

PRESENT Chairman Ronald Fedor, George Peteros, John W. Sheehan, Alan Wilensky, G. Brian Vachris,  
Rosalyn Dupuis, Norman Glidden

OFFICIALS First Selectman Daniel Steward

RTM Thomas Dembek

ALSO Attorney Nicholas Kepple, Dr. Randall Collins, Superintendent of Schools; Craig Powers, Assistant  
Superintendent of Schools; Fire Administrator Bruce Miller, Bernard Pisacich, Town Treasurer

MEDIA Stephen Chupaska, The Day

STAFF Ruth Beers, Finance Director; Yvette M. Pier, Secretary

Chairman Fedor called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

**ITEM 1** Approval and acceptance of minutes of:  
Regular Meeting on January 13, 2010

MOTION To approve minutes of Regular Meeting on January 13, 2010 as read.  
Sheehan, Dupuis Unanimous

**ITEM 2** Public Comment

Mr. Dembek informed the Board that Quaker Hill Volunteer Fire Company is the recipient of a grant in the amount of \$167,561 from the federal Assistance to Firefighters Grant.

**ITEM 3** Request from Board of Selectmen for an additional appropriation of \$10,000 to Insurance Budget,  
LI 10112-52250, Deductible Coverage

MOTION To consider this request.  
Peteros, Dupuis

Deductible Insurance budget is appropriated at \$20,000. \$17,075.32 has been expended to date, leaving a balance of \$2,924.68 through fiscal year ending June 30, 2010. Town has experienced a bad year for deductibles due to a number of vehicle accidents.

**Vote: Unanimous to approve the request as stated in the amount of \$10,000 as a transfer from Contingency LI 10121-59010.**

**ITEM 4** Request from Retirement Commission for an additional appropriation of \$135,754 to the Town's  
Annual Required Contribution LI 10116-51940 as follows:

\$70,345 for 0.50% increase for General Employees  
59,679 for 1.50% increase for Police and Fire Personnel  
5,730 for the additional \$10 Administrative Fee for all active/retired members

The Town was notified by the State Retirement Commission of significant increases to the Town's annual required contribution in FY10.

MOTION To approve the request as stated as a transfer from Contingency LI 10121-59010 in the amount of  
\$135,754.

Glidden, Sheehan Unanimous

**ITEM 5** Discussion of NFPA Standard in regard to Waterford's fire fighting deployments and ISO ratings

Mr. Miller addressed the Board in response to the request from Fleet Management Ad-hoc Committee. The current fleet consists of eight pumpers and one reserve pumper. The Board of Fire Commissioners continues to review the needs of the fire service with the goal of providing good volunteer fire services to the town. The fire service is favorable to the fueling station locations and the utilization of the Town's vehicle maintenance tracking software.

Mr. Peteros will convene a meeting of the Ad-hoc committee and asked Mr. Miller to provide data of the last five years regarding number of calls and responses, nature of the calls, the value of annual insurance claims as well as casualty insurance claims from Waterford residents in that same period. He requested that this information be forwarded to the Board of Finance and the Board of Selectmen.

**ITEM 6** Remove from the table Board of Finance policy regarding emergency appropriations by First Selectman

MOTION To remove from the table.

Vachris, Sheehan Unanimous

**ITEM 7** To consider and act upon draft of Board of Finance policy regarding emergency expenditures by First Selectman

Attorney Kepple was present and discussion was held regarding wording in the proposed document as well as the level of expenditure authorized for this purpose. Mr. Peteros feels that the RTM should be enlisted in this endeavor .

MOTION That the proposed policy be forwarded to the RTM with a recommendation from the Board of Finance that the RTM participate in this endeavor and work with the Town attorney, and adopt an Emergency Expenditures Policy.

Wilensky, Vachris Yes: Wilensky, Vachris, Peteros, Dupuis, Glidden, Fedor  
Abstained: Sheehan

**ITEM 8** Review of the FY2009 Audit Report

The Board reviewed the audit report. Ms. Beers answered questions and reviewed the GASB pronouncements currently reported, and those that will affect the FY10 audit.

MOTION To accept the FY2009 Audit Report.

Sheehan, Glidden Unanimous

**ITEM 9** Discussion on FY11 budget prior to deliberations

Dr. Collins distributed a copy of his reply to Waterford Teachers Union President Martha Shoemaker in response to an editorial in The Day on February 17, 2010. He also reviewed proposed cost-cutting steps that the Board of Education has taken to reduce the budget.

Mr. Steward reviewed some possible savings from employee concessions, unfilled positions and other savings from Flood and Erosion Board, solid waste removal and snow plows.

Mr. Vachris said he will be suggesting many cuts .

MOTION That the Board respectfully request that the teachers' union reconsider their vote on the furlough days plan and accept the two furlough days.

Peteros, Sheehan

Mr. Wilensky said we have an obligation to the taxpayers.

Mr. Glidden said the Board of Education is doing the best they can, that it's union and Board of Education business and that the Board of Finance has to be neutral, our duty is to the taxpayers.

Mr. Peteros feels it falls in the purview of this Board; the motion is a respectful one strictly for financial considerations. Mr. Vachris said we can only cut the bottom line of the Board of Education budget.

Mr. Fedor offered a friendly amendment to include that the Board request the teachers' union to reconsider and all Town employees to consider taking two furlough days.

**Vote:** Yes: Sheehan, Peteros, Fedor, Dupuis  
No: Vachris, Glidden, Wilensky

**ITEM 10** Liaison Reports

Mr. Sheehan reported that the Charter Revision Commission has taken some votes – to leave the membership of the Board of Selectmen at three members, to increase those terms from two to four years, RTM to two years, and that there be an appeal process to the Board of Finance, similar to the RTM.

Mr. Wilensky reported that the School Building Committee discussed additional compensation for treatment of unforeseen sub-soil condition at Great Neck School.

Mr. Glidden reported that Recreation and Parks Commission has concerns regarding formula for usage charges for use of schools.

**ITEM 11** Correspondence

Benchmarking results from Survey of New England Towns from Chatham Consulting, Inc. in regard to Fleet Management

February 2, 2010 Treasurer's Status Report as of December 31, 2009

February 2, 2010 Letter from Fire Services Administrator informing of significant increase in bill for Fire Service Sizing/Rental of Hydrants

February 11, 2010 Status of General Fund Unreserved Balance from Town Accountant

February 11, 2010 Periodic Financial Statements from Town Accountant

February 17, 2010 Letter from First Selectman informing of Professional Services need for additional Funding

February 5, 2010 Letter from Superintendent of Schools informing of the Board of Education approval of the proposed budget of \$41,826,612

February 19, 2010 Copy of letter to President of Waterford Teachers' Union from Chairman Fedor regarding vote on furlough days

**ITEM 12** Adjournment

MOTION To adjourn at 8:55 pm.  
Sheehan, Wilensky

Unanimous

Prepared and submitted by,

Yvette M. Pier, Secretary

