

*unapproved*  
**SPECIAL MEETING**  
**MAY 7, 2009**

The Wethersfield Town Council held a special meeting on Thursday, May 7, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. in the Library's Conference Room, 505 Silas Deane Highway, Wethersfield, CT.

Present from Council: Cascio, Console, Forrest, Hemmann, Kotkin, Roberts (arrived 7:35 p.m), Walsh, Deputy Mayor Montinieri, and Chairperson Adil.

Also present: Bonnie Therrien, Town Manager; Lisa Hancock, Finance Director; RaeAnn Palmer, Assistant to the Town Manager; Dolores Sassano, Town Clerk, and Amy Bello, Assistant Town Clerk

**DISCUSSION AND AMENDMENTS TO THE 2009-2010 BUDGET**

Chairperson Adil said that the Superintendent told the Town Council that the Board of Education could live with a cut of just shy of \$400,000.

Bonnie Therrien said that they do not know about furlough days yet.

Councilor Cascio said that the Council won't know that information until Friday evening.

The Town Council discussed what number the Board of Education's budget should be reduced by.

Councilor Kotkin moved **"BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE BUDGET AS SUBMITTED BY THE TOWN MANAGER ON APRIL 2, 2009 BE AND HEREBY IS AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:**

**TO REDUCE THE BOARD OF EDUCATION BUDGET BY \$400,000"** seconded by Councilor Walsh.

All Councilors present, included the Chairperson voted AYE. Councilor Hemmann abstained. The motion passed 7-0-1.

Councilor Walsh moved **"BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE BUDGET AS SUBMITTED BY THE TOWN MANAGER ON APRIL 2, 2009 BE AND HEREBY IS AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:**

**TO ADD \$15,000 TO THE 375<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY (1110-52272 PS CONTRIB) AND TO RESTORE IT TO THE FULL AMOUNT OF \$25,000"**seconded by Councilor Kotkin.

Councilor Walsh said that the Committee is short about \$6,000 for the parade. The Director of Parks and Recreation is working on a fireworks show.

Councilor Console said that he can see adding back \$6,000 for the parade funding, but asked if a fireworks show makes sense when services are being cut.

Councilor Walsh said that it is important to celebrate the Town's heritage. He said that if the Town doesn't do the fireworks show some of the additional funding will be used for other events but not all of the funding will be needed.

Councilor Cascio said that he knows there are fundraising efforts underway and asked if there was any potential grant money available.

Councilor Walsh said that the Committee hasn't received any grant money.

Councilor Cascio asked if the costs include the fees for police overtime.

Councilor Walsh said the costs include everything. The fireworks are about \$10,000.

Councilor Hemmann said that she agrees with Councilor Console on this issue.

Councilors present, included the Chairperson voted AYE. Councilor Cascio, Console and Hemmann voted NAY. The motion passed 5-3-0.

Councilor Kotkin moved **"BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE BUDGET AS SUBMITTED BY THE TOWN MANAGER ON APRIL 2, 2009 BE AND HEREBY IS AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:**

**TO ADD BACK \$4,151 OR 4.5 HOURS TO THE FLOATER SECRETARIAL AND \$124 FOR CORRESPONDING FRINGE BENEFITS IN ORDER TO HELP OTHER DEPARTMENTS (1120-50001 – SALARIES & WAGES AND 1120-51100 – EMPLOYEE INSURANCE COVERAGE )"** seconded by Deputy Mayor Montinieri.

Councilor Kotkin said that this position seems to work well to cover other Departments. It is flexible and successful and saves a lot of specific staff assistance.

Councilor Hemmann said that by increasing the hours in one position and not the others creates an issue with other Departments.

Councilor Kotkin said that he is trying to help the offices that have the reductions in the hours. This provides coverage for all departments.

Bonnie Therrien said that the floater has filled in mainly in the Building Department and Tax Office but can go everywhere.

All Councilors present, included the Chairperson voted AYE. Councilor Hemmann voted NAY. The motion passed 7-1-0.

Councilor Forrest moved **“BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE BUDGET AS SUBMITTED BY THE TOWN MANAGER ON APRIL 2, 2009 BE AND HEREBY IS AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:**

**TO RESTORE THE CIVIL PREPAREDNESS DIRECTOR POSITION TO \$4,000 AND \$119 FOR CORRESPONDING FRINGE BENEFITS (1120-50001 – SALARIES & WAGES AND 1120-51100 EMPLOYEE INSURANCE COVERAGE)”** seconded by Councilor Hemmann.

Councilor Hemmann said that the Civil Preparedness Director is a unique position that can be added to other positions’ responsibilities but should be discussed. There is an importance in having this position. She asked if the staff could handle it. The Fire Department is a volunteer department and may not be able to be in Town full time during an emergency.

Councilor Forrest asked if the position was being eliminated.

Bonnie Therrien said that the duties of the position were being split between other departments.

Councilor Forrest said that it is important to have a centralized person. Mr. Fippinger is dedicated to the position.

Councilor Console asked about the \$2,500 stipend.

RaeAnn Palmer said that the Town receives a 50 percent matching grant to pay the Civil Preparedness Director. The full salary is budgeted in the expense account and half of it is realized in the revenue accounts.

Councilor Console said that he is concerned that items related to the position are still in boxes in storage.

Bonnie Therrien said that the Town Council Chambers are complete and the items can be set up there now, so that should not be an issue.

Councilor Forrest said that \$2,000 is a good investment.

Councilor Roberts arrived.

All Councilors present, included the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 9-0-0.

Dolores Sassano, Town Clerk, said that the Town Clerk’s office uses the floater very minimally because a lot of the work that the office does needs to be done by someone certified.

Councilor Console asked if licenses could only be done on certain days of the week.

Dolores Sassano said that anything is possible. Residents could only pay taxes on certain days, too.

Councilor Kotkin asked if two positions in the office are being reduced.

Dolores Sassano said that both positions were reduced.

Councilor Console moved **“BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE BUDGET AS SUBMITTED BY THE TOWN MANAGER ON APRIL 2, 2009 BE AND HEREBY IS AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:**

**TO RESTORE \$2,152 OR 4.5 HOURS AND \$198 FOR CORRESPONDING FRINGE BENEFITS OVER TWO POSITIONS IN THE TOWN CLERKS OFFICE (1140-50001 – SALARIES & WAGES AND 1120-51100 EMPLOYEE INSURANCE COVERAGE)”** seconded by Councilor Kotkin.

All Councilors present, included the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 9-0-0.

Bonnie Therrien said that there is an issue with the part-time position in Finance. She said that they just finished interviewing candidates and no one is willing to commit to staying. All the candidates said that they are looking for full time work. The turnover is difficult on the Finance Department since it takes time to train a new employee.

Lisa Hancock said she has an idea but it may cost a little more money. She said that the part-time financial clerk works 25 hour a week and has benefits. That position could go to full-time and hire a temporary employee through an agency to come in and work one day a week. It would cost about \$9,500 more.

Deputy Mayor Montinieri said that it is cheaper to keep the two part-time positions the way they are now.

Councilor Console said that he knows someone who is looking for this type of part-time work.

Deputy Mayor Montinieri asked if the temporary employee could be eliminated.

Lisa Hancock said that person is needed to provide checks and balances to the Department for internal control.

Councilor Forrest asked if the salary could be negotiated for the existing employee, if the position was made full-time.

Bonnie Therrien said that it is a union position and the salary can't be negotiated.

Chairperson Adil said that there will be no changes with this position.

Bonnie Therrien asked if there were any changes to be made to the Data Services budget.

Chairperson Adil said that he was upset about the money budgeted last year that the Town Council allocated for computer software that was used to purchase computers instead.

Councilor Roberts said that the Town Council's intent was to have everyone on Office 2007 and the entire intent of the funding was changed.

Chairperson Adil said that there are no changes.

Bonnie Therrien said that in the Tax Collector's budget, the part-time hours were reduced and there was a request for a shared software purchase with the Assessor's Department.

Councilor Kotkin said that the floater seems to work well in this Department.

Bonnie Therrien said that in the Assessor's budget there is the issue of the personal property audits and the shared software.

Councilor Kotkin said that the Assessor didn't put any money into the personal property audits and the Town Manager added \$10,000 to the line item.

Bonnie Therrien said that the personal property audits bring money to the Town.

Councilor Kotkin moved **"BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE BUDGET AS SUBMITTED BY THE TOWN MANAGER ON APRIL 2, 2009 BE AND HEREBY IS AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:  
TO INCREASE THE TAX ASSESSOR'S PROFESSIONAL PROPERTY AUDITS BY \$10,000 (1164-52220 – PROFESSIONAL SERVICES)"** seconded by Councilor Roberts

All Councilors present, included the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 9-0-0.

Councilor Forrest asked if the revenue could be increased.

Lisa Hancock said that it should not be changed.

Councilor Hemmann asked how much the software program costs.

Bonnie Therrien said that \$50,000 would need to be budgeted this year. It would be a five year lease purchase.

Councilor Kotkin said that he was not comfortable with a \$250,000 commitment.

Councilor Roberts said that she has not been sold on the need for this software and is afraid that other Departments will want to move away from MUNIS, too. That will negate the entire purpose of purchasing MUNIS.

Councilor Console suggested that the Budget and Finance Committee look at it more closely next year.

Deputy Mayor Montinieri agreed. He said that this should have been discussed prior to the budget process so that more time could be spent on it. He would like someone to review the problems and see what other Towns are doing.

Bonnie Therrien said that in the Planning budget some of the commission clerk positions were eliminated.

Deputy Mayor Montinieri said that the Tourism Commission will get a partial order of brochures.

Councilor Kotkin said that the Commission also came back with half of their original request for the racks.

Deputy Mayor Montinieri moved **“BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE BUDGET AS SUBMITTED BY THE TOWN MANAGER ON APRIL 2, 2009 BE AND HEREBY IS AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:**

**TO ADD \$1,000 TO EDIC - SALUTE TO BUSINESS (1182181-52225 – SUPPORT SERVICES)”** seconded by Councilor Forrest.

All Councilors present, included the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 9-0-0.

Deputy Mayor Montinieri moved **“BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE BUDGET AS SUBMITTED BY THE TOWN MANAGER ON APRIL 2, 2009 BE AND HEREBY IS AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:**

**TO ADD \$3,500 TO TOURISM – BROCHURE PRINTING (1182181-52205 – SUPPORT SERVICES)”** seconded by Councilor Forrest.

All Councilors present, included the Chairperson voted AYE. Councilor Console and Hemmann voted NAY. The motion passed 7-2-0.

Deputy Mayor Montinieri moved **“BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE BUDGET AS SUBMITTED BY THE TOWN MANAGER ON APRIL 2, 2009 BE AND HEREBY IS AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:**

**TO ADD \$4,000 TO TOURISM – COMM. BROCHURE RACK (1182182-52272 – PS CONTRIB)”** seconded Councilor Forrest.

All Councilors present, included the Chairperson voted AYE. Councilor Console and Hemmann voted NAY. The motion passed 7-2-0.

Bonnie Therrien said that several part-time positions were reduced in hours in the Building Inspection budget.

Councilor Kotkin moved **“BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE BUDGET AS SUBMITTED BY THE TOWN MANAGER ON APRIL 2, 2009 BE AND HEREBY IS AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:**

**TO ADD \$1,557 FOR THE ZBA COMMISSION CLERK AND \$46 FOR CORRESPONDING FRINGE BENEFITS (1205-50001 SALARIES & WAGES AND 1205-51100 EMPLOYEE INSURANCE COVERAGE)”** seconded by Councilor Hemmann.

Councilor Kotkin said that he thinks this position is important because it helps to protect the Town if it gets sued.

All Councilors present, included the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 9-0-0.

Councilor Kotkin moved **“BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE BUDGET AS SUBMITTED BY THE TOWN MANAGER ON APRIL 2, 2009 BE AND HEREBY IS AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:**

**TO RESTORE THE PROPERTY MAINTENANCE ENFORCER TO \$12,121 AND \$80 FOR CORRESPONDING FRINGE BENEFITS (1205-50001 SALARIES & WAGES AND 1205-51100 - EMPLOYEE INSURANCE COVERAGE)”** seconded by Councilor Forrest.

All Councilors present, included the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 9-0-0.

Councilor Forrest moved **“BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE BUDGET AS SUBMITTED BY THE TOWN MANAGER ON APRIL 2, 2009 BE AND HEREBY IS AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:**

**TO ADD \$1,350 TO HONOR GUARD TRIP – WASHINGTON, DC (1210-52212 – TRAVEL, TRAINING & DUES)”** seconded by Councilor Walsh.

All Councilors present, included the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 9-0-0.

Bonnie Therrien said that the Fire Suppression budget had a request for new software for safety training and she removed it.

Lisa Hancock said that there is a cut in the Fire Department for the abatements.

Councilor Console moved **“BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE BUDGET AS SUBMITTED BY THE TOWN MANAGER ON APRIL 2, 2009 BE AND HEREBY IS AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:**

**TO REMOVE \$50,000 FROM VOLUNTEER STIPENDS AND \$3,329 FOR CORRESPONDING FRINGE BENEFITS OF THE \$85,000 ABATEMENTS WILL BE TRANSFERRED TO THE MILL RATE CALCULATION (1220-50001 – SALARIES &**

**WAGES AND 1220-51100 – EMPLOYEE INSURANCE COVERAGE)”** seconded by Councilor Forrest.

Councilor Forrest asked if this would reduce the taxes.

Lisa Hancock said that it is a reduction in the mill rate.

All Councilors present, included the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 9-0-0.

Councilor Walsh moved **“BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE BUDGET AS SUBMITTED BY THE TOWN MANAGER ON APRIL 2, 2009 BE AND HEREBY IS AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:**

**TO RESTORE \$8,550 TO THE TARGET SAFETY ONLINE TRAINING (1220-52212 – TRAVEL, TRAINING & DUES)”** seconded by Councilor Roberts.

All Councilors present, included the Chairperson voted AYE. Councilor Console voted NAY. The motion passed 8-1-0.

Bonnie Therrien said that there is no part-time help for the Fire Marshal so he won't be able to take a vacation or get sick.

Councilor Roberts moved **“BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE BUDGET AS SUBMITTED BY THE TOWN MANAGER ON APRIL 2, 2009 BE AND HEREBY IS AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:**

**TO ADD \$3,100 TO THE PART TIME TEMPORARY HELP LINE ITEM FOR FIRE MARSHAL AND \$45 FOR CORRESPONDING FRINGE BENEFITS (1222-50001 – SALARIES & WAGES AND 1222-51100 EMPLOYEE INSURANCE COVERAGE)”** seconded by Councilor Forrest.

All Councilors present, included the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 9-0-0.

Councilor Roberts moved **“BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE BUDGET AS SUBMITTED BY THE TOWN MANAGER ON APRIL 2, 2009 BE AND HEREBY IS AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:**

**TO REMOVE \$37,000 FROM THE PAY CLASSIFICATION STUDY (1224-52220 PROFESSIONAL SERVICES)”** seconded by Councilor Cascio.

All Councilors present, included the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 9-0-0.

Bonnie Therrien said that in the Social and Youth Services budget, there are a lot of reductions.

Chairperson Adil said that the Superintendent indicated that the Board may be able to pick up some of the costs on its side.

Bonnie Therrien said that the stimulus money that would pay for this is very iffy.

Councilor Roberts said that this should be a Board of Education issue.

Councilor Hemmann said that it is part of the school curriculum. She said the food bank usage is up. Can the Town ask volunteers to come in and do some of the sorting and stocking.

Councilor Roberts said that high school students need service hours.

Councilor Cascio asked what additional time for the ROPE position would cost the Town if that position existed for three more months.

Lisa Hancock said that it would be \$23,000 and would change the pension.

Councilor Kotkin moved **“BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE BUDGET AS SUBMITTED BY THE TOWN MANAGER ON APRIL 2, 2009 BE AND HEREBY IS AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:**

**TO RESTORE THE FULL FUNDING OF UTILITIES TO THE NATURE CENTER; \$14,023 FOR NATURAL GAS, \$10,400 FOR ELECTRICITY, AND \$495 FOR WATER (1703-52255 - NATURAL GAS, 1703-52254 - ELECTRICITY, AND 1703-52252 – WATER CHARGE) WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT ELECTRICITY MAY BE ADJUSTED WITH ANY SAVINGS IDENTIFIED UNDER THE ELECTRIC ACCOUNT SAVINGS ANALYSIS”** seconded by Councilor Walsh.

Councilor Kotkin said that he empathizes with a more gradual reduction in funding for the Nature Center.

Councilor Roberts said that the Nature Center has known from day one that it needs to become self-sufficient.

Councilor Console said that this year the Town will only be paying the utilities. The Town owns the building.

Councilor Kotkin said that the utilities are about \$24,000.

All Councilors present, included the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 9-0-0.

Councilor Forrest moved **“BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE BUDGET AS SUBMITTED BY THE TOWN MANAGER ON APRIL 2, 2009 BE AND HEREBY IS AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:**

**TO ADD \$5,769 TO THE APPROPRIATE POOL ACCOUNTS TO KEEP THE POOLS OPEN ONE ADDITIONAL WEEK THIS SUMMER (1701-50001, 1704777-50001, 1704777-52254, 1704777-53335)”** seconded by Councilor Roberts.

Chairperson Adil said that he wants to make it clear that the pools should remain open one more week only if the weather is good.

All Councilors present, included the Chairperson voted AYE. Councilor Hemmann voted NAY. The motion passed 8-1-0.

Bonnie Therrien said that the next budget to discuss is the Library.

Councilor Forrest said that the Library did a great job with its budget this year.

Councilor Kotkin moved **“BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE BUDGET AS SUBMITTED BY THE TOWN MANAGER ON APRIL 2, 2009 BE AND HEREBY IS AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:**

**TO REDUCE THE NUMBER IN DEBT SERVICE (1920-57766-909 - PRINCIPAL PAYMENT) BY \$220,900 TO MAKE IT SUCH THAT ONE INTEREST PAYMENT IS MADE IN THE NEXT FISCAL YEAR”** seconded by Councilor Forrest.

Councilor Console asked how this would impact the life of the loan.

Councilor Kotkin said that it would be paid off earlier in 2028. The payments would be larger.

Lisa Hancock said that this scenario is the least costly scenario.

All Councilors present, included the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 9-0-0.

Councilor Walsh moved **“BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE BUDGET AS SUBMITTED BY THE TOWN MANAGER ON APRIL 2, 2009 BE AND HEREBY IS AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:**

**TO RESTORE \$25,000 TO TOWN BLDGS: CANOPY – FUEL SYSTEM (1955-58805 – TRANSFERS OUT CAPITAL PROJECTS)”** seconded by Deputy Mayor Montinieri.

All Councilors present, included the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 9-0-0.

Councilor Walsh moved **“BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE BUDGET AS SUBMITTED BY THE TOWN MANAGER ON APRIL 2, 2009 BE AND HEREBY IS AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:**

**TO ADD \$50,000 TO TOWN BLDGS: ROOF REPLACEMENT – MISC SMALL ROOFS (1955-58805 TRANSFERS OUT CAPITAL PROJECTS)”** seconded by Councilor Roberts.

All Councilors present, included the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 9-0-0.

Councilor Walsh moved **“BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE BUDGET AS SUBMITTED BY THE TOWN MANAGER ON APRIL 2, 2009 BE AND HEREBY IS AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:**

**TO ADD \$50,000 TO THE CAPITAL RESERVE FUNDING REQUESTED BY THE CIAC COMMITTEE (1955-58810 TRANSFERS OUT CAPT & NON-RECURRING)”**seconded by Councilor Roberts.

All Councilors present, included the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 9-0-0.

Councilor Kotkin moved **“BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE BUDGET AS SUBMITTED BY THE TOWN MANAGER ON APRIL 2, 2009 BE AND HEREBY IS AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:**

**TO REMOVE \$300,000 FROM THE PHYSICAL SVCS: MEDIUM DUMP TRUCK 6 WHL (1955-58810 – TRANSFERS OUT CAP & NON-RECURRING) AND ADD \$170,000 (1955-58810) TO ACQUIRE 2 DUMP TRUCKS AND A PAY LOADER ON A 3 YEAR LEASE PURCHASE PAYMENT PLAN”** seconded by Councilor Console.

Councilor Console asked about the clean diesel grant.

RaeAnn Palmer said that the grant is for the purchase of 100 vehicles at one time. It would be a long shot even working with other Towns.

Councilor Kotkin said that the lease purchase interest rates should be good now.

Lisa Hancock said that the rates are about 5 percent and rising.

RaeAnn Palmer said that the vehicles now have stainless steel bodies and should last at least 10 years.

All Councilors present, included the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 9-0-0.

Lisa Hancock said that the utilities are shown in every budget. It is hard to manage them in this manner. She said that she would like to handle utilities like the vehicles are handled. They would all be shown in the Physical Services budget.

RaeAnn Palmer said that the total savings for electricity is about \$50,000.

Councilor Forrest moved **“BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE BUDGET AS SUBMITTED BY THE TOWN MANAGER ON APRIL 2, 2009 BE AND HEREBY IS AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:**

**TO REDUCE THE ELECTRICITY ACCOUNTS BY \$50,000 ACROSS ALL DEPARTMENTS”** seconded by Councilor Cascio.

All Councilors present, included the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 9-0-0.

RaeAnn Palmer said that natural gas is billed by property address.

Lisa Hancock said that the new rate is \$1.31 per unit plus \$1.57 in transportation fees.

Bonnie Therrien said that is should be left as it is and be monitored.

Councilor Kotkin said that Towns are locking in for 2010-2011 and are already seeing a decrease up to 30 percent.

Councilor Forrest moved **“BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE BUDGET AS SUBMITTED BY THE TOWN MANAGER ON APRIL 2, 2009 BE AND HEREBY IS AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:  
TO ADD \$7,000 TO PARK AND RECREATION REVENUE (1701-45808) TO REFLECT ADDITIONAL REVENUE GENERATED BY NEW USER FEES”** seconded by Councilor Roberts.

All Councilors present, included the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 9-0-0.

Councilor Cascio moved **“BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE BUDGET AS SUBMITTED BY THE TOWN MANAGER ON APRIL 2, 2009 BE AND HEREBY IS AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:  
TO ADD \$3,000 TO THE COMMUNITY CENTER REVENUE (1701-45810) TO REFLECT ADDITIONAL REVENUE GENERATED BY NEW USER FEES”** seconded by Councilor Console.

All Councilors present, included the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 9-0-0.

Councilor Roberts moved **“BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE BUDGET AS SUBMITTED BY THE TOWN MANAGER ON APRIL 2, 2009 BE AND HEREBY IS AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:  
TO REDUCE THE GOODWIN PARK PILOT MONEY (1701-48925) BY \$40,000”** seconded by Councilor Hemmann.

All Councilors present, included the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 9-0-0.

Councilor Forrest moved **“BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE BUDGET AS SUBMITTED BY THE TOWN MANAGER ON APRIL 2, 2009 BE AND HEREBY IS AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:  
TO ADD \$500 TO THE ESTIMATE OF REVENUE - CIVIL PREPAREDNESS STATE GRANT (1120-42700)”**seconded by Councilor Hemmann.

All Councilors present, included the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 9-0-0.

Councilor Kotkin moved **“BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE BUDGET AS SUBMITTED BY THE TOWN MANAGER ON APRIL 2, 2009 BE AND HEREBY IS AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:**

**TO ADD \$200,000 TO THE ESTIMATE OF REVENUE - EQUALIZED COST SHARING GRANT (1001-43001)”** seconded by Councilor Roberts.

Bonnie Therrien said that she still doesn't know what is happening with this grant. 14 percent of the grant will go directly to the Board of Education.

Chairperson Adil asked if the Board of Education should give the Town the money when it receives the fund or should the Board of Education be reduced now.

Lisa Hancock said that she would rather have the Board of Education return the money to the Town unless there is a statutory restriction.

All Councilors present, included the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 9-0-0.

Councilor Console moved **“BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE BUDGET AS SUBMITTED BY THE TOWN MANAGER ON APRIL 2, 2009 BE AND HEREBY IS AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:**

**TO INCREASE THE ESTIMATE OF REVENUES BY \$25,000 EACH – TOWN CLERK RECORDING FEES (1140-45801) TO \$150,000 AND CONVEYANCE TAX FEES (1140-45802) TO \$225,000”** seconded by Councilor Kotkin.

Lisa Hancock said that the recording fees and conveyance tax fees can be pushed up a bit.

All Councilors present, included the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 9-0-0.

Bonnie Therrien said that she will know on Monday whether the Town unions will agree to two furlough days. She said that the Assistant to the Town Manager met with the Library Board and the Library will be giving money back this year. It will be monitored weekly. She said that she will have contingency account numbers for the Monday meeting.

Councilor Kotkin said that taking \$700,000 from the fund balance may bring it below 8 percent. He also asked if the tax collection rate should stay at 98.5 percent.

Bonnie Therrien said that the fund balance would remain close to 8 percent. The collection rate is okay at 98.5 percent.

RaeAnn Palmer showed the Council samples of signs for the Farmer's Market. She said that the Committee would like to post permanent banners at a few locations and put smaller signs up the day of the market. The Town Council didn't want any signs in front of Town Hall.

Bonnie Therrien said that a complaint has been filed of 24 counts against the Town for the explanatory text and maps that were posted on the Town website at the Elections Enforcement Division. Before the maps were put on the website, they were looked at by the Elections Commission and the Town was told that as long as they had no wording that would sway the voters, they would be okay.

Lisa Hancock said that as of now, the overall decrease in the spending on the Town side is .91 percent and the Board of Education side is an increase of .79 percent. The Town budget will have an overall decrease of 3.34 percent and the Board of Education budget will have an overall increase of 2.02 percent. The total budget of \$82,744,947 is a .22 percent decrease in spending. The mill rate would be 30.79 mills.

Councilor Roberts said that these numbers will change with the furlough days.

Councilor Forrest asked if the referendum is budgeted in this.

Bonnie Therrien said yes it is.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

At 9:43 p.m., Councilor Roberts moved "**TO ADJOURN THE MEETING**" seconded by Councilor Walsh. All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 9-0-0.

Dolores Sassano  
Town Clerk