time buy-out for 2009, it is not a general change to the policy. Chairman
14 Daniels asked how much sick time is use each year? Guy Scaife said the average is 2-3 sick days per year.
15 65% of potential sick time is paid out at the end of the year. Selectman Dannis said he is not proposing to re-
16 duce the allocation of sick time from 15 days, he is only proposing to defer for 2009 the sick time buy-out.
17 Guy Scaife indicated more people will possibly use sick time, especially the lower wage earners, people do
18 come to work sick when they should not be here. There is always a chance for abuse, but it is management’s
19 responsibility to monitor and manage this. Guy Scaife regrets this last minute change. Chairman Daniels asked
20 when would be the right time for this change? Guy Scaife said it goes back to the entire compensation pack-
21 age, it is a complicated process and he feel this should be included. This is the Board of Selectman’s response
22 to taxpayers to try to have no tax increase. Selectman Dannis agrees that a complete analysis for the compensa-
23 tion package should be done. This is an easy target. Selectman Bauer asked if the motion is for just non-
24 union? Chairman Daniels said it is. Vice Chairman Finan, Selectman Dannis were in favor, with Chairman
25 Daniels, Selectman Putnam and Selectman Bauer opposed. Motion failed 2/3.
26

27 Selectman Dannis moved to reduce the 2009 sick time buy-out by 25% for non-union employees (about
28 \$10,000). Chairman Daniels seconded for discussion. Jack Sheehy asked how that can be budgeted? Select-
29 man Dannis responded that the total sick time buy out for all non-union employees should be reduced by 25%.
30 Chairman Daniels, Selectman Dannis, Vice Chairman Finan and Selectman Putnam were in favor, with Select-
31 man Bauer opposed. Motion passed 4/1.
32

33 SALARIES (PART 2):
34

35 Right now, Guy Scaife has the budget with a 3.0% merit increase (lowered from 3.5%) as modified by Guy
36 Scaife and Jack Sheehy. Selectman Dannis moved that the merit pool be reduced to 1.5%, which is the same
37 number in the Teamsters contract that has been approved and represents a raise instead of freezing salaries
38 where they are now, this is for consistency and savings for taxpayers and having some pools for merit based in-
39 creases. There was no second, motion failed.
40

41 Vice Chairman Finan moved to support up to a 3.0% merit increase level in the 2009 budget for non-union em-
42 ployees. Chairman Daniels seconded for discussion. Selectman Bauer re-stated that she is opposed to lowering
43 the 3.5% merit increase, therefore, she is opposed to this as well. Selectman Dannis believes in a deflationary
44 environment the Board should not be giving salary increases. Vice Chairman Finan, Chairman Daniels, Se-
45 lectman Putnam were in favor, with Selectman Dannis and Selectman Bauer opposed. Motion passed 3/2.
46

47 Board of Selectman STIPEND:
48

49 Selectman Dannis moved that the Board of Selectman cut the Board stipends by 50% from the current level for
50 2009. Selectman Putnam seconded for discussion. Selectman Bauer indicated this job takes a lot of time if it is
51 done as it should. The Board members attend meetings several nights a week, attend events, mill around town,
52 and she is happy to serve and grateful the town has voted it in and feels the stipend is earned by all who serve.
53 Selectman Dannis said if the Board fairly values the time spent on being a Board member, it is ridiculously low,
54 it is a token for our service, it is key for the Board to share in the pain as it is asking the employees to share in
55 the pain. The stipend is not the motivating factor; the Board needs to show we are leaders and will share that
56 pain. Chairman Daniels has served on the School Board and this Board and this Board has a lot more facets
57 than the School Board. This Board has taken the lead and frozen their salaries, but has not asked employees to

1 take a cut in pay. Selectman Dannis disagreed, stating that cutting the sick time buy-out is cutting their com-
2 pensation. Selectman Bauer stated the town voted that the Board of Selectman is worth it and she would not go
3 for a 50% cut. Vice Chairman Finan was hesitant for the cut thinking ahead to next year and if salaries must be
4 frozen next year; this would create the possibility of having no stipend for two years in a row. Selectman Dan-
5 nis and Vice Chairman Finan were in favor of the motion, with Selectman Putnam, Selectman Bauer and
6 Chairman Daniels opposed. Motion failed 2/3.

7
8 FUND BALANCE (part 2):
9

10 Chairman Daniels moved to apply \$200,000 of fund balance to reduce the tax rate. Selectman Dannis seconded
11 for discussion. Selectman Dannis indicated using \$200,000 in fund balance would end up with a 1.2% tax in-
12 crease on the town tax rate. Using fund balance is actually using tax payer money to reduce the tax rate. Fund
13 balance is taxes that are collected but not used. The money was not found anywhere, it is money collected from
14 tax payers but not used. Other savings in the budget were found before the Board goes into that fund balance.
15 Selectman Dannis will support the motion but would like to give back as much as possible. Selectman Bauer
16 asked if Guy Scaife is willing to use \$200,000 in fund balance. Guy Scaife feels that is the absolute maximum
17 because he does not see the town adding to fund balance in the next couple of years and maxing out use in 2009
18 leaves none for future years unless you rebuild. Selectman Dannis understands that the town should keep 5%
19 minimum in fund balance as recommended by the DRA but sees no consequences of going below that. All
20 were in favor of the motion. Motion passed 5/0.

21
22 **7. SELECTMEN’S REPORTS/DISCUSSIONS:**

23
24 **a) FROM SPECIAL BOARDS, COMMISSIONS & SPECIAL COMMITTEES.**

25 **(1) Milford Area Communications Center (MACC Base) 2009 Contract.** Selectman Putnam indicated
26 the Wilton Board never received the changes to the contract from Milford, which is why it was never signed. Chair-
27 man Daniels said he sent the changes through the Board’s Administrative Assistant. Selectman Putnam said they
28 are now looking at those changes. Selectman Dannis thought Wilton withdrew from the contract. Selectman Put-
29 nam said they did but are now thinking of rescinding that decision. Selectman Dannis stated this Board voted not to
30 investigate potential savings over a five year period and voted to sign the contract with MACC Base for 5 years
31 even though another town left the contract. Selectman Dannis thinks what this Board did was not in the best interest
32 of tax payers and he voted against it. Guy Scaife said Wilton may want to re-consider, but the notice to withdraw
33 was very clear. He hopes that the two towns do not make any changes without a full review and discussion by the
34 Boards of Selectman of both member towns. Mont Vernon did sign the contract. Guy Scaife would like to better
35 understand the circumstances. Chairman Daniels agreed some things need to be investigated.

36 **b) OTHER ITEMS (that are not on the agenda)**
37

38 **8. APPROVAL OF FINAL MINUTES.**

39 Selectman Bauer moved to approve the minutes of December 22, 2008 as presented. Vice Chairman Finan sec-
40 onded. Selectman Bauer, Vice Chairman Finan, Selectman Putnam and Chairman Daniels were in favor, with Se-
41 lectman Dannis abstaining. Motion passed 4/0/1.

42
43 **9. INFORMATION ITEMS REQUIRING NO DECISIONS**
44

45 **10. NON-PUBLIC SESSION:**
46

47 **11. ADJOURNMENT:**
48

49 There being no further business to come before this Meeting, Selectman Putnam moved to adjourn at 11:20 p.m.
50 Selectman Dannis seconded. All were in favor. Motion passed 5/0.

51
52
53
54
55 _____
56 Gary Daniels, Chairman

55 _____
56 Mike Putnam, Member

APPROVED MINUTES OF BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING - 1/12/2009

1 _____
2 Tim Finan, Vice Chairman

3
4
5
6
7

James Dannis, Member