

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL BUDGET WORKSHOP MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

January 11, 2016

Members Present

First Selectman, Michael J. Freda
Second Selectman, Timothy M. Doheny
Third Selectman, Sally J. Buemi

Others in Attendance:

Director of Finance and Administration, Edward J. Swinkoski
Fire Chief Paul Januszewski

The budget workshop of the Selectmen was called to order at 8:00 am. The budget was reviewed and discussed in detail by the Selectmen and the Director of Finance, Edward Swinkoski.

The Board noted that with this preliminary budget there are several variables that are unknown at this time, including but not limited to, the proposed Board of Education budget, the size of the grand list, final insurance quotes, and revenue from the State.

The Board had several questions regarding the proposed Fire Department budget and asked Chief Januszewski to offer explanation and further clarification.

Following their review and discussion, the selectmen agreed that they will advise the Board of Finance that the Board does not endorse a 5.5% Town Government increase, nor a \$970,000 increase to \$1,685,711 in capital expenses, which together (without the impact of the Board of Education budget), represent a 7.7% increase over fiscal 2016.

With regard to the proposed Fire Department budget the Board agreed to advise the Board of Finance that they did agree with some of the underlying goals of the Chief's proposal, but felt they can only endorse the related expense if the costs can be offset by the revenue generated by the proposed model.

They agreed that this budget should be cut as it will present a mill rate increase that will not be affordable to the taxpayers.

Motion to adjourn, Miss Buemi seconded by Mr. Doheny at 10:00 am.

Vote: Freda – Yes, Doheny – Yes, Buemi – Yes