



Board of Selectmen
Town Hall Hearing Room
October 20, 2009
Joint Meeting with Finance Committee

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Selectmen Jim Hoben. Selectmen present: Bud Groskopf, Jerry Sullivan, Erik Tolley and Suzanne McAuliffe in Room A for a joint meeting with Yarmouth Finance Committee. Finance Committee Chairman Patrick Foran, who had asked the Selectmen to meet with the Finance Committee, opened the meeting and stated the purpose. Also Attending: Town Administrator Robert C. Lawton, Jr.

Meeting with Finance Committee

1. FY 11 Budget

Mr. Foran stated that the Town Administrator and he had talked about a plan to assign State Aid to Capital and Stabilization Fund in order to minimize the effects of reductions in State Aid for at least three years. While there can not be a specific assignment it would be an exercise, as an example, where in FY10 the State Aid, not assigned to Veterans, Benefits, Elderly exemptions etc is approximately \$1.1 million. When you subtract the State charges the net available State Aid would be approximately \$600,000. If \$100,000 was assigned to Stabilization and \$500,000 to Capital that would start the process of, at least on paper, minimizing the effect of State Aid reductions. There was a general discussion between the Finance Committee and the Board of Selectmen regarding this concept and it was agreed that program would go into affect starting in FY11.

2. Budget Reductions

There was a discussion concerning either across the board decreases or targeted decreases based upon the budget calculation for FY11. It was agreed between the Finance Committee and the Board of Selectmen to do a percentage decrease first with detailed explanations of the effect and then, based upon the effects, target reductions in order to preserve priority expenditures.

3. Capital

The two Boards discussed the limited amount of money for Capital and the possibility of Debt Exclusions or Capital Exclusions. There was a general sentiment that Capital was important and our infrastructure should not be allowed to deteriorate. It was reaffirmed regarding the assignment of funds from State Aid as a possibility. It was agreed that the Capital Budget Committee would set some priorities which would be reviewed by the Selectmen and the Finance Committee and a decision would be made as to how to fund priority items.

4. DYRSD

It was agreed that we should get a number to the School as soon as possible so they can do adequate planning for FY11.

5. Cape Cod Tech

The two Boards agreed that the Technical high School provided a valuable service and the students coming out of the school usually stayed locally and provided necessary services to the residents. There is an ongoing concern with the costs of the school, the per pupil cost and the rate at which the assessment has increased over the past three years.

6. Fees

There was a general discussion concerning various fees charged by Town Departments. The Finance Committee stated that they had met with Karl vonHone to discuss mooring and slip fees and there was a general consensus that those fees should be carefully looked at and possibly adjusted.

7. Legislation

Discussion on Legislation centered on the possibility of bringing to the Annual Town Meeting the Hotel Motel Tax Increase and the Meals Tax. It was also discussed on bringing a local option bill for charging the Motel Hotel Tax to cottages and other rental units. This would possibly be done at the Annual Town Meeting.

The last item discussed the information which needed to be put out to the general public. The discussion centered around public meetings on the budget and also putting in information on the website and on TV. Dates in February will be set for public meetings on the budget.

MOTION: To move that the Board of Selectmen to adjourn the Board of Selectmen's meeting at 6:35pm.

Motion by: Bud Groskopf Seconded by: Erik Tolley Yea 5 Nay 0