

**MINUTES OF THE CONTINUED ANNUAL BUDGET MEETING OF THE TOWN OF FAIRFIELD
MAY 4, 2010**

The Annual Budget Meeting of the Town of Fairfield continued Tuesday, May 4, 2010, at Osborn Hill School on Stillson Road, Fairfield, Connecticut.

The meeting was called to order at 8:10 P.M. by Moderator James Walsh.

PRESENT: 44 ABSENT: 6 VACANCY: 0

PRESENT: Becker, Challinor, Richmond, Sundman, Walsh, Ambrose, A. Harrison, Steele, Stewart, Varian, Bateson, Conley, Ference, McCullough, Santalesa, DeMartino, Hug, Palmer, R. Parker, S. Parker, Garskof, McAleese, Smey, Stamler, Brogan, Kupchick, Marmion, Vahey, Cullen, Hoffkins, Llewellyn, Lynch, Schwartz, Braun, McCarthy, Takami, Dillon, Felner, Millington, Mirabile, Farnen, E. Harrison, Mears, Way

ABSENT: Gall, Luciano, Hoffmann, Kelly, McGinty, Rubino

ITEM NO. 1 ON CALL: PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ITEM NO. 2 ON CALL: RESOLVED, THAT THE BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR OF JULY 1, 2010 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2011, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF FINANCE IN ITS "2010-2011 TOWN OF FAIRFIELD BUDGET REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS," SUBMITTED TO THIS MEETING, A COPY OF WHICH REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS IS ANNEXED HERETO, IS HEREBY ADOPTED; THAT THE SALARIES OF THE TOWN OFFICIALS ARE APPROVED AS SET FORTH HEREIN; AND THAT THE SUM OF \$251,734,722 FOR SAID BUDGET BE, AND HEREBY IS APPROPRIATED (Continued from May 3, 2010)

MOTION: David Becker, District 1, moved to amend the proposed budget by reducing Line Item 1330-56100, Human Resources Printing & Binding, from \$4,600 to \$4,100; 1330-56100, HR Office Supplies, from \$3,500 to \$3,000; and 1330-58100, HR Educational & Memberships, from \$12,000 to \$10,500, duly seconded.

Human Resources Director Mary Carroll-Mirylees explained that requirements such as drug testing and CPR training are paid from the Educational account.

Joe DeMartino, District 4, asked what the policy is in the event of a positive drug test.

Ms. Carroll-Mirylees explained that the Town follows guidelines set by the Department of Transportation and that it is progressive discipline. The first offense might result in a suspension, then the following year the drug test would be required rather than at random.

Ann Stamler, District 5, asked what would happen if the money for drug testing ran out.

Ms. Carroll-Mirylees said that since the drug testing is a requirement, the money would be found elsewhere.

VOTE: The motion to reduce the HR Printing & Binding account by \$500, the Office Supplies account by \$500 and the Education/Memberships account by \$1,500, was approved with 36 in favor, 8 opposed.

**REPRESENTATIVE TOWN MEETING
MAY 4, 2010**

2

IN FAVOR: Becker, Challinor, Richmond, Sundman, Walsh, Ambrose, A. Harrison, Steele, Stewart, Varian, Bateson, Ference, McCullough, Santalesa, DeMartino, Hug, Palmer, R. Parker, S. Parker, Garskof, McAleese, Kupchick, Marmion, Vahey, Lynch, Braun, McCarthy, Takami, Dillon, Felner, Millington, Mirabile, Farnen, E. Harrison, Mears, Way

OPPOSED: Conley, Smey, Stamler, Brogan, Cullen, Hoffkins, Llewellyn, Schwartz

MOTION: Mr. Becker moved to amend the proposed budget by reducing Line Item 1350-56100, Economic Development Printing & Binding, from \$3,500 to \$3,000, duly seconded.

Hal Schwartz, District 7, said that this is a very important department and they need every cent they can get. He urged the Body to vote against the proposed cut.

Mr. Becker stated he agrees it is a very important department but it has a history of not spending the funds received. This year they have encumbered \$122 so far, and the previous year spent \$343.

First Selectman Ken Flatto said that in the past Economic Development has spent less because of joint funding projects, joining forces with such entities as the Chamber of Commerce.

Ms. Kate Daniello, Shrub Oak Lane, speaking on behalf of We The People, urged the Body to cut the Education side of the budget.

VOTE: The motion to reduce the Economic Development Printing and Binding account by \$500 was approved with 40 in favor, 4 opposed (Garskof, Marmion, Cullen, Schwartz).

MOTION: Mr. Becker moved to amend the proposed budget by reducing Line Item 1370-53200, Harbor Management Fees & Professional Services, from \$17,850 to \$16,850, duly seconded.

Eric Sundman, District 1, asked HMC Chairman Mary VonConta and member Lou Schiller to explain what the funds are used for.

HMC Chairman Mary VonConta explained that the Fees & Professional Services account pays for the Harbor Master, a consultant and the recording secretary.

VOTE: The motion to reduce the Harbor Management Fees & Professional services account by \$1,000 was approved with 32 in favor, 12 opposed.

IN FAVOR: Becker, Challinor, Richmond, Ambrose, A. Harrison, Steele, Varian, Bateson, Ference, McCullough, Santalesa, DeMartino, Hug, Palmer, R. Parker, S. Parker, Garskof, McAleese, Stamler, Kupchick, Llewellyn, Lynch, Braun, Takami, Dillon, Felner, Millington, Mirabile, Farnen, E. Harrison, Mears, Way

OPPOSED: Sundman, Walsh, Conley, Stewart, Smey, Brogan, Marmion, Cullen, Vahey, Hoffkins, Schwartz, McCarthy

MOTION: Mr. Becker moved to amend the proposed budget by reducing Line Item 3030-58100, Purchasing Educational & Memberships, from \$2,100 to \$1,800, and Line Item 3030-58120, Purchasing Travel & Meeting, from \$1,600 to \$1,400, duly seconded.

Purchasing Agent Twig Holland listed several of the educational programs she and her staff have attended over the past few years. Although the department has a staff of three, it has a high level of productivity. She reminded the Body that her office does all purchasing for the Town and Board of Education.

**REPRESENTATIVE TOWN MEETING
MAY 4, 2010**

3

Cristin McCarthy Vahey, District 6, asked if the classes help save funds to which Ms. Holland replied yes.

VOTE: The motion to reduce the Purchasing Education/Memberships account by \$300 and the Travel/Meeting account by \$200 was approved with 35 in favor, 9 opposed.

IN FAVOR: Becker, Challinor, Richmond, Sundman, Walsh, Ambrose, A. Harrison, Steele, Varian, Bateson, Conley, Ference, McCullough, Santalesa, DeMartino, Hug, Palmer, R. Parker, S. Parker, Garskof, McAleese, Kupchick, Marmion, Llewellyn, Lynch, Braun, McCarthy, Takami, Dillon, Felner, Millington, Farnen, E. Harrison, Mears, Way

OPPOSED: Stewart, Smey, Stamler, Brogan, Vahey, Cullen, Hoffkins, Schwartz, Mirabile

MOTION: Mr. Becker moved to amend the proposed budget by reducing Line Item 3090-58120, Tax Collector Travel & Meeting, from \$1,900 to \$1,600, duly seconded.

Ann Stamler, District 5, asked what these funds are used for.

Tax Collector Stan Gorzelany said that this is the training budget and noted the class fees are not going up. It allows the staff to do their jobs better as they gain Municipal Tax Collector status.

Mr. Jim Brown, South Pine Creek Road, said that certain training is required in the private sector as well but that when the economy gets bad the training must be cut.

VOTE: The motion to reduce the Tax Collector Travel and Meeting account by \$300 was approved with 35 in favor, 9 opposed.

IN FAVOR: Becker, Challinor, Richmond, Sundman, Walsh, Ambrose, A. Harrison, Steele, Varian, Bateson, Conley, Ference, McCullough, Santalesa, DeMartino, Hug, Palmer, S. Parker, McAleese, Smey, Brogan, Kupchick, Llewellyn, Lynch, Braun, McCarthy, Takami, Dillon, Felner, Millington, Mirabile, Farnen, E. Harrison, Mears, Way

OPPOSED: Stewart, R. Parker, Garskof, Stamler, Marmion, Vahey, Cullen, Hoffkins, Schwartz

MOTION: Mr. Becker moved to amend the proposed budget by reducing Line Item 3110-56100, Information Technology Printing & Binding, from \$6,000 to \$250 and 3110-57000, IT Capital Outlay, from \$188,300 to \$178,300, duly seconded.

Christopher Brogan, District 6, asked what the funds are used for and what effect a cut would have.

IT Director Don Leslie said that many of the department's costs have been absorbed from the Purchasing Department. Most of the funding would go toward hardware which is easier to buy new than to fix.

First Selectman Flatto urged support of the capital funding.

MOTION: Mr. Schwartz moved to amend the amendment by removing the reduction of \$10,000 from IT Capital Outlay, duly seconded.

VOTE: The motion to amend the amendment by removing the cut of \$10,000 from consideration failed with a vote of 9 in favor, 35 opposed.

**REPRESENTATIVE TOWN MEETING
MAY 4, 2010**

4

IN FAVOR: Sundman, Stamler, Brogan, Marmion, Vahey, Cullen, Hoffkins, Lynch, Schwartz

OPPOSED: Becker, Challinor, Richmond, Walsh, Ambrose, A. Harrison, Steele, Stewart, Varian, Bateson, Conley, Ference, McCullough, Santalesa, DeMartino, Hug, Palmer, R. Parker, S. Parker, Garskof, McAleese, Smey, Kupchick, Llewellyn, Braun, McCarthy, Takami, Dillon, Felner, Millington, Mirabile, Farnen, E. Harrison, Mears, Way

MOTION: Jamie Millington, District 9, moved the question, duly seconded and carried with 37 in favor, 7 opposed (Sundman, Garskof, McAleese, Stamler, Cullen, Hoffkins, Schwartz).

VOTE: The motion to reduce Information Technology Printing & Binding by \$5,750 and Capital Outlay by \$10,000 was approved with 35 in favor, 9 opposed.

IN FAVOR: Becker, Challinor, Richmond, Walsh, Ambrose, A. Harrison, Steele, Stewart, Varian, Bateson, Conley, Ference, McCullough, Santalesa, DeMartino, Hug, Palmer, R. Parker, S. Parker, Smey, Kupchick, Marmion, Llewellyn, Lynch, Braun, McCarthy, Takami, Dillon, Felner, Millington, Mirabile, Farnen, E. Harrison, Mears, Way

OPPOSED: Sundman, Garskof, McAleese, Stamler, Brogan, Vahey, Cullen, Hoffkins, Schwartz

MOTION: Edward Bateson, District 3, moved to amend the proposed budget by reducing from Dept. 4030, Police Department, Line Item 51010, Regular Payroll, from \$7,819,004 to \$7,750,631; 52100, Health Insurance, from \$2,219,535 to \$2,199,893; 52200, Society Security, from \$147,890 to \$146,899; 53200, Fees & Professional Services, from \$81,080 to \$71,080; 54320, Maint/Repair Buildings, from \$78,100 to \$75,930; 54330, Maint/Repair Auto, from \$78,430 to \$75,930; 57000, Capital Outlay (radar unit), from \$321,620 to \$314,300; and 57000, Capital Outlay (boat engine) from \$321,620 to \$294,620, duly seconded.

Brenda Kupchick, District 5, and Chairman of the Public Health & Safety Committee, spoke against cutting the additional detective position. She said the department had requested an additional patrol officer and detective and the Board of Finance already cut the patrol officer.

Police Chief David Peck said that last year he agreed to cut his request to fill the vacancies for a patrol officer and a detective and instead pulled two personnel from task forces to fill the vacancies. He said the department is at the same staffing level as it was in during 2008.

Deputy Police Chief Gary McNamara distributed an outline of how the investigative division works (attached).

MOTION: Kevin Hoffkins, District 7, moved to amend the amendment by removing Line Items 51010, 52100 and 52200, Regular Payroll, Health Insurance and Social Security, totaling \$89,006, the cost of a new detective, from consideration, duly seconded.

Mr. Schwartz spoke in support of the amendment.

Ms. Kupchick said that the proposed cut is a large part of the police department budget and she is not in favor of minimizing the safety of the community.

Kathy Braun, District 8, spoke in support of the amendment.

David Cullen, District 7, asked how much money in taxes this position would cost the average taxpayer.

REPRESENTATIVE TOWN MEETING

5

MAY 4, 2010

Fiscal Officer Paul Hiller said it would cost about \$3.00.

Jeff Steele, District 2, asked what the cost savings would be between a new hire and using OT to fill the vacancy.

Chief Peck acknowledged there would be some cost savings but that a certain level of quality of service would be affected. He prefers staffing the department with regular officers on the job, full time, dedicated to a specific task.

Mr. Steele asked if there could be an internal reorganization after the chief's pending retirement.

Chief Peck said that the department was restructured recently and that anyone currently within the department would be in favor of the current structure. The budget was built by the deputy chief who is the "budget director" within the department.

MOTION: Joe DeMartino, District 4, moved the question, duly seconded and carried with 39 in favor, 5 opposed (S. Parker, Garskof, Kupchick, Vahey, Schwartz).

VOTE: The motion to amend the amendment by reducing \$89,006 from consideration was approved with 23 in favor, 20 opposed and 1 abstention.

IN FAVOR: Sundman, Walsh, Ambrose, Conley, Hug, R. Parker, Garskof, McAleese, Smey, Stamler, Brogan, Kupchick, Marmion, Vahey, Cullen, Hoffkins, Llewellyn, Lynch, Schwartz, Dillon, Felner, Farnen, Way

OPPOSED: Becker, Challinor, Richmond, A. Harrison, Steele, Stewart, Varian, Bateson, Ference, McCullough, Santalesa, DeMartino, Palmer, S. Parker, Braun, McCarthy, Takami, Mirabile, E. Harrison, Mears

ABSTAINED: Millington

MOTION: Peter Ambrose, District 2, moved the question, duly seconded.

VOTE: The motion to close deliberation failed by two thirds vote with 26 in favor, 18 opposed.

IN FAVOR: Challinor, Richmond, Sundman, Walsh, Ambrose, Steele, Stewart, Varian, Bateson, Conley, Ference, McCullough, Santalesa, DeMartino, Hug, R. Parker, Llewellyn, Braun, McCarthy, Takami, Dillon, Felner, Millington, Farnen, Mears, Way

OPPOSED: Becker, A. Harrison, Palmer, S. Parker, Garskof, McAleese, Smey, Stamler, Brogan, Kupchick, Marmion, Vahey, Cullen, Hoffkins, Lynch, Schwartz, Mirabile, E. Harrison

Mr. Schwartz asked what the funds proposed to be cut are used for.

Chief Peck explained building maintenance, auto maintenance and the capital items. He said it is possible that the department would be receiving a new boat through grant funds and therefore the capital funds requested for the boat engine replacement would not be necessary.

Deputy Chief McNamara explained that Fees and Professional Services pays for testing and maintenance contracts.

Mr. Bateson explained that the amendment does not seek to reduce the budget but to roll the funds back to the current level.

MOTION: Mr. Schwartz moved to amend the amendment to reduce the Police Budget by removing all items from consideration except Line Item 40300-57000, Police Capital Outlay (boat engine replacement) in the amount of \$27,000, duly seconded.

First Selectman Flatto spoke in support of the amendment and said he is grateful to the Body for restoring the detective position to the proposed budget.

Fire Commissioner Charlene Lebo spoke in support of the amendment, saying that the department is already strained.

Jim Brown, South Pine Creek Road, said that social science research results found inconclusively that crime goes up when the economy goes down.

Ms. Stamler said that security cannot be compromised.

VOTE: The motion to amend the amendment by only reducing Capital Outlay funds in the amount of \$27,000 for a boat engine from the budget request failed with 8 in favor, 36 opposed.

IN FAVOR: Stewart, Garskof, Smey, Stamler, Marmion, Cullen, Hoffkins, Schwartz

OPPOSED: Becker, Challinor, Richmond, Sundman, Walsh, Ambrose, A. Harrison, Steele, Varian, Bateson, Conley, Ference, McCullough, Santalesa, DeMartino, Hug, Palmer, R. Parker, S. Parker, McAleese, Brogan, Kupchick, Vahey, Llewellyn, Lynch, Braun, McCarthy, Takami, Dillon, Felner, Millington, Mirabile, Farnen, E. Harrison, Mears, Way

MOTION: Josh Garskof, District 5, moved to amend the amendment to reduce the Police Budget by removing all items from consideration except Line Item 4030-53200, Fees & Professional Services, by \$10,000 and Line Item 4030-57000, Capital Outlay (boat engine replacement), in the amount of \$27,000, duly seconded.

MOTION: Mr. Millington moved the question, duly seconded and carried with 37 in favor, 7 opposed (Garskof, Kupchick, Stamler, Marmion, Vahey, Cullen, Hoffkins).

VOTE: The motion to amend the amendment as stated above failed with 8 in favor, 36 opposed.

IN FAVOR: Stewart, Garskof, McAleese, Smey, Stamler, Marmion, Cullen, Hoffkins

OPPOSED: Becker, Challinor, Richmond, Sundman, Walsh, Ambrose, A. Harrison, Steele, Varian, Bateson, Conley, Ference, McCullough, Santalesa, DeMartino, Hug, Palmer, R. Parker, S. Parker, Brogan, Kupchick, Vahey, Llewellyn, Lynch, Schwartz, Braun, McCarthy, Takami, Dillon, Felner, Millington, Mirabile, Farnen, E. Harrison, Mears, Way

VOTE: The motion to reduce the proposed Police Department budget by reducing \$10,000 from Fees & Professional Services; \$2,000 from Maint/Repair Buildings; \$2,500 from Maint/Repair Auto; \$7,320 from Capital Outlay (radar unit); and \$27,000 from Capital Outlay (boat engine) was approved 42 in favor, 2 opposed (Cullen, Hoffkins).

MOTION: Mr. Bateson moved to amend the proposed budget by reducing from Dept. 4010, Fire Department, Line Item 53200, Fees & Professional Services, from \$76,000 to \$74,000; 54320, Maint/Repair Buildings, from \$74,000 to \$62,000; 55300, Communications, from \$18,000 to \$15,059; and 57000, Capital Outlay (new vehicle), from \$137,300 to \$104,300 duly seconded.

**REPRESENTATIVE TOWN MEETING
MAY 4, 2010**

7

MOTION: Art Hug, District 4, moved to amend the amendment by removing from consideration the Capital Outlay Item and the Maintenance/Repair of Buildings and Grounds, duly seconded.

Fire Chief Richard Felner explained that the funds are used to maintain six buildings, some of which are getting old. The Fire Department usually gets its cars used from the Police Department and they are not in good driving condition.

Jerry Daniello, Shrub Oak Lane, spoke in opposition to reducing the “town” side of the budget and not reducing the education budget.

Jim Brown, South Pine Creek Road, pointed out that State law prohibits line item cuts to the education budget.

Mr. Millington said that the motion is to cut an increase to the budget in half. He objected to the inference that the used cars are in unsafe driving condition. The cuts being proposed are to the increases in the budget and there must be some equity.

Ms. Vahey said that each item must be examined on its own merits. She asked why the increase to the building maintenance budget is that much.

Chief Felner said that the buildings are old, the boiler in Station 1 needs to be replaced, and asbestos must be removed, especially after the recent flood. He asked that the Body trust the department managers to decide how best to fund their departments.

VOTE: The motion to amend the amendment by removing the Capital Outlay funds and the Maintenance/Repair of Buildings funds from consideration failed with 15 in favor, 28 opposed and 1 abstention.

IN FAVOR: Varian, Conley, Hug, R. Parker, S. Parker, Garskof, McAleese, Smey, Stamler, Brogan, Marmion, Cullen, Hoffkins, Lynch, Schwartz

OPPOSED: Becker, Challinor, Richmond, Sundman, Walsh, Ambrose, A. Harrison, Steele, Stewart, Bateson, McCullough, Santalesa, DeMartino, Palmer, Kupchick, Vahey, Llewellyn, Braun, McCarthy, Takami, Dillon, Felner, Millington, Mirabile, Farnen, E. Harrison, Mears, Way

ABSTAINED: Ference

Jim Brown, South Pine Creek Road, said that he has noticed contractors cutting the lawns at the library and fire station but DPW cuts other town property. He said firefighters are generally handy and can maintain the old buildings.

Chief Felner stated that along with the constant training the firefighters do, they work on the buildings.

Dina Polizza, Reid Street, stated that she is upset with this process and feels bad for the Police and Fire Departments. She said the education budget should be cut.

MOTION: Mr. Hug moved to amend the amendment by removing from consideration the Capital Outlay Item, duly seconded.

VOTE: The motion to reduce the proposed cut by \$33,000 failed with 12 in favor, 31 opposed and 1 abstention.

IN FAVOR: A. Harrison, Stewart, Conley, Hug, R. Parker, Garskof, McAleese, Smey, Cullen, Hoffkins, Lynch, Schwartz

OPPOSED: Becker, Challinor, Richmond, Sundman, Walsh, Ambrose, Steele, Varian, Bateson, McCullough, Santalesa, DeMartino, Palmer, S. Parker, Stamler, Brogan, Kupchick, Marmion, Vahey, Llewellyn, Braun, McCarthy, Takami, Dillon, Felner, Millington, Mirabile, Farnen, E. Harrison, Mears, Way

ABSTAINED: Ference

MOTION: Mr. Millington moved to suspend the rules in order to convene past 11:00 P.M. and to take up additional items after 11:30 P.M., duly seconded and carried with 42 in favor, 2 opposed (Sundman, S. Parker).

VOTE: The motion to amend the proposed budget by reducing from the Fire Department, \$2,000 from Fees & Professional Services; \$12,000 from Maint/Repair Buildings; \$2,941 from Communications; and \$33,000 from Capital Outlay (new vehicle), was approved with 29 in favor, 14 opposed and 1 abstention.

IN FAVOR: Becker, Challinor, Richmond, Sundman, Walsh, Ambrose, A. Harrison, Steele, Varian, Bateson, McCullough, DeMartino, Palmer, S. Parker, Smey, Kupchick, Vahey, Llewellyn, Braun, McCarthy, Takami, Dillon, Felner, Millington, Mirabile, Farnen, E. Harrison, Mears, Way

OPPOSED: Stewart, Conley, Santalesa, Hug, R. Parker, Garskof, McAleese, Stamler, Brogan, Marmion, Cullen, Hoffkins, Lynch, Schwartz

ABSTAINED: Ference

MOTION: Tom McCarthy, District 8, moved to amend the proposed budget by reducing Line Item 5030-54010, DPW Contracted Property Services, from \$1,164,000 to \$1,155,500, and Line Item 5030-54370, DPW Maint/Repair Materials, from \$610,000 to \$600,000, duly seconded.

MOTION: Mr. DeMartino moved the question, duly seconded.

VOTE: The motion to close deliberation failed by two thirds vote with 23 in favor, 21 opposed.

IN FAVOR: Sundman, Walsh, Ambrose, A. Harrison, Steele, Varian, Bateson, Ference, Santalesa, DeMartino, Hug, R. Parker, S. Parker, McAleese, Smey, Lynch, Braun, McCarthy, Millington, Mirabile, Farnen, E. Harrison, Way

OPPOSED: Becker, Challinor, Richmond, Stewart, Conley, McCullough, Palmer, Garskof, Stamler, Brogan, Kupchick, Marmion, Vahey, Cullen, Hoffkins, Llewellyn, Schwartz, Takami, Dillon, Felner, Mears

Jim Brown, South Pine Creek Road, wondered why DPW cuts grass in some public areas while contractors do others. He spoke in support of the cut.

Heather Dean, Stillson Road, spoke against any cut to the DPW budget, calling DPW, along with the public safety departments, necessary.

Director of Public Works Rich White said that the Contracted Services line item had already been decreased by the First Selectman. The town privatizes some jobs for efficiency, such as street lines,

REPRESENTATIVE TOWN MEETING

9

MAY 4, 2010

garbage collection and mowing. A matrix has been developed for mowing town properties and savings are found in contracting some out. The Materials line item is used for parks maintenance, and the request was also decreased by the First Selectman. The account is over budget for this year.

First Selectman Flatto said that every function of the Public Works Department is broken down and analyzed, and that the jobs are being reorganized constantly.

Mr. McCarthy thanked Mr. White who has been very generous with his time. He said that this is not a budget cut but a reduction of the increase, and he is confident Mr. White can manage with these funds.

Ms. Vahey asked where the funds would come from to cover the shortfall.

Mr. White said that fewer trees would be trimmed, the grass would be cut less frequently and line painting would be stretched.

Mr. Garskof spoke of his concern that if the budget is cut, the items would be pushed into bonding.

MOTION: Mr. Steele moved the question, duly seconded and carried with 39 in favor, 5 opposed (Garskof, McAleese, Kupchick, Cullen, Schwartz).

VOTE: The motion to reduce the DPW Contracted Property Services account by \$8,500 and the Materials account by \$10,000, was approved with 28 in favor, 16 opposed.

IN FAVOR: Becker, Challinor, Richmond, Sundman, Steele, Stewart, Varian, Bateson, Ference, McCullough, DeMartino, Hug, Palmer, S. Parker, Smey, Brogan, Llewellyn, Lynch, Braun, McCarthy, Takami, Felner, Millington, Mirabile, Farnen, E. Harrison, Mears, Way

OPPOSED: Walsh, Ambrose, A. Harrison, Conley, Santalesa, R. Parker, Garskof, McAleese, Stamler, Kupchick, Marmion, Vahey, Cullen, Hoffkins, Schwartz, Dillon

MOTION: Mr. McCarthy moved to amend the proposed budget by reducing Line Item 5050-53200, Building Fees & Professional Services, from \$2,000 to \$1,000, and Line Item 5050-55300, Building Communication, from \$4,000 to \$2,052, duly seconded.

MOTION: Mr. DeMartino moved the question, duly seconded.

VOTE: The motion to close debate on this item failed by two thirds vote with 29 in favor, 15 opposed.

IN FAVOR: Challinor, Richmond, Sundman, Walsh, Ambrose, A. Harrison, Steele, Stewart, Varian, Bateson, Ference, Santalesa, DeMartino, Hug, Palmer, R. Parker, S. Parker, Smey, Cullen, Llewellyn, Lynch, Braun, McCarthy, Takami, Dillon, Millington, Mirabile, Farnen, Way

OPPOSED: Becker, Conley, McCullough, Garskof, McAleese, Stamler, Brogan, Kupchick, Marmion, Vahey, Hoffkins, Schwartz, Felner, E. Harrison, Mears

Ms. Stamler asked why the cut is being proposed.

Mr. McCarthy said that the purpose of the cut is to restore to the current year budget level.

First Selectman Flatto said the increase in the budget reflects unexpected projects and also the costs for cell phones inspectors require in the field.

Gaylord Meyer, Spruce Street, said that an outside auditor should be hired to conduct a budget analysis and said that there is a lot of “fluff” in the budget.

Nick Mirabile, District 9, stressed that the RTM does listen to constituents by reading e-mails and taking phone calls. He said he is hearing that taxes are too high and that is why we are trying to make cuts to this budget.

VOTE: The motion to reduce the Building Department Fees & Professional Services account by \$1,000 and the Communication account by \$1,948 was approved with 38 in favor, 4 opposed (Walsh, Ambrose, Cullen, Schwartz) and 1 abstention (Conley) (Mr. Challinor was not present to vote).

MOTION: Mr. McCarthy moved to amend the proposed budget by reducing Line Item 6010-51070, Health Seasonal Payroll, from \$11,330 to \$6,330, duly seconded.

MOTION: Mr. DeMartino moved the question, duly seconded and failed by majority show of hands vote.

Ms. Stamler asked why the budget increase was requested.

Health Director Sands Cleary said that a reduction was made in the budget last year and he was trying to restore the funds from the previous year. This account pays for summer school nurses, mostly for special needs children.

David Cullen, District 7, spoke in opposition to the motion.

VOTE: The motion to reduce the Health Department Season Payroll by \$5,000 failed with 20 in favor, 23 opposed (Mr. Challinor was not present to vote).

IN FAVOR: Richmond, Sundman, Steele, Bateson, Ference, McCullough, Santalesa, DeMartino, Hug, Palmer, S. Parker, Braun, McCarthy, Takami, Dillon, Millington, Mirabile, Farnen, Mears, Way

OPPOSED: Becker, Walsh, Ambrose, A. Harrison, Stewart, Varian, Conley, R. Parker, Garskof, McAleese, Smey, Stamler, Brogan, Kupchick, Marmion, Vahey, Cullen, Hoffkins, Llewellyn, Lynch, Schwartz, Felner, E. Harrison

MOTION: Mr. McCarthy moved to amend the proposed budget by reducing Line Item 6050-57000, Social Services Capital Outlay (copier lease), from \$3,500 to 0, duly seconded.

Ms. Stamler asked why lease a copier when it is cheaper to purchase one.

IT Director Don Leslie said that leasing makes more sense because of the advanced technology. These copiers can scan and be networked and we do not have to keep it for the life of the copier.

Fiscal Officer Hiller said that it is more efficient to lease copiers. The funds will be found elsewhere if this item is cut.

VOTE: The motion to reduce the Social Services Capital Outlay account by \$3,500 was approved with 38 in favor, 4 opposed (Smey, Stamler, Vahey, Cullen) and 1 abstention (Schwartz) (Mr. Challinor was not present to vote).

MOTION: Mr. McCarthy moved to amend the proposed budget by reducing Line Item 7010-56180, Library, Library Materials, from \$622,510 to 612,510, duly seconded.

Ms. Vahey asked what the impact of the cut would be and why the budget request was increased this year.

Town Librarian Karen Ronald said that the library has become progressively busy and has reached record numbers in patrons serviced. If cut, they would probably reduce bulk buying, such as children's summer reading programs.

Ms. Vahey urged defeat of the motion.

Mr. DeMartino spoke in support of the library. However, he said, this cut reflects a reduction in the increase from nine percent to eight percent. Many other departments make do with the allocation.

Mr. McCarthy pointed out that only 75 percent of the current Library Materials account is encumbered for this year.

MOTION: Mr. DeMartino moved the question, duly seconded and failed by two thirds show of hands vote.

Brian Kelehan, Stratfield Road, spoke in support of the library.

Robert Greenberger, Yarrow Road, spoke in support of the library.

Mary Ellen McLean, Old Post Road, spoke in support of the library.

Jim Brown, South Pine Creek Road, said that the library can find \$10,000 in savings.

Kathy Braun, District 8, said that she was elected on the promise to reduce taxes. Once elected, the only constituent communication she received was to not cut the education budget.

MOTION: Mr. Steele moved the question, duly seconded and carried with 34 in favor, 9 opposed (Mr. Challinor was not present to vote).

VOTE: The motion to reduce the Library Materials account failed with 16 in favor, 27 opposed (Mr. Challinor was not present to vote).

IN FAVOR: Becker, Richmond, Steele, Bateson, Ference, McCullough, Santalesa, DeMartino, Hug, Braun, McCarthy, Dillon, Millington, Mirabile, Mears, Way

OPPOSED: Sundman, Walsh, Ambrose, A. Harrison, Stewart, Varian, Conley, Palmer, R. Parker, S. Parker, Garskof, McAleese, Smey, Stampler, Brogan, Kupchick, Marmion, Vahey, Cullen, Hoffkins, Llewellyn, Lynch, Schwartz, Takami, Felner, Farnen, E. Harrison

MOTION: Mr. McCarthy moved to amend the proposed budget by reducing Line Item 7111-56140, South Pine Creek Golf Course Special Departmental Supplies, from \$33,000 to \$32,000; and 7111-57000, Capital Outlay (vehicle), from \$24,000 to \$12,000, duly seconded.

Mr. Mirabile stated that the motion seeks to reduce the amount of the increase requested.

Recreation Director Gerry Lombardo said that these funds are used for maintaining the golf course.

VOTE: The motion to reduce the Par 3 Special Supplies account by \$1,000 and the Capital Outlay account by \$12,000 was approved with 38 in favor, 5 opposed (Sundman, McAleese, Cullen, Hoffkins, Schwartz) (Mr. Challinor was not present to vote).

MOTION: Mr. McCarthy moved to amend the proposed budget by reducing Line Item 7113-56140, Smith Richardson Golf Course Special Departmental Supplies, from \$175,000 to \$172,500, duly seconded.

Mr. Lombardo explained that this is a maintenance account and for the current budget there is only \$500 left in this account. He had requested \$180,000 and the First Selectman reduced the request to \$175,000. He urged defeat of the motion, saying these funds are necessary to run the golf course.

VOTE: The motion to reduce the Smith Richardson Special Supplies account by \$2,500 was approved with 28 in favor, 15 opposed.

IN FAVOR: Becker, Sundman, Ambrose, A. Harrison, Varian, Bateson, Ference, McCullough, DeMartino, Hug, Palmer, S. Parker, McAleese, Smey, Kupchick, Marmion, Vahey, Lynch, Braun, McCarthy, Takami, Felner, Millington, Mirabile, Farnen, E. Harrison, Mears, Way

OPPOSED: Richmond, Walsh, Steele, Stewart, Conley, Santalessa, R. Parker, Garskof, Stamler, Brogan, Cullen, Hoffkins, Llewellyn, Schwartz, Dillon

MOTION: Stephanie Parker, District 4, moved to amend the proposed budget by reducing Line Item 3010-51010, Finance Regular Payroll, from \$672,910 to \$654,331, and 3010-52200, Finance Social Security, from \$50,420 to \$48,999, duly seconded.

Mr. Ambrose asked what impact this would have on the department.

Fiscal Officer Hiller explained that the department used to have 10.5 staff members and it is down to 7.9. The intention is to upgrade a position to Analyst in order to utilize fewer staff members with the new accounting system. He reminded the Body that one of his staff members is devoted solely to the Board of Education.

Mr. Ambrose said that in light of Mr. Hiller's remarks, he does not support this motion.

Mr. Bateson asked if this was proposed by the Fiscal Officer and cut by the First Selectman.

First Selectman Flatto said that the Board of Finance had initiated this request.

Mr. Bateson spoke in support of the motion, saying he does not like "top-heavy" departments.

Mr. Hiller explained that the Munis system has tremendous capabilities but it requires more analysis. A staff accountant has been laid off and his executive secretary position has been reduced to part time.

Ms. Stamler called the Finance Department a vital organization in town government and spoke against the motion.

Mr. Bateson said that accounting is seasonal work and there is plenty of down-time involved when analyses can be done.

MOTION: Chad Stewart, District 2, moved the question, duly seconded and carried with 30 in favor, 13 opposed (Mr. Challinor was not present to vote).

IN FAVOR: Sundman, Ambrose, A. Harrison, Steele, Stewart, Varian, Bateson, Conley, Ference, McCullough, Santalesa, DeMartino, Hug, R. Parker, S. Parker, Smey, Brogan, Cullen, Hoffkins, Llewellyn, Lynch, Braun, McCarthy, Takami, Dillon, Felner, Millington, Farnen, E. Harrison, Way

OPPOSED: Becker, Richmond, Walsh, Palmer, Garskof, McAleese, Stamler, Kupchick, Marmion, Vahey, Schwartz, Mirabile, Mears

VOTE: The motion to reduce the Finance Payroll by \$18,579 and Social Security by \$1,421 failed with 15 in favor, 28 opposed.

IN FAVOR: A. Harrison, Bateson, Santalesa, DeMartino, Hug, Palmer, R. Parker, S. Parker, Braun, McCarthy, Takami, Mirabile, Farnen, Mears, Way

OPPOSED: Becker, Richmond, Sundman, Walsh, Ambrose, Steele, Stewart, Varian, Conley, Ference, McCullough, Garskof, McAleese, Smey, Stamler, Brogan, Kupchick, Marmion, Vahey, Cullen, Hoffkins, Llewellyn, Lynch, Schwartz, Dillon, Felner, Millington, E. Harrison

Mary McCullough, District 3, asked if any new information has been made available that would affect the budget, such as a change in revenue sources or some other knowledge.

Fiscal Officer Hiller said that there have been no significant changes.

VOTE: The resolution to approve the budget, as amended* as follows, "RESOLVED, that the budget for the Fiscal Year of July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011, as recommended by the Board of Finance in its "2010-2011 Town of Fairfield Budget Report and Recommendations," submitted to this meeting, a copy of which report and recommendations is annexed hereto and made a part of this resolution, is hereby adopted; that the salaries of the Town Officials are approved as set forth herein; and that the sum of ~~\$251,734,722~~ \$251,541,113 for said budget be, and hereby is appropriated," was approved with 36 in favor, 7 opposed (Mr. Challinor was not present to vote).

IN FAVOR: Becker, Richmond, Sundman, Walsh, Ambrose, Steele, Stewart, Varian, Conley, Ference, McCullough, Hug, R. Parker, S. Parker, Garskof, McAleese, Smey, Stamler, Brogan, Kupchick, Marmion, Vahey, Cullen, Hoffkins, Llewellyn, Lynch, Schwartz, Braun, Takami, Dillon, Felner, Millington, Mirabile, Farnen, E. Harrison, Way

OPPOSED: A. Harrison, Bateson, Santalesa, DeMartino, Palmer, McCarthy, Mears

ITEM NO. 3 ON CALL: APPROVAL OF THE SELF-SUPPORTING FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$4,935,100 FOR THE WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR OF JULY 1, 2010 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2011

The Moderator introduced this item as distributed with the Call.

VOTE: The resolution to approve the self-supporting funds in the amount of \$4,935,100 for the WPCA for the next fiscal year was approved by unanimous voice vote.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business and upon motion made, duly seconded and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 12:40 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth P. Browne
Town Clerk

Recorded by: Ann Roche

*Budget amended from \$251,734,722 to \$251,541,113, decrease of \$193,609, as follows:

Board of Selectmen	Education/Memberships	\$1,000
Town Clerk	Overtime	1,000
Registrar of Voters	Capital Outlay	800
Town Plan & Zoning	Advertising	500
Town Plan & Zoning	Special Departmental Supplies	1,000
Historic District Commission	Fees & Professional Services	1,300
Conservation	Fees & Professional Services	8,000
Legal Services	Fees & Professional Services	20,000
Legal Services	Education/Memberships	250
Human Resources	Printing & Binding	500
Human Resources	Office Supplies	500
Human Resources	Education/Memberships	1,500
Economic Development	Printing & Binding	500
Harbor Management	Fees & Professional Services	1,000
Purchasing	Education/Memberships	300
Purchasing	Travel/Meeting	200
Tax Collector	Travel/Meeting	300
Information Technology	Printing & Binding	5,750
Information Technology	Capital Outlay	10,000
Police Department	Fees & Professional Services	10,000
Police Department	Maint/Repair of Buildings	2,000
Police Department	Maint/Repair of Automotive	2,500
Police Department	Capital Outlay (radar unit)	7,320
Police Department	Capital Outlay (boat engine)	27,000
Fire Department	Fees & Professional Services	2,000
Fire Department	Maint/Repair of Buildings	12,000
Fire Department	Communications	2,941
Fire Department	Capital Outlay	33,000
Public Works	Contracted Property Services	8,500
Public Works	Materials for Maint/Repair	10,000
Building	Fees & Professional Services	1,000
Building	Communications	1,948
Social Services	Capital Outlay (copier lease)	3,500
South Pine Creek Golf Course	Special Dept. Supplies	1,000
South Pine Creek Golf Course	Capital Outlay	12,000
Smith Richardson Golf Course	Special Dept. Supplies	2,500