

MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL
Town Hall Council Chambers
May 17, 2010 - Monday

Present: Arthur Mathews, President
Patrick O'Connor, Vice President
Robert Conlon
Kenneth DiFazio
Ed Harrington
Thomas Lacey
Brian McDonald
Michael Molisse
Victor Pap, III
Michael Smart
Kevin Whitaker

Also Present: Franklin Fryer, Town Clerk
Susan M. Kay, Mayor
George Lane, Town Solicitor
James Wilson, Chief Financial Officer
Weymouth School Committee Members

Recording Secretary: Mary Briggs

President Mathews called the Annual Town Meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Town Clerk Franklin Fryer called the roll; all members present.

Disability Day Awards

Mayor Susan Kay and Lisa Jennings of the Commission on Disabilities presented four recipients with a \$100 local charitable donation of their choice. Mike Doyle, Carl Powers, and Elaine Shea each received the award for their participation in the Weymouth Recreation Department's Exceptional Program; a summer day camp program for children with special needs.

Belinda McGuire received a certificate for her involvement as chairperson of SEPAC, a town-wide organization for parents of students with special needs. Mayor Kay read the Certificate of Appreciation.

Presentation of Scholarship Awards

Lois Desmond, Chairperson of the Scholarship Committee reviewed the committee's work. This is the 19th year presenting awards, and although the current economic climate paid a toll on receipts, \$36,050 is being awarded to the 42 recipients who were chosen from 60 completed applications. Ms. Desmond thanked the taxpayers that donated, the sponsors and the scholarship committee, which reviewed and selected the recipients. Along with Mayor Susan Kay and Town Council President Arthur Mathews, Ms.

Desmond presented scholarship awards to the following town residents: Nicholas R. Arena, Julianne Atwater, Joseph V. Bomar, James M. Callahan, Emily E. Clark, Courtney E. Coleran, Kate A. Collins, Kody O. Crawford, Emily K. Cunningham, Susan, Du, Ashley E. Elliott, Mark W. Ellis, Kyleen S. Farrell, Jennifer E. Farrell, Alysson L. Flannery, Laura E. Fleming, Christian J. Frazier, Conor M. Glover, John R. Godfrey, Zachary J. Hachey, Katherine A. Hardman, Richard A. Hawkes, IV, Kate A. Hudson-Bryant, Maryanne M. Ivil, Kaitlyn A. Keenan, Thomas P. Larsson, Misha N. Leister-Lowry, Caryn E. MacDonald, Michael J. Mahoney, Jessica C. McLeod, Daniel J. McMahon, Kate R. Moriarty, Samantha E. Palacios, Nitya B. Pandeti, Kelly N. Parsley, Meghan L. Prendergast, Valerie L. Ripley, John G. Sartucci, Jr. , Adam W. Smith, Christopher D. Vogel, Sarah M. Whitham and Amanda T. Zaniewski.

Overview of Legislative Activities for Fiscal Year 2010

President Mathews read the following prepared statement:

Good Evening and thank you for attending our Annual Town Meeting.

As dictated by Section 6-6 of the Town Charter, the Town Council President is required to deliver an update on the legislative activities of the Council for fiscal 2010 which began on July 1, 2009 and runs to date.

The Town Council has held a total of 38 meetings, which includes not only regularly scheduled Town Council Meetings but also meetings from all 10 committees.

As the legislative branch of government, the Town Council is responsible for approving town ordinances, measures, appointments and most importantly, approving the operating budget for the town. The Council, while deliberating over the budget, as dictated by the charter, cannot add to, but can only reduce the budget.

Highlights of the legislative activities for fiscal year 2010 include:

- *Approval of an Energy Efficiency Grant which resulted in numerous cost effective energy measures for the town*
- *Approval of a new fire engine for the fire department and funding for a new police department radio system*
- *The Town Council approved numerous Community Preservation projects, including:*
 - *Window replacements in senior housing at Calnan and Harrington Circles*
 - *The purchase of two acres of recreation land abutting Brad Hawes Park*
 - *Funding towards the restoration and preservation of the main body of Whitman's Pond through herbicide weed control treatments*
 - *Funding towards the repair and restoration of the historic wall and gate at Veterans' Memorial Field*
- *The Town Council has begun its review of the Charter Review Committee's recommendations for the town's initial 10-year review of the charter document.*

The Town Council continues in its efforts to act on behalf of its constituency by proactively reaching out to constituents with neighborhood issues. This is accomplished by attending neighborhood meetings, other board meetings and responding to constituent inquiries.

In closing, I would like to thank my fellow Councilors, the employees of the Council and Clerk's offices, Mayor Susan Kay and her Administration and the Schools.

Most importantly, I would like to extend my appreciation to the residents of the town of Weymouth, who by their valuable input at meetings, and raising of important issues, have illustrated the true definition of democracy in our government.

Thank you for your attention this evening.

President Mathews then recognized Vice President O'Connor to continue the agenda.

Public Hearings

10 020 –General Government Annual Appropriation

10 021-Revolving Accounts Annual Appropriation

10 022-Gift Accounts Annual Authorization

10 023-Unpaid Bills

10 024-FY 2011 Supplemental Appropriation for Unemployment Insurance Liability

10 025-Free Cash Appropriation –53rd Payroll Week

10 026-Swere Enterprise Fund Annual Appropriation

10 027-Water Enterprise Fund Annual Appropriation

10 028-Community Preservation Committee Annual Appropriation

A MOTION was made by Councilor O'Connor to OPEN the Public Hearing on items **10 020** through **10 028**, all inclusive, and was seconded by Councilor Smart.
UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

Fiscal Year 2011 Budget

Mayor Kay noted there has been much speculation regarding the legality of this budget and requested through the president that this matter be addressed by Solicitor Lane. Mr. Lane noted that legally, specifically with regard to the minimum contribution to local aide as it affects the budget, and whether there is a legal issue with regard to the legality of the budget--the budget itself is the legal authority to expend money; to plan a financial

operation consisting of an estimate of proposed expenditures to be made. Under Chapter 70, which is the financing of education, particularly in section 6, which notes “shall annually appropriate the contribution...” That is an issue separate and apart from the budget itself. A failure to meet the contribution is specifically addressed in Chapter 70 as to what action with regard to the penalty may be taken. There are no penalty provisions that exist which affect the legality of the budget.

Under Chapter 71, “no city or town is required to provide more money than is appropriated by...” the council, in this particular instance.

He summarized that the budget is a separate item from the minimum contribution to local aid, and the legality of the budget is not affected by the minimum contribution to local aid.

Mayor Kay read the following “State of the Town” message:

I’ve submitted my recommendations for the 2011 budget to the Town Council as required by the Town’s Charter. It is balanced, and it meets the Department of Revenue’s regulations; however, it does not reflect what I believe a government should offer its citizens.

This budget does, however, reflect the state of our economy. Cutbacks have become the ordinary course of doing business. For two years, this Town has utilized all available resources to provide an acceptable level of service to our citizens. We can no longer accomplish that goal. We will be eliminating existing positions. I could not fully fund the Net School Spending mandate out of fear of not being able to keep our streets safe, to respond to fires, or to remove snow and ice.

More specifically, Fiscal Year 2011 totals \$126,159,096. This budget is \$755,000 less than this year’s current budget and \$255,000 less than that which was submitted to you for fiscal year 2008. I use 2008 as a comparative year; we’re in a regression. The 2011 Operating Budget for the General Fund projects no reliance on one-time revenues. There are no recommended increases in fees. You will find that local receipts are projected to be less than the current year. Revenue sources hardest hit will be in the area of building inspections (nobody’s building), and in the state’s reimbursement for certain school-based expenses. Interest income is also experiencing a lower rate of return than the current fiscal year.

The town will experience a \$1.7 million reduction in state aid to Weymouth and that may include an \$875,000 reduction in aid to our school system. Fixed cost increases continue to dominate the expense side of the budget.

Fixed cost increases continue to dominate the expense side of the budget. We have experienced an increase in the appropriation for our unfunded retirement liability by approximately \$300,000. We have also seen an increase in health insurance costs as a direct result of a substantial increase announced by the Group Insurance Commission in early March. How do you plan for that? In FY11, health insurance costs will go up to \$17.8 million- an increase of 17.9% in one year. The decrease in revenues will be absorbed through reductions in personnel, which is our largest expenditure. No department is unscathed.

Despite the fact that our revenues are projected to be just below FY2008 levels, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts has required that we increase our spending to the school department. We simply cannot afford that type of increase. As a result, we will not be in compliance with the state statute known as the Education Reform Act. As with all departments, the FY2011 appropriation for the school department will fall far below the FY 2008 levels. I wish I could do more, but I cannot, given my belief that it is the responsibility of town government to keep our citizens safe and the streets passable, in addition to education, unfortunately.

The total school department appropriation is recommended at \$51,506,261; a decrease of \$826,022 from the FY2010 appropriation.

There are significant impacts to the School Department. Salary adjustments for other contractual obligations and step increases for those entitled are included in this budget. Our non-union staff, three police department unions, one firefighter union, along with several small unions within the school department, have not received a raise in salary since July 1, 2006. We are currently awaiting word from the Joint Labor Committee Management Commission on the disposition of a firefighters' contract. The decision may require the council to address the firefighters' contract in the not-too-distant future; also a mandate.

I do not plan on requesting a supplemental appropriation until the legislature and the governor enact a fiscal year 2011 budget, and when the Department of Revenue has announced the impact of that budget on Weymouth- normally in July.

I have budgeted for certain Public Works employee raises along with Traffic Supervisors (both members of AFSCME) as their collective bargaining agreements have been ratified for FY2010. Both bargaining units have accepted a zero percent raise for FY2008 and FY2009 and a 2.5 percent increase commencing January 1, 2010 (an economic impact of 1.25% for FY2010).

Salary adjustments for other contractual obligations and step increases for those entitled to them have been included in my proposal. Our non-union staffs, three police department unions, one firefighter union, along with several small unions in the school department have not received a raise in salary since July 1, 2006. We are currently awaiting word from the Joint Labor Management Commission (JLMC) on the disposition of the firefighter's contract. The decision of the JLMC may require the Council to address the firefighter's labor contracts in the not too distant future.

I have also included two measures which will have a direct impact on our FY2011 budget. I have requested an appropriation of \$510,000 for a 53rd payroll week. A 53rd week occurs once every six years. FY2011 is one of those years. In addition, I have submitted to you a \$500,000 free cash appropriation to help meet some of our projected FY2011 unemployment liability. This measure will bring the total appropriation for unemployment expenses to \$1.2 million.

I have included the Community Preservation Committee budget with no specific project requests. The Committee is currently reviewing requests and will be presented at a later date.

This budget reflects a reduction in state reimbursements for this program. The budget has been requested at \$719,000 a decrease of \$300 from FY2010.

The Sewer Department budget will remain level funded for FY2011, despite a projected increase in MWRA charges. Like the Sewer Department, the Water Department Budget will also be a level funded budget for FY2011.

Presentation of the Budget- James Wilson, Chief Financial Officer

Mr. Wilson presented the FY11 Budget in a power point presentation:

OVERVIEW

- Revenues = \$126,159,097 **reduction of \$755,573 from FY10**
 - New state aid numbers as of 4-15 could show an additional \$100K reduction
 - No increase in fees
 - Just less than the appropriation level in FY2008
- Fixed costs increased by \$2.1 million
- Required all non-school departments: to reduce FY10 in appropriation by an amount = 10% of their FY10 salary line item
- School Department does not follow the personnel reduction but rather a flat sum of \$826,022 from FY10 appropriation

Summary of revenue line items

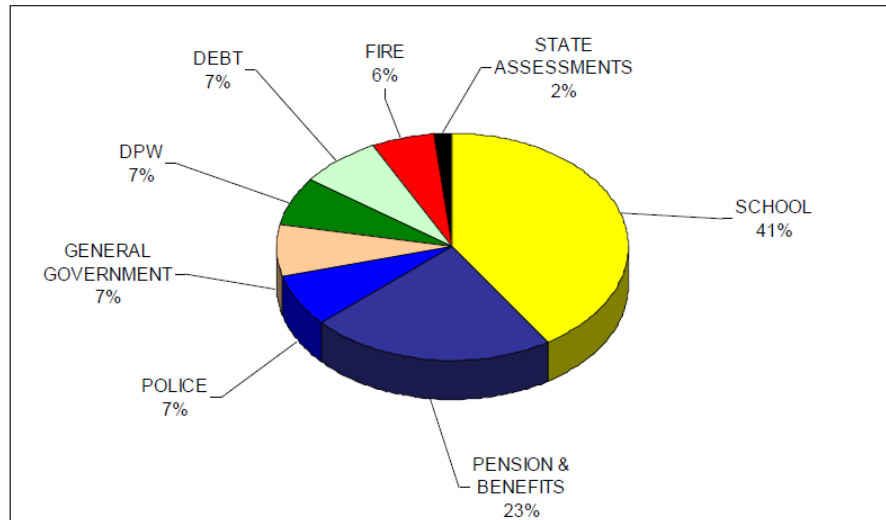
Property Taxes =	\$75,112,835
– FY10 taxes =	\$ 69.7 M
– New Growth=	\$.2 M
– Prop. 2 ½ levy increase =	\$ 1.7 M
– Fore River Power =	<u>\$ 3.5 M</u>
• State Aid =	\$30,800,048
• Local Receipts =	\$11,203,873
☞	
• Water & Sewer =	\$ 7,332,341
Reimbursements	
• Other Revenues =	\$ 1,710,000
– Line item 11450410.490020	
– Community Preservation Committee = \$	20,000
– Waterways Fund = \$	40,000
– Rubbish Removal Fee = \$	1,650,000

Revenues

• Motor Vehicle	\$ 5.0 million	
• Personal Property	\$ 2.0 million	
• Other Local Receipts	\$ 3.85 million	
– Permits & fees		building permits down by \$500K
– Various state reimbursements		down by \$700K
• Interest Income	\$.35 million	
• Transfers		
– Sewer	\$ 2.51 million	
– Water	\$ 4.83 million	
– Other	\$ 1.71 million	
• Real Estate	\$ 75.11 million	
• State Aid	down by \$1.3 M	
	includes to Chapter 70	
	<u>\$ 30.8 million</u>	State deliberating could be \$50K less
Total	\$126.159 million	

	FY08	FY09	FY09	FY10	FY11
REVENUE FROM COMMONWEALTH					
Chapter 70	\$ 22,123,277	\$ 24,326,465	\$ 21,768,190	\$ 23,839,936	\$ 22,886,339
School Transportation					
Charter Tuition Reimbursement	\$ 117,912	\$ 85,878	\$ 118,496	\$ 79,643	\$ 104,247
Charter School Capital Facility Reimbursement	\$ -				
School Choice Receiving tuition					
Lottery	\$ 8,428,323	\$ 7,309,208	\$ 7,607,016	\$ 7,682,608	\$ 7,375,304
Hold Harmless Lottery		\$ 1,119,115			
Additional Assistance	\$ 2,424,084	\$ 2,424,084	\$ 2,187,866		
Police Career Incentive Quinn Bill	\$ 498,060	\$ 542,047	\$ 489,850	\$ 92,251	
Veteran's Benefits	\$ 136,661	\$ 174,156	\$ 272,246	\$ 150,928	\$ 189,094
Exemptions: Blind and DAV	\$ 199,901	\$ 194,066	\$ 196,975	\$ 251,971	\$ 235,127
Exemptions: Elderly	\$ 50,200	\$ 48,192	\$ 44,678	\$ -	\$ -
Payment of State Land	\$ 9,242	\$ 9,910	\$ 9,910	\$ 8,927	\$ 9,937
State Highway reimbursement					
Tuition for State Wards					
Total	\$ 33,987,660	\$ 36,233,121	\$ 32,695,227	\$ 32,106,264	\$ 30,800,048
Aid to General Government	\$ 11,746,471	\$ 11,820,778	\$ 10,808,541	\$ 8,186,685	\$ 7,809,462
Aid to Schools	\$ 22,241,189	\$ 24,412,343	\$ 21,886,686	\$ 23,919,579	\$ 22,990,586

Departmental expense as a % of budget



Costs within Budget

<u>Category of General Government Expenses</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Town</u>	<u>Water & Sewer</u>
			reimbursed
Budget	\$ 51,506,261	\$ 33,889,998	
Retirement contrirubution for active employees	\$ 2,230,695	\$ 5,085,526	\$ 825,873
Debt	\$ 2,966,378	\$ 1,478,714	\$ 5,015,170
Health Insurance active employees	\$ 6,842,132	\$ 3,158,526	\$ 552,224
General Liability Ins	\$ 255,453	\$ 327,118	\$ 11,506
Retiree Health Insurance	\$ 3,678,037	\$ 3,037,263	\$ 404,615
Life Insurance	\$ 9,056	\$ 23,715	\$ 1,229
Workers Compensation	\$ 200,000	\$ 386,808	\$ 63,192
Unemployment Benefits	\$ 650,000	\$ 100,000	\$ -
IT and Finance	\$ 925,000	\$ 1,098,166	\$ 416,432
Medicare Taxes	\$ 683,400	\$ 294,500	\$ 42,100
Total Expenditure	<u>\$ 69,946,412</u>	<u>\$ 48,880,334</u>	<u>\$ 7,332,341</u>
Percent of FY11 Budget Request	<u>55.44%</u>	<u>38.74%</u>	<u>5.81%</u>

Budget comparison FY10-FY11

<u>Expense Category</u>	<u>FY10</u>	<u>FY11</u>	<u>change</u>
Revenue	\$ 126,914,669	\$ 126,159,097	-0.60%
Pension Benefits & Insurance	\$ 26,366,075	\$ 28,512,397	8.14%
Reserve fund	\$ 528,634	\$ 528,646	0.00%
Overlay-abatements & exemptions	\$ 700,000	\$ 700,000	0.00%
General Liability Insurance	\$ 597,677	\$ 594,078	-0.60%
School	\$ 52,332,283	\$ 51,506,261	-1.58%
State Assessments	\$ 2,234,583	\$ 2,189,010	-2.04%
DPW	\$ 8,875,015	\$ 8,690,015	-2.08%
Debt Service	\$ 9,885,526	\$ 9,460,262	-4.30%
Fire	\$ 7,783,849	\$ 7,433,527	-4.50%
Police	\$ 9,740,378	\$ 9,287,378	-4.65%
M/F	\$ 1,731,593	\$ 1,610,331	-7.00%
Remaining 17 departments	\$ 5,076,146	\$ 4,675,282	-7.90%
Library	\$ 1,062,910	\$ 971,910	-8.56%

Fixed Costs

- **Debt Service - \$425,264**
 - Decrease for town, school and sewer
 - Increase in water enterprise fund for new treatment plant
- **State Assessments - \$45,573**
 - Could go up another \$50K after legislative action
- **Pension Benefits and Insurances + \$2,146,322**
 - Health insurance up \$1.8 million
 - Medicare taxes up \$70K more qualify employees under Fed. Law
 - Unemployment up \$200K
 - Contributory retirement up \$180K
- **Reserve Fund** for extraordinary expenses **+\$12**
- **Overlay** for Abatements remains unchanged at \$700K

Budget Reductions

- **Town Council** **-\$21,850**
 - Reduction in the number of employee hours worked
- **Mayor** **-\$24,200**
 - Reduction in the number of hours for personnel
 - Elimination of instate travel
 - Reduction in General Liability Insurance
- **Municipal Finance** **-\$121,262**
 - Reduction in 4 staff members (3.5 FTE)
 - Reduction in some miscellaneous expenses

Budget continued

- **Town Solicitor -\$8,778**
 - Reduction in expenses for outside Counsel and claims budget
- **Information Technology -\$40,510**
 - Reduction in expense line items
- **Town Clerk -\$24,431**
 - Reduction in hours for one clerk
- **Planning and Community Develop -\$47,477**
 - Reallocation of \$83,500 of expenses to grants
- **Town Buildings -\$12,299**
 - \$13K Reduction in general maintenance expenses

Budget continued

- **Administrative Services** **-\$39,024**
 - Elimination of one senior clerk
- **Human Resources** **-\$20,892**
 - Elimination of \$20,592 in various expense line items including salaries as a result of personnel changes during FY10
- **Police Department** **-\$453,000**
 - Elimination of traffic supervisors and related costs (\$250,000)
 - Reduction in 2 currently vacant patrol officers
 - Reduction in Technical Support officer
 - Reduction in one officer in Investigations
 - Reduction in overtime expenses
 - Reduction in clothing allowances
 - \$6,775 Reductions in various other miscellaneous expenses

Budget continued

- **Fire Department** **²⁴-\$350,322**
 - Elimination of 4 vacant fire fighters positions
 - Elimination of vacant fire inspector position
 - Elimination of vacant Administrative Officer position
 - Two fire fighters are scheduled to retire during FY11, no intention of filling position
 - Reduction in over time expenses
 - Increase in training expenses
- **Licensing and Inspections** **-\$49,500**
 - Elimination of Deputy Wire Inspector
 - Elimination of Part time clerk
 - Reallocation of \$22,000 to other funding sources

Budget continued

- **DPW -\$185,000**
 - Elimination of Crew Chief
 - Elimination of Maintenance Craftsman
 - Elimination of heavy equipment operator
 - Mechanic Salary transferred to Water and Sewer Enterprise Fund
 - Provides for step and contractual increase of 2.5%
 - » FY08 = 0%, FY09 = 0%, FY10 = 1.25%, FY11 = 2.5%
- **Health Department -\$42,274**
 - Elimination of Sanitation Inspector
 - Reduction in nursing staff hours

Budget continued

- **Veterans' Services** **-\$8,200**
 - Reduction in clerk's hours
- **Park and Recreation** **-\$43,037**
 - All part time and seasonal employees will be paid from fees
- **Elder Services** **-\$17,201**
 - Funding for one staff member plus costs of programs
 allocated to Grant
 - Senior clerk's hours reduced to 20
- **Youth and Family Services** **-\$4,900**
 - \$4400 in salary allocated to Community Services Revolving Account

School Department

- **School Department** **-\$826,022**
 - Superintendent's recommendations
 - \$1.6 million reduction in non-personnel expenses
 - \$3.0 million reduction in personnel costs
 - Impact
 - Increase in class size in some grades
 - Reconfiguration of school population
 - **Eliminated Positions**
 - 70.9 positions
 - About half will be from vacancies/retirements

Net School Spending

- Sets minimum amount to be spent
- Does not mandate how a School Committee spends appropriation
- Cannot include such items as
 - School Crossing Guard
 - Debt service for large repairs to existing buildings
 - Debt service for construction of new buildings
 - Costs to transport school children
- Estimated net school spending requirements
 - FY08 = \$57,436,766 (no deficiency)
 - FY11 = \$61,299,776 (excluding FY09 & FY10 deficiency)
 - FY08 and FY11 available revenues remain approximately the same

Deficits in NSS

Based upon internal calculations

- CFO & Superintendent reviewed all allowed expenditures
 - We identified major two areas which were incorrect
 - We forwarded our conclusions to the original Independent Auditors
 - Independent Auditors concurred
 - Auditors and School Department forwarded results to DESE
- Awaiting action by Legislature to permit amendment
- All appeals for a revenue waiver have been denied
- FY09
 - \$699,465
- FY10 (estimated)
 - \$699,465 for FY09 + \$1,462,861 for FY10 = \$2,162,326
- FY11 (projected)
 - \$2,162,326 (from above) + \$1,741,870 for FY11 = \$3,904,196

Comparison FY08 to FY11

<u>Expense Category</u>	<u>FY08</u>	<u>FY09</u>	<u>FY10</u>	<u>FY11</u>	<u>FY11 to FY08</u>
Revenue	\$ 126,420,996	\$ 129,257,208	\$ 126,914,669	\$ 126,159,097	99.79%
Pension Benefits & Insurance	\$ 19,392,494	\$ 24,553,522	\$ 26,366,075	\$ 28,512,397	147.03%
Reserve fund	\$ 404,940	\$ 557,160	\$ 528,634	\$ 528,646	130.55%
Overlay-abatements & exemptions	\$ 600,000	\$ 710,559	\$ 700,000	\$ 700,000	116.67%
Debt Service	\$ 8,333,551	\$ 8,587,161	\$ 9,885,526	\$ 9,460,262	113.52%
General Liability Exp	\$ 600,068	\$ 438,153	\$ 597,677	\$ 594,078	99.00%
DPW	\$ 8,804,729	\$ 8,875,015	\$ 8,875,015	\$ 8,690,015	98.70%
School	\$ 55,418,897	\$ 51,606,986	\$ 52,332,283	\$ 51,506,261	92.94%
Police	\$ 10,171,838	\$ 9,621,602	\$ 9,740,378	\$ 9,287,378	91.30%
Fire	\$ 8,146,519	\$ 7,699,854	\$ 7,783,849	\$ 7,433,527	91.25%
M/F	\$ 1,860,950	\$ 1,756,181	\$ 1,731,593	\$ 1,610,331	86.53%
Library	\$ 1,125,911	\$ 1,062,910	\$ 1,062,910	\$ 971,910	86.32%
Remaining 17 departments	\$ 5,840,021	\$ 7,557,168	\$ 5,076,146	\$ 4,675,282	80.06%
State Assessments	\$ 5,721,078	\$ 6,230,937	\$ 2,234,583	\$ 2,189,010	38.26%

Summary

- Cost drivers
 - Health insurance ~ \$1.7 million
 - Retirement Contributions ~ \$180,000
 - Medicare costs (employer contribution) ~\$70,000
 - Unemployment Insurance ~ \$200,000
- Level of Service
 - Town Departments
 - Employee Count
 - FY08 = 461
 - FY11 = 384 (77 person reduction in force 16.7 %)
 - Inquiries will be prioritized
 - Town Hall will close on Wednesday

Summary

– School Department – proposed by Superintendent

- Reduction in force
- Increase in class size
- Reconfigure Schools
- School Committee meeting on 5-20
- Net School Spending an issue and requires legislative action

– Unsettled Union contracts

- police and fire which are in arbitration

Operations Requests

- Measure 10-021
 - Revolving Accounts Annual Authorization
- Measure 10-022
 - Gift Accounts Annual Authorization
- Measure 10-023
 - Free Cash appropriation - \$25,449
 - FY09 unpaid bills
- Measure 10-024
 - Free Cash Appropriation - \$ 500,000
 - Additional FY11 Unemployment Costs
- Measure 10-025
 - Free Cash Appropriation - \$ 510,000
 - 53rd Week in FY11 (occurs once every 6 years)

Enterprise Funds



- **Sewer Enterprise Fund = \$ 13,573,262**
 - Presents level funded budget
 - Modest increase in MWRA charges
 - Includes 2.5% increase in salary
 - Utility costs increases
 - Fill vacant positions
 - Reduction in debt service

- **Water Enterprise Fund = \$ 8,764,342**
 - Presents level funded budget
 - Reduction in staff position
 - Includes 2.5% increase in salary
 - Substantial increases for utilities, chemicals and materials
 - Reserve Fund of \$100,000
 - \$250,000 for debt service increase for new water treatment plant

Legal Requirements

- Statutory requirements for set aside reserves
 - From the FY11 Estimated Revenues a minimum of 10% must be allocated to each of the following:
 - Open Space Mandatory Set Aside Reserve
 - Historic Resources Mandatory Set Aside Reserve
 - Community Housing Mandatory Set Aside Reserve
 - Funds may be expended during FY11 or set aside for future projects within the allocated category

Community Preservation Committee

- Revenue = **\$719,749**
 - 1% Surcharge estimated - \$ 536,724
 - (based on 2 ½ % increase of FY10 actual revenue)
 - State Match estimated - \$ 177,025
 - (based on 25% match of FY10 estimated receipts)
 - Estimated Interest Income - \$ 1,000
 - Estimated Penalties & Interest on late payments - \$ 5,000
- Total FY11 Estimated Revenue
 - Decrease of \$313 from FY10

Detail of Expenditures

- **Mandatory Set Aside** (10% of budget)
 - Open Space = \$72,006
 - Historic Preservation = \$72,006
 - Community Housing = \$72,006
- **Permissive Set Aside** (10% of budget)
 - Recreation = \$72,006
- **Reserve Fund** for permissible expenditures in the above mentioned categories subject to Council approval
 - \$395,849
- **Administrative Costs** (5% of budget)
 - \$ 36,000

Detail of Administrative Costs

- Administrative Costs - \$ 36,000
(5% maximum of FY11 Total Estimated Revenue)
 - Recording Secretary \$ 2,000
 - Approximately 25 meetings
 - Miscellaneous Expenses \$ 14,000
 - Salary Allocations \$ 20,000
 - Municipal Finance Department
 - Board of Assessors
 - Planning & Community Development Department

Mayor Susan Kay made closing remarks. She noted in her transmittal letter that this budget is sad and not what she would have envisioned. The two key factors are the loss of revenue from the state and the increase in cost for employee insurance and benefits. Cities and towns across the Commonwealth are in similar straits--how to deal with increasing costs while realizing diminished revenues, with no help from the state. The Net School Spending formula did not take into consideration a recession. The town must band together to find ways to increase revenues while decreasing expenses; what happens will define the town, and determine its future.

President Mathews announced that this meeting would be a taped to be broadcast at a later time on WETC. Only two venues in town are equipped for a live feed broadcast and neither is large enough to hold the number of people who attend the Annual Town Meeting. He outlined the ground rules for the public hearing.

The following residents signed up before the meeting to speak at the Public Hearing:

Linda MacDonald, 58 Laurel Street (*copy of previously submitted questions and answers attached*). She asked if there are any positions in the budgets that are funded but unfilled.

Michael Murphy, 425 Front Street-supports rejecting the budget.

Hannah Monahan, 30 Oakden Avenue and **Emily Liebert**, 40 Sheri Lane -support

raising trash fees and an override of Proposition 2 ½

Anne Hilbert, 45 Doris Drive-supports requesting teachers forego raises; requested Tri-town revenue figures

Jane Hackett, 23 Blake Road-questioned the current collection rate for the current year

Stephanie Giovanetti, 30 Francis Road-impact to schools and education

Heather Downs, 28 Chard Street-supports override of Proposition 2 ½

Lorrie Fennell, 563 Ralph Talbot Street-supports override of Proposition 2 ½

Laurie Delano, 56 Thomas Road-questioned the legality of budget

John Milch, 205 Central Street-generate revenues from meals tax, trash fees, suggested exploration of solar and wind energy solutions

Mary Ellen O'Brien, 267 Neck Street-spoke to budget "mistakes"; explore generating revenues from Tri-town, wind energy

Elizabeth Foster-Nolan, 54 House Rock Road-go forward with Proposition 2 ½ override

Colin McPherson, 23 Blake Road-town can't afford to lose local aid; repeal CPA

Tracey Nardone, 139 Park Avenue West-town needs to generate revenue

Robert Montgomery Thomas, 848 Washington Street –PILOT program for South Shore Hospital as related to budget shortcomings, administrative leave for a town employee

Kathy Curran, 26 Babcock Street-support public safety; schools; supports 2 ½ override

Paul Hammond, 107 Endicott Street-supports public safety

George Berg, 74 Summer Street-generating revenue from fees, school class size concerns

Belinda McGuire, 81 Holmes Avenue-regarding net school spending; supports override

Steve Kupsc, Weymouth Police Department-supports public safety

The following residents also spoke, but did not sign up ahead:

Harrison Wachtel, 27 Patterson Street- to school budget; eliminating programs

Jared Lynn, 537 Bridge Street- regarding school budget cuts and impact

Cody Crawford, 136 Sea Street-regarding school budget cuts and impact

Maria O’Laughlin, 36 Church Street-in support of education and special education services

Betsy Harris, 34 Hilton Drive- regarding school budget- took exception to comments made by an earlier speaker regarding “education of children being a losing proposition.”

A MOTION was made by Councilor O’Connor to suspend Rule 23 (to continue meeting past 11:00 PM), seconded by Councilor Smart. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY.

Hioa Yasmine Kabbara, 20 Great Republic Avenue-regarding sustainability and not anticipating revenue from Tri-town

Bonnie Hayes, 15 Meeting House Lane- regarding elimination of school crossing guards

A MOTION was made by Councilor O’Connor to close the Public Hearing on items 10 020 through 10 028, inclusive, and was seconded by Councilor Smart. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES

Budget/Management-Chairman Kenneth DiFazio

Chairman DiFazio reported that thirteen re-appointments to committees were referred to the Budget/ Management Committee on May 3, 2010. Under the charter, the Council is required to take action within thirty days.

The committee met and deliberated on May 5, 2010 and voted to forward the items to the full Town Council with a recommendation for favorable action. On behalf of the Budget/ Management Committee, a MOTION was made by Councilor DiFazio recommending the re-appointments of the following:

10 046-Reappointment to the Board of Assessors-John Sheehan

10 047-Reappointment to the CPC-Christopher Hannon

10 048-Reappointment to the Conservation Commission-Steve DeGabriel

10 049-Reappointment to the Construction Steering Committee-Gilbert Starkey

10 050-Reappointment to the Cultural Council-Michelle DeSaulnier

10 051-Reappointment to the Commission on Disabilities-Ron Evans

10 052-Reappointment to the Commission on Disabilities-Gerry Begonis

10 053-Reappointment to the Board of Elder Services-Lawrence Cassese

10 054-Reappointment to Weymouth Housing Authority-Donald Sheehan

10 055-Reappointment to the Zoning Board of Appeals-Richard McLeod

10 056-Reappointment to the Zoning Board of Appeals-Francis Kenneally

10 057-Reappointment to the Commission on Disabilities-Matthew Ciavattieri

10 058-Reappointment to the Board of Library Trustees-Eileen Dumont

The motion was seconded by Councilor O'Connor. Councilor Molisse abstained from the vote on item 10 056. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

ADJOURNMENT

At 11:00 PM, there being no further business, a MOTION to Adjourn was made by Councilor O'Connor and seconded by Councilor Smart. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

Respectfully submitted by Mary Briggs as Recording Secretary

Approved by

President Arthur Mathews

The following information was provided for and by Linda MacDonald:

Questions re: FY11 Budget
Linda MacDonald
May 17, 2010

It has been common practice for departments to put funding for unfunded positions into their yearly budget proposals. For example, the fire chief requested an additional administrator last year or the year before, the position was put in the budget but never filled and is now, in this budget, being eliminated.

Chief Grimes-

The statement makes little sense. To seek funding for a position that is unfunded is creating a new position. The Police Department has not created any new positions in many years. Quite the opposite is true, as a matter of reference the Weymouth Police Department sworn staffing levels prior to FY2000 were as high as 113 sworn officers. In FY2007 the Police were reduced from 103 positions to 101. In FY2009, the Police were reduced from 101 positions to 96. The proposed FY2011 budget reductions reduce again from

-Question: Are there any positions in any department that are essentially “place holder” positions in this proposed budget?

The police chief has proposed the elimination of the entire traffic supervisor division. These 19 people are the crossing guards that ensure the safety of school children at the start and end of the school day. The chief had Sgt. Concannon do a survey of how many children actually used the crossing guard and also consulted with Officer Barry about traffic patterns. He did not mention consulting school principals.

While numbers of children walking to and from school are way down, there is an increase in the number of cars, suvs, trucks in and around schools at the start/end of the school day. The traffic supervisors are now truly directing traffic rather than crossing children.

Chief Grimes- The Police Department has no “Place Holder” positions.

Bob O'Connor- In FY11 Budget all funded positions are filled positions.

Chief Leary-

The fire department has never considered any position a “place holder”. The positions of Administrative Officer and Fire Prevention Inspector have been needed and requested for many years. But because staffing is so short, every effort must be placed on fire suppression. Therefore, Chief Leary has never been granted permission to fill either position. In reality, 2 fire inspectors are needed to adequately serve the public need.

-Question: Since Chief Grimes has decided that traffic supervision at schools is not important, I again ask the council to revisit our town’s police detail ordinance. To continue to require that we use police officers to protect the safety of adult construction workers at all road/telephone pole work regardless of the street and traffic conditions when the police have said that the safety of children is not their responsibility is a travesty.

In the past the mayor and DPW transferred two DPW employees to the water and sewer enterprise funds in order to make cuts in the DPW budget. This year the DPW is again transferring two employees to the W & S enterprise fund. Last year our water and sewer rates were raised by 5%, ostensibly to cover the cost of our new water treatment plant.

-Question-Isn't merely transferring these 4 employees from one budget to another simply shifting the source of their compensation from the general fund to our water and sewer bills?

Bob O'Connor-

Only two (2) employees had their salaries transferred to the W & S Depts' (50% to each Budget) as follows:

FY10 – DPW Electrician – considerable amount of his time is spent in W & S as well as time utilized from the Painter & Carpenter (W & S saved almost \$100k/yr in electrician costs since this position was created)

FY11 – DPW Mechanic – (1 of 6) W & S utilize 20% of mechanics time including the DPW Welder

FY10 – Business Manager – 33% was transferred to DPW

W & S also utilize park & tree services

In one page of our firefighter's union website the writer describes our firefighters as being "professionals from all walks of life. From electricians, plumbers, and carpenters, to landscapers, bartenders and even a lawyer." I have also seen work trucks for window washing, chimney sweeping and plowing in our stations parking lots. It's not a secret that most firefighters often work other jobs that require physical labor but probably do not carry sick time, workmen's compensation, or medical insurance.

-Question: Knowing that our firefighters often have other jobs, Is there a system in place for monitoring injury leave and sick time in order to ensure that these other jobs are not impacting the departments use of overtime and public safety?

Mayor-

The Town cannot dictate what employees do on their off time. Injury and sick leave are monitored.

Chief Leary-

The only way a firefighter can be placed on injury leave is if they file an injury report that details the specific event that led to the injury. They must then provide written documentation from a physician that states the causal relationship between the event and the injury. Only after these documents have been completed and filed with the Chief can the firefighter be considered for injury leave.

If a firefighter is out sick, he or she must present a doctor's note after their 3rd shift out. If it is ever reported that a firefighter is taking advantage of his or her sick leave by working a side job while on sick leave, an investigation will be conducted into that allegation to ensure that the firefighter is not acting improperly.

-Question: How many of our elected officials, excluding the mayor, are receiving their health insurance from the town and what is this cost?

Mayor- The Mayor does NOT receive Health Insurance. Only four elected officials receive health insurance from the Town.

-Question: The school department is proposing to close the alternative high school. Is there any consideration of moving the senior center to this location and the current town offices in the Whipple Center to the Fogg Library and selling the whipple center? No

-Question: Station 2 will not be open this year. Why wouldn't it be more cost effective to move the departments' administrative offices to another fire station?

All stations will be evaluated for staffing. Station 2 may not be the only issue.

Chief Leary

Moving the administrative offices to other fire stations would be more expensive than keeping them at Station #2, especially the Fire Alarm Division.

In order to accommodate the Fire Chief, the Administrative Assistant, the Shift Commander, the Training Division, the Fire Prevention Division and the Senior Clerk, space would have to be added to one or more of the other fire stations. This would cost thousands, if not hundreds of thousands of dollars to accomplish.

The Fire Alarm Division would require the construction of a new fire alarm console and the relocation of all of the communications equipment. Again, this would cost thousands of dollars to accomplish.

For the cost of maintaining heat and electricity at Station #2, it is impractical at best to move the existing offices out of Station #2.

-Question: Can we have statistics on the number of men vs. the number of women who will be laid off, take furloughs or see their hours cut this year (in both the school department and the townside of the budget? Mayor-This is difficult due to the bumping that will occur

-Question: Please explain why it is better to increase overtime than to hire replacements in the police and fire departments?

Mayor-The savings is benefits (health insurance, vacations, uniform allowances, and stipends).

Chief Grimes- Hiring Replacements is expensive. There are numerous costs to include benefits associated with new hires. In times of anticipated budget reductions it is more cost effective to fill positions, as needed with overtime, than to commit to permanent new hires and lay them off, resulting in deeper cuts to personnel in order to fund benefits.

Chief Leary

When it is necessary to hire overtime every day in order to maintain a minimum number of firefighters on duty, it is more cost effective to hire personnel than to pay overtime.

In the FY 2011 budget, neither will new firefighters be hired, nor will overtime be increased. In fact, overtime will be decreased by \$25,000 thereby necessitating occasional further reductions in staffing. At these times, the minimum staffing will drop from 17 firefighters on duty to 15. This will result in just 2 engines and 2 ladders in service whenever the weekly overtime cap is reached.

-Questions: The mayor was recently asked how the school department's portion of the budget had been reduced to 41% from 49% over the last few years. The question was what happened to the other 8%? The mayor responded that it didn't go anywhere and that other budgets had seen equal hits (to paraphrase) Since this was a question of percentages, the mayors answer does not make sense. Can you explain again what happened to the 8%?

Mayor-

The Mayor tried to explain that the 8% referred to did NOT go to other budgets. All other budgets in Town are taking larger percentage cuts than School Department. The lost percentage, as the lost percentage in all budgets went to increased Health Insurance and Pension Benefits.