

**MINUTES OF MEETING
MUNICIPAL BUDGET COMMITTEE
January 31, 2007**

A meeting of the Municipal Budget Committee was called to order at 6:30 PM in the Meeting Room at the Conway Town Hall with the following members present: Chairperson Melissa Stacey, Robert Drinkhall, Maureen Seavey, Pat Libby, Phil Dighello, Doug Swett, Crow Dickinson, Rick Paquette, Bill Jones, Etienne Vallee, Betty Boucher, Deb Deschenes and Bill Aughton. Also present were Dr. Carl Nelson, Pat Swett, Martha Cray, Randy Davison and Lloyd Jones.

Chairman Stacey advised the members that the 19th is fine for voting although the 19th is a holiday and the first day of school vacation. She wanted to make sure everyone still wanted to meet.

Bill Jones stated that the headline in today's paper was totally inappropriate; jumping the gun. It was a good presentation, good comments. Object to headline and object to verbiage that referred to 18 citizens; they were all school related. Rick Paquette stated he was surprised, thought he was reading The Union. He couldn't believe it; asked if he was at that meeting - yes, but not the way it was recorded. One person asked, and think rightly so, why the Budget Committee doesn't take more issue with what is being printed. Just before the cameras turned on, handed all these documents. Hard to prepare and have critical analysis, thoughtful questions when giving us documents to digest; hard to respond.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Etienne Vallee moved, seconded by Phil Dighello, to approve the Minutes of January 22, 2007, as amended. In favor: 11; Abstain: 2 - Deb Deschenes and Bill Aughton. Bob Drinkhall stated on Page 5, third paragraph, the word "years" should be changed to "hours". Pat Libby stated the same word needed to be changed at the end of the sentence.

SCHOOL BUDGET REVIEW

Dr. Nelson stated he had bad news, he did not have an approved proposed budget from the School Board to give the Committee. School Board still deliberating. Before finalizing, would like recommendations to review. Budget Committee, as a group, need to provide recommendations to give to the School Board and then will have Monday to ask questions; will meet Monday night at 7:00 PM to finalize budget.

Bill Jones stated to ask for recommendations to give to School Board tomorrow, wish we could get the same treatment. Dr. Nelson stated trying to provide all information related to discussion.

Dr. Nelson stated one of the things done, they voted to remove the phone system from the budget. Chairman Stacey stated one of the schools has

Merlin and one has Spirit. Dr. Nelson stated vote 4 to 2 to remove; separate Warrant Article and will act on Monday night.

PROJECT SUCCEED

Christine Thompson, Director of Project Succeed, made presentation for Project Succeed. Ms. Thompson stated Warrant Articles 12 and 13 are for Project Succeed. Ms. Thompson apologized but just found out about the two separate Warrant Articles last night, tried to make as easy as possible. This year had three different proposals, a difficult year. Brought three different budgets: one as of today, one with no buses and one that cuts the Middle School out completely. Chairman Stacey asked for final number and Ms. Thompson stated \$121,000.00, plus program fees. Ms. Thompson stated that Sheryl Kovalik brought up separating into two separate Warrants: Middle School and Elementary. Middle School up to 25 kids; Elementary has 40 to 70 kids.

Crow Dickinson asked how many in Elementary as of today and Ms. Thompson stated about 150; Conway El has 70 and 40 to 50 for the others. One option was to just have Elementary and not have Middle School as a Warrant. Although the Middle School numbers are small, serves the at risk population.

Chairman Stacey asked if increase was because Grants have run out. Ms. Thompson stated 21st Century Grant, 5th year. We can re-apply; trick to this year is that we can't re-apply until after the vote in April. Grant also requires a 35% cash match. She won't know about that when she has to apply; won't know about the Town until after the vote. Bill Jones asked how much and Ms. Thompson stated 65% of original; \$125,000.00 original amount; \$81,000.00 to re-apply for the John Fuller Grant and \$81,250.00 for Conway Elementary; next year John Fuller can apply for up to \$52,000.00. Of course, Grant has to be used at those sites. The program most at risk is Pine Tree if Article 12 doesn't pass.

Bob Drinkhall asked if the information passed out contained all detail and Ms. Thompson stated only the things that changed. Chairman Stacey asked if any PTA was trying to help and Dr. Nelson stated they don't usually. Ms. Thompson stated they have offered to fundraise at Pine Tree for a better program. Chairman stated it is an option and Ms. Thompson stated absolutely.

Rick Paquette asked how many hours and Ms. Thompson stated one afternoon Middle School approximately 3 hours. Rick stated in Warrant Article 13 program reducing current personnel by \$5,400.00, where is that being reduced. Ms. Thompson stated that actual people were being reduced. Right now have Site Coordinator with Assistant. The \$5,400.00 will take out the homework group teacher piece; feel three personnel can handle situation. Rick asked merely because a student comes, are they automatically enrolled and Ms. Thompson stated no.

Chairman Stacey stated at risk population up from Pine Tree and Ms. Thompson stated she thought it went down. Pine Tree has always had

smaller at risk population. She thought it went down, not absolutely sure.

Pat Libby stated she was pleased to see doing program fees. Ms. Thompson stated up by 15%; in the past \$3.00 per hour, this year \$3.50 and a one time registration fee. Free families not charged for program, one time \$10.00 registration fee charged, \$7.00 for afternoon and \$3.50 for afternoon, Reduced Lunch is half of that.

Betty Boucher asked what is "snack", why furnishing. Ms. Thompson stated it is required by the State and 21st Century and some don't go home to supper; contract with Conway Food Department. Office Supplies is basic food for training, food to feed people we are training - do about 4 trainings; could be under one line.

Chairman Stacey asked on Grants, why not apply for Pine Tree and Ms. Thompson stated they need 30% of Free and Reduced Lunch; Pine Tree never reaches that.

Pat Libby stated she noticed on the budget staff travel, training, guide and Ms. Thompson stated \$1,000.00; John Fuller \$200.00 and Pine Tree \$150.00. Pat asked if this was for staff travel and training and Ms. Thompson stated they travel and train.

Betty Boucher stated income, HNH Grant, what is that. Ms. Thompson stated Healthy New Hampshire Grant of \$5,000.00, that is for physical fitness. Chairman Stacey asked if listed on Grants page and Ms. Thompson stated this was very new, just got done.

Betty Boucher stated on carry over, where is it and Ms. Thompson stated all from 21st Century she thought.

Phil Dighello stated if cost is \$7.00 for afternoon for two hours and my family is making \$100,000.00, I pay \$7.00, no matter what and Ms. Thompson stated yes.

Crow Dickinson stated how many in the Elementary Schools and Ms. Thompson stated per day: Pine Tree has 40, John Fuller has between 40 to 50 and Conway Elementary has between 60 to 70.

Bill Jones asked what happens if can't afford and Ms. Thompson stated they apply for a scholarship. If can't afford, then we request volunteer time or anything donated. Bill asked percentage and Ms. Thompson stated very small.

Bob Drinkhall stated given the per pupil cost what is percentage and Ms. Thompson stated percentage actually very high, but can get that for you. Bob stated charge \$10.00 for registration fee, \$7.00 per afternoon; what percentage of total cost for providing service does this cover. Ms. Thompson stated she would try to figure out to the best of her ability; there are a number of factors. Chairman Stacey stated what have you looked at and Ms. Thompson stated alternative to charging fees; what kind of program to offer; we have lot of different things to think about.

Chairman asked about combining and Ms. Thompson stated could but kids are comfortable and parents are comfortable where they are. If combined, would have transportation costs moving to another site; wouldn't be the same. Phil Dighello asked what percentage offsets the budget.

Betty Boucher stated not charged rent for building and rooms, say one gets hurt, are they covered and Dr. Nelson stated Student Accident covers it. Bob Drinkhall stated other expenses not considered, like electric, etc. and Dr. Nelson stated not charged, heat on anyway, might be some small amount of electric.

Chairman Stacey thanked Ms. Thompson for the presentation.

Crow Dickinson had one more question, budget in Warrant Articles and Ms. Thompson stated not whole budget, have Grants and fees. Crow stated cost to the Town is in Warrant Article and Ms. Thompson stated yes.

Bill Jones asked what kind of attendance and Ms. Thompson stated we have very few that come just once and never again, most are regular attendees.

Dr. Nelson began his presentation with the 07 Report Card. Bill Jones stated he didn't see Kennett and Dr. Nelson stated Kennett has the back section.

Rick Paquette stated he noticed on the Report Card the SAT scores, who prepares it. Crow Dickinson stated data comes from the State. Rick stated SAT scores are not something to brag about, drop-out rate nothing to brag about. Year after year the Report Card continues to drop. Dr. Nelson stated certainly up and down, but wouldn't say continues to drop. Rick stated can only use numbers you provide, drop-out rate as an example in 04/05 5.3 and State 3.4. I know we use 30 Town Survey and other documents like salary percentage of how Conway fits with these other schools, wonder if taxpayers are aware. Gentleman from the High School made good point about needing more teachers, didn't make point to me that these statistics support programs that he is advocating. If taxpayer is going to get return on investment, these numbers should be going up and maintained. Dr. Nelson stated we look at those every year; we look at trends a lot longer. Number one goal is to increase the graduation rate, that is a K through 12 issue, is a Community issue. We as a community need to work hard at it.

Dr. Nelson proceeded to review the Warrant. Number 2 is the budget that will be forthcoming. Article 6 is the CESP which agreement you have and a summary of all three agreements and then you have the actual Memo of Agreements. CESP represent \$57,576.00, a 2.17% increase in all aspects of the contract. Article 8 is the AFSCME contract; a two year agreement. On Article 10, the Board looked to reconsider and changed to a 6-0-0 recommendation.

Chairman Stacey asked Deb Deschenes in Article 8 who was the negative vote and Deb stated it was Randy Davison because his wife is an employee. Rick Paquette stated he was confused and Chairman stated go back to Article 8 with a vote of 5-1-0. Phil Dighello stated why a two year

contract and Dr. Nelson stated that is the agreement negotiated. Phil asked who sets the standards for negotiations, who imposes the standard. Dr. Nelson stated the negotiating team of 3 School Board members work in concert with the full School Board, set parameters. Phil stated he was talking about the taxpayer, School Board for taxpayers, Union for employees. Dr. Nelson stated the Board would set the parameters. Phil stated he had spent a lot of time on the insurance committee and one of the goals was trying to get everybody together for a change in health insurance; with two years, can't do that. Dr. Nelson stated always have had cooperation with bargaining units. Phil stated not on a two year contract; in his opinion nothing is going to happen; nothing is going to happen if ever. Dr. Nelson stated provision is in there to open the contract. Phil stated means nothing; don't agree with a two year contract. Deb stated CEA and AFSCME contracts do have zipper clauses that at any time during contract can open and discuss health insurance.

Betty Boucher stated not just this Board but other Budget Committees have recommended to the School Board no two year contract. Rick Paquette stated ditto; record last year had spirited conversation about insurance; he was against forming a committee; get 15 in a room and someone can make sure it doesn't work out. School Board and Budget Committee need to work together, but when we say change and they come back with a two year contract and expect us to roll over, this person will not. The taxpayer needs respite from escalating costs. Deb Deschenes stated in all fairness, the School Board does follow directions, very concerned about health insurance, did discuss zipper clause. If no zipper clause, she believes there would not have been a two year contract.

Bill Jones stated he thought this Budget Committee tried to over several years for some kind of united effort with all departments and Board of Selectmen. Strength in numbers, looking for savings for taxpayer and employees. Police Department did the same thing, totally unacceptable; same from the School Board.

Bill Aughton asked Phil to estimate how much it might be worth and Phil stated last year \$3.3 Million for all municipal and school with taxpayer paying \$500,000.00 for health; dental \$17,3000.00 with taxpayer paying \$14,400.00. New Hampshire Trust added on a couple of extra plans: family plan with a \$500.00 deductible, employees save; single person \$500.00 deductible for a calendar year; \$876.00 for zero deductible; total premiums roughly \$557,000.00, taxpayer \$445,600.00, employees \$111,000.00.

Phil Dighello further asked the Committee to look at a comparison of the current plan and the MTBS plan with a \$500.00 deductible plan; deductible for two people in a calendar year is \$1,000.00; with 6 people, the most paid is \$1,500.00; Counseling - \$10.00 co-pay; Diabetes Management would be \$500.00 - in this plan they still pay 100% no deductible; Chiropractor co-pay; Medical Equipment, not much difference; Physical, Occupational and Speech Therapy, \$10.00 difference; Hospice deductible - 100%; Emergency Room, routine eye exams \$10.00 co-pay and Maximum Benefit - no lifetime benefit. The \$500.00 deductible plan can save. To him, if wait two years, going to cost \$1 Million.

Bob Drinkhall asked Phil if this included current employees and those retiring and Phil stated different plan. Bob stated early retirement doesn't pay full premium and Dr. Nelson stated they pay what active employees would. Bob asked if savings included retirees and Dr. Nelson stated if Jim gave it, it has the retirees. Phil stated if looking at this as your own insurance, wouldn't buy the zero plan. The employees look at Family Plan but savings of almost \$500.00 out of paycheck; single saving \$175.00 out of paycheck; saving \$876.00. Why are we paying these premiums. Deb Deschenes stated she was giving her word, she will give document out at the next meeting and wished she had this awhile ago. She will definitely bring this forward.

Dr. Nelson stated Article 13 is for the Middle School Project Succeed; Article 15, the new phone system, the Board will vote on Monday night. Chairman asked who was missing from the vote and Dr. Nelson stated Mike DiGregorio, Verizon has him going to school.

Deb Deschenes stated she was one of the voters against Article 14, she doesn't believe when doors are propped open investing money. During the day, after 3:00 PM locked out. This year after School, doors are propped open.

Bill Jones stated he wanted to point out in this community several people go to the Post Office and leave the car running, chat for 15 to 20 minutes; go to house, door open; what our we afraid of here and Chairman Stacey stated vandalism. Deb stated a good part to security when in lock down mode, easier to track. Some time a lot of hysteria; all want children safe. Rick Paquette stated a large number of dollars spent already; because people have wastebaskets, anyone can get in there; our children are not secure. Dr. Nelson stated that was not accurate; don't have full complex of locks; after renovation was to have at the Middle School. Mag lock only at Conway Elementary, during the day only front main door open; most sophisticated. Best we can do at this time. Rick asked with the mag system, if they prop a door open, is an alarm set and Dr. Nelson stated indicator on last view, door could have an alarm indicator in the main office so you would know the door was opened. Rick asked if wired into the Police Department and Dr. Nelson stated it has the capability but would defer to Andy.

Bill Aughton stated he thought there was not enough prioritizing; \$60,000.00 is a lot of money; he will not support. Bill further asked if the \$60,000.00 was for each and Dr. Nelson stated \$30,000.00 for each building.

Betty Boucher asked if the viewing thing would be in place and Dr. Nelson stated that was in reference to the High School, at the new High School; that was a question for Andy. Bill Jones stated he saw an issue with a viewing board and nobody there. Dr. Nelson stated not going to make totally secure.

Dr. Nelson proceeded with the update: \$50,000.00 that was in the budget has been taken out; \$147,000.00 in fuel, \$64,000.00 for health insurance

and \$5,000.00 back in. Bill Jones stated \$205,000.00 out and Dr. Nelson stated out plus \$50,000.00. Health insurance and fuel for Units 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7. Bill requested bottom line and Dr. Nelson stated down by \$255,000.00.

Etienne Vallee stated he was trying to compare if getting more money, spending more to upgrade. Dr. Nelson stated Attachment #5 is an adjusted tax rate. Tax rate down by \$.04 per thousand; \$10.78 this year; \$10.74 projected; should reduce the tax rate, but not making that assumption; add in Warrant Articles still comes to \$.78 increase in tax rate.

Bill Jones stated Project Succeed - \$75,618.00, just presented that she is asking for \$90,000.00. Dr. Nelson stated \$24,000.00 is in revenues. Betty Boucher stated on Page 4, unencumbered Revenue, one is higher than the other. Dr. Nelson stated Revenues would be Revenues didn't expect and got expenses; expenditures did not make budget. Betty requested a list of expenses on that. Becky Jefferson stated the insurance savings is Jim's estimate of where we think we are at.

Chairman Stacey stated looking for Default Budget of \$30,744,991.00. Dr. Nelson stated items in there, where things have come down, reduced them. Figures at Elementary excludes Middle School and High School. Figures for transportation, that is what we will be looking at. Separate break out of Kennett High School and Kennett Middle School and at some point giving us your number. Last item - #7 shows reductions and addition of staff through the Conway School District by Unit. They are labeled at the top. These include benefits.

Chairman Stacey stated next meeting scheduled for February 5th, what about the 7th, a Wednesday, that would give you a chance to finalize and us to review.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Chairman Stacey moved, seconded by Bob Drinkhall, to recommend no increase in personnel through the various schools except for the Librarian at the High School and the custodians at the High School. If an Aide is required for Special Ed, it should be left in the budget. In favor: 0; Opposed: 13. Bill Jones recommended no increase in all schools. Pat Libby stated include Career/Technical Program. Chairman stated it would be everything. Martha Cray stated no medical nurse program. Crow Dickinson stated this can be amended or voted down; this is what Karen stated. Pat Libby stated she would feel more comfortable with specific increase instead of broad sweeping motion; would like to go individually.

Chairman Stacey moved, seconded by Crow Dickinson, that we put \$38,532.00 back in the Pine Tree budget for a teacher being cut. In Favor: 2 - Chairman Stacey and Crow Dickinson; Opposed: 9; Abstain: 2 - Betty Boucher and Deb Deschenes. Chairman stated the School Board cut a teacher at each Elementary School. She didn't think it appropriate at Pine Tree because if you look at Warrant Article then Pine Tree loses Project Succeed. It would effect programs, lose looping, lose class size. Maureen Seavey stated losing a teacher, how many at John Fuller, Conway

Elementary and Pine Tree, that makes a difference. Chairman stated even with cut at John Fuller and Conway Elementary, Pine Tree still has the lowest number of teachers. Dr. Nelson stated Tab K has projected enrollment at bottom for each School; 272 at Conway Elementary, 255 at John Fuller and 230 at Pine Tree. Crow Dickinson asked the Chairman if it was her intent to do this just for Pine Tree and the Chairman stated when asked each principal everyone said no except Pine Tree, she said yes - lose looping. Crow stated then it does make sense.

Crow Dickinson asked if the School Board and the Administrators take recommendation or take money and have a pizza party. We are talking about the intention of those people to actually put in Pine Tree. Deb Deschenes stated she didn't think this Board or the Conway School Board should direct Administrators on what programs are taken out. Move forward with a dollar figure and let them decide. Pine Tree has two classes, 11 students in each class. School Board going with one class, that was the reason. Crow stated that doesn't answer the question, but if we want more money at Pine Tree will it in fact happen. If we were to do this and it passes by vote, will Administration respect our views and put a teacher at Pine Tree. Martha Cray stated they spent considerable amount of time; really want your vision of what you want the School Board to look at; ask specific in a dollar amount; trying to make a program decision. Crow asked if we are wasting our time trying to be specific and Martha Cray stated that was not their intent.

Chairman Stacey stated that every year she has been on the Budget Committee either cutting and adding and every year agreed to put where we stated. Crow stated about to have a vote, important for us to know whether in fact if we say we want another teacher installed that it is going to happen. Martha Cray stated not determined by recommendation, that is a Board decision. Crow stated he was particularly talking about adding something not more significant than making a cut. It is absolutely essential that he understand the process. Generally, he knows how these things work, people pad their budget. Martha stated are you going to say put \$38,000.00 and you want it spent on an alarm, that is not going to happen.

Bob Drinkhall stated he was confused; if losing a teacher in every school, where does it show. Martha Cray stated Conway Elementary and the other two. Phil Dighello stated Monday night sat here and consensus was would like to see reduction. School Board reduced this particular area and you are working on other areas. Not going to second guess the School Board; very reluctant to add. Rick Paquette stated he was supporting Phil on that. Discussion on cross leveling, too many teachers, staying with status quo; hard time supporting; made it clear what we want to do - realign existing teachers. Betty Boucher stated we can not tell School Board where to put, can add in and they go wherever. Pat Libby stated she was voting against; class size issue very important. Bill Jones stated this is only a recommendation, he can't support because of class size, not our job to micro-manage. Maureen Seavey stated cut teachers at both schools, rationale is Reading Specialist more valuable. Martha Cray stated no, the teachers cut have class size; Reading Specialists do not, have all grades and are required for State approved program. Deb

Deschenes stated she believed that Laura was okay with that cut, looked at possibility of class size reduction money. Bill called the question.

Phil Dighello moved, seconded by Bill Jones, that the Kindergarten Aide at John Fuller who is part-time remain part-time. In Favor: 11; Opposed: 1; Deb Deschenes; Abstain: 1 - Chairman Stacey. Phil stated from the presentation seemed more of a convenience rather than a necessity.

Bob Drinkhall moved, seconded by Rick Paquette, that the \$88,000.00 for a contracted groundskeeper be eliminated. In Favor: 0; Opposed: 13. Deb Deschenes stated she believed cutting one now would limit one groundskeeper and that is crazy. Doug Swett asked if they have an irrigation system and Deb stated they did. Doug stated never do it with one, don't believe it will work. Bob Drinkhall stated he just did this to get it on the table; opposed to cutting it. Rick Paquette stated he had said he would not support any motion that would lose all that investment the first year.

Pat Libby moved, seconded by Bob Drinkhall, to recommend that the equipment for grounds at the High School be taken out of the budget and placed on a Warrant Article. In Favor: 7; Opposed: 6 - Crow Dickinson, Etienne Vallee, Bob Drinkhall, Maureen Seavey, Deb Deschenes and Chairman Stacey. Pat Libby stated because it is a one time expense to get equipment, it should be a special Article. Bob Drinkhall stated he felt there would be a problem if Article turned down, where do we go from there. Crow Dickinson stated looking at Default Budget talking one-time expenses. Martha Cray stated things like this would not be in the Default Budget the following year. Deb stated it was unanimous to keep groundskeeper to keep nice; can't do without having equipment. Bill Jones stated he agrees to the hiring of groundskeeper. Buy the equipment, not every year; look at budget year to year; see only once, but it is always in again. Numbers do not go down; sooner risk Special Article. Rick Paquette stated he agreed with Bill, the voters are competent about doing the right thing. Terms of procedure sticks in throat when not done as should be done; one-time should be an Article.

Rick Paquette moved, seconded by Bill Jones, to re-look at class size in the Elementary and Junior High School. If hell bent on keeping, then goals should be established and published and the classroom teachers should be measured against them and the budget committee presented with a progress report each quarter. In Favor: 0; Opposed: 13. Martha Cray stated it is not a Junior High, it is a Middle School. Rick Paquette stated terrible idea not interested nor qualified, struggle with standardized test. Bob Drinkhall called the question.

Rick Paquette moved, seconded by Bob Drinkhall, to have School Board review the slots in the Middle School and fill requested slots with English teachers out of Middle School/cross leveling. In Favor: 9; Opposed: 4 - Maureen Seavey, Doug Swett, Deb Deschenes and Pat Libby. Bill Jones called the question.

Doug Swett asked if the Warrant Article could be written with information about acreage and how many ball fields. Chairman Stacey stated has to be approved through DRA if rewritten.

Betty Boucher moved, seconded by Bill Jones, to re-consider previous motion. In Favor: 11; Opposed: 2 - Chairman Stacey and Deb Deschenes. Pat Libby stated her problem with the last motion was cutting off discussion. Never got discussion; thought we need to have a little discussion.

Rick Paquette moved, seconded by Bob Drinkhall, to have School Board review the slots in the Middle School and fill requested slots with English teachers out of Middle School/cross leveling. In Favor: 10; Opposed: 3 - Maureen Seavey, Crow Dickinson and Deb Deschenes. Maureen Seavey stated they might want to stay, make sure good English teachers in the High School. Critical reading is low, drop-out rate lower.

Pat Libby stated she thought the Motion was premature. Staffing level of Middle School motion might have some merit, preliminary before. Betty Boucher asked if we actually make a motion or vote on. Instead of making motions, just recommendations; do we have to have motions. Chairman Stacey stated that she assumed would have to have a motion. Bill Aughton stated he thought any recommendation to the Board to do something, trust they will do. Likely to save money, they should look at it.

Pat Libby moved, seconded by Rick Paquette, to take a more specific look at Middle School staffing level. In Favor: 10; Opposed: 2 - Chairman Stacey and Deb Deschenes; Abstained: 1 - Betty Boucher. Pat Libby stated she wanted a more specific look at the Middle School staffing level; irregardless of the previous motion, she thinks it is important enough to stand alone because of teacher to student ratio.

Phil Dighello stated he would like to have an explanation on the new additional Administrative Secretary, new hire and the two new positions. Martha Cray stated .6 - splitting up the High School and the Middle School; .6 going with the High School from that; dedicated to High School work. Phil asked why need both then and Martha stated person was full time, the other is a new position. Phil stated reduction in Middle School and Martha stated new additional secretary. Bill Jones stated we had a very good session with the Principal with real good suggestions made; there was enough representation of the School Board at our deliberations to know looking to cut the budget; take a look at overall picture of things taken out and put in; should be looking at a smaller figure. Rick Paquette asked if anything could be done about the two-year contract. Deb Deschenes stated they are already signed; voters can support it or not. If against, it will fall back to previous contract. Rick Paquette stated no recommendation to support or not; if not, renegotiate new contract; health insurance for one year contract. Chairman Stacey stated attempted to do last year, not supported. Phil stated contract only passed by 5 votes. Chairman stated took a lot of heat for not supporting, passed by 5 votes.

Pat Libby stated vote against and perhaps in recommendation prefer seeing one year contract only. Deb stated have a contract with the Union, even

if higher deductible. Pat Libby stated at this point prefer year to year. Deb stated Pat's recommendation only be through one year contract.

Chairman Stacey moved, seconded by Deb Deschenes, to have Article 14 removed, the \$60,000.00 upgrade - \$30,000.00 for each school - and not do this year. In Favor: 2 - Chairman Stacey and Pat Libby; Opposed: 10; Abstain: 1 - Betty Boucher. Deb Deschenes stated just vote not to recommend. Chairman stated recommends they remove it. Deb stated she thought it should go to the voters. Chairman stated she truly believed this is not the year for it; not opposed in a few years. She thought that right now we don't live in a time to lock our children behind doors like that. This may come, but not right now. Deb stated that is a Warrant Article, choose to support or not; can make changes at deliberative. Betty Boucher stated at this time make any recommendation, Warrant Articles or School Budget. This is our recommendation and if they say no, then we decide how to vote. Doug Swett stated should go to the voters.

Bill Jones asked about the Emergency Management Director. Chairman Stacey stated the Emergency Management Director was for the Town, has nothing to do with the School. Rick Paquette stated he thought Warrant Article should go before the voters. Betty Boucher asked Deb if the inside doors have locks and glass in the doors. Deb stated that would be a Jim question. Bill Jones asked if this discussion will go back to the School Board.

Bob Drinkhall moved, seconded by Bill Jones, to re-look at 4 Guidance Councilors and Guidance Director in High School and Career/Technical Center for 958 students. In Favor: 12; Opposed: 0; Abstain: 1 - Deb Deschenes. Bob stated his reason being it is recommended 300 to 1 for Guidance personnel.

Rick Paquette moved, seconded by Bill Jones, to review request for 7 additional teachers at the High School. In Favor: 12; Opposed 1 - Pat Libby. Rick asked whether to modify the motion to say these 7 have to go away. Chairman Stacey stated not add the 7 teachers. Deb Deschenes stated when looking at that, taking away all teaching positions would take out the new CNA Class - a new Career/Technical Program that is nursing. Rick stated he knows this is a negotiation and he respects that; should meet somewhere in the middle. Deb stated she wanted to bring back recommendations in hopes of a positive vote, would like to see the Budget Committee support the School Board. Crow Dickinson stated he would like to see the School Board consider recommendations and concerns. Pat Swett stated way back when they were first starting with the bond to pass, nursing program was in that budget presented. From day one, even before bond discussed, people wanted to do a nursing program. Think you need to keep in mind it was presented with the bond. Maureen Seavey stated you pay for those courses; at the High School training for CNA. They pay a lot of money to take that course probably don't have money for that nursing course. Doug Swett stated specifically think CNA should stay in there; Mr. Moyland did good job presenting his position. Rick Paquette stated he was 300 percent for a High School student coming out with something useful.

Randy Davison stated having been on the Budget Committee, know what you go through. Deb, Pat and myself had a brutal meeting; not going to rubber stamp numbers. Maureen Seavey stated some teachers have at risk students, very important they stay in the budget; the ones that are necessary to keep in budget.

Betty stated to Randy Davison that she hated to say this, but at one of the School Board meetings, a Board member stated do not like what Budget Committee says, doesn't trust us. There are members on this Board she likes working with. Randy stated he thinks you are seeing a change. Deb stated there has been change; she has been on the Budget Committee for 3 years and she used to be scared to death, now look. Bill Jones called the question.

Chairman Stacey asked about recommendations for the Town. Phil Dighello stated he would like to have the Administrative Assistant in the Recreation Department revisited.

Rick Paquette moved, seconded by Phil Dighello, to review full-time Administrative Assistant for Recreation Department and hold that position to part-time at 19 hours per week with no benefits. (Bill Jones moved, seconded by Rick Paquette, to amend and add to the motion hold that position to part-time at 19 hours per week.) In Favor: 12; Opposed: 0; Abstain: 1 - Deb Deschenes. Rick stated the Selectmen chose to not talk about fees; supporting full-time position. Chairman stated she has Minutes from that meeting. Bill Jones stated need to hold that position to 19 hours and no benefits; 19 hours agreeable to John at one time. Maureen Seavey stated fees were for the summer program. Crow Dickinson stated he thought that he would like to support motion, makes sense; seems Selectmen have avoided the issue. Selectmen need to listen to us just like the School Board needs to listen to us.

Betty Boucher moved, seconded by Chairman Stacey, to ask the Town to look at a Town-wide Recreation Center. In Favor: 4 - Chairman Stacey, Rick Paquette, Bill Aughton and Betty Boucher; Opposed: 7. Betty stated her reason was we are paying for two places; would like to have our children go to the same place. They do get refused at North Conway; have had adults refused by North Conway. Pat Libby stated it seemed to her that recreation is a town-wide program. Chairman stated she would like to find a way to combine them. Deb Deschenes stated she believed the problem is the facility is not big enough for one huge Rec Department; need two different locations to cover this big town. Nice the way it is. Betty stated built a new school, town can build a new Rec Center. If use philosophy North Conway has one, what about Center Conway, East Conway, South Conway, kids have to be bused. Maureen stated wonderful thing to do, but not an economical thing. Betty stated kids have been refused. Chairman state capped at 65 this summer. Maureen Seavey stated capped because of number of staff, but will hire more people; get tired fighting against one another. It is a good idea, just isn't right for the Town now.

Bill Aughton stated he thought it was a good idea, Town-wide Recreation. Bob Drinkhall stated reviewing North Conway Center on Saturday, can get

some definitive answers. Pat Libby stated she thought back to decision to take a look at the Ambulance, be careful what you ask for. Rick Paquette asked if there was some statutory reason why they can't come under one organization. Chairman stated technically the way she understands it is North Conway Community Center is a private organization funded by grants. If at any point the Town does not want as a Rec Center, we lose the property. Rick Paquette stated facility kept as Conway Recreation Center. Maureen Seavey stated Grants not given, have to raise their own money, Grant money to have new programs, doesn't fund Recreation. Chairman stated this will be discussed on Saturday, right now discussing Conway Rec Center. Betty Boucher stated not trying to make any enemies, but listen to kids in town that go to North Conway Rec stating you can't go because you are from Conway; has happened through the years. A year down the road after school bond paid off; start looking at it. Crow Dickinson called the question.

Crow Dickinson asked if the Selectmen were going to come back with their thoughts on the couple of things we have passed. Chairman Stacey stated she would talk with Earl Sires tomorrow.

For other business, Bob Drinkhall stated he would like to adopt a policy to not review anything that we don't have information on at least 24 hours or 48 hours before. Crow Dickinson stated there was a way around that, Chairman can move to table on any consideration. Bill Jones stated what's wrong with having a policy. At times we are inundated with paper; would like to spend a little time to go through information. Chairman Stacey stated her only concern with the School not being able to get books to us on time; running the risk of not having enough time to review it all. Bob stated he thought it was doable. Rick Paquette stated he understood that we have statutory requirements; it is apparently not doable with the School Board. Can we push our request earlier, say in August. Crow stated he had given this a lot of thought; School ends in June and Town ends December 31st; somehow Town gets us figures within 30 days or less and the School can't manage it. Chairman stated there is an RSA that states we set the date when budgets are due. All it says is Budget Committee set dates when due, never about what happens if they don't. Crow stated we would automatically pass their fall back budget, not even look at new budget. Chairman stated their fall back budget is what we set. Crow stated we could make a motion and get everybody on board to make that statement that we want the Town by Halloween and if you can't have ready by that time, will only consider fall back budget; need to think about it.

Rick Paquette moved, seconded by Phil Dighello, to adjourn the meeting at 10:00 PM. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Iris A. Bowden, Recording Secretary