Al Collings said that he had a conversation with Joe Scanlon and Superintendent of Schools about budget guidelines. They will provide us with an up-to-date capital budget revision for the elementary school. The pumps at the school are now repaired.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman, Al Collings at 7 p.m. A motion was made by Jeffrey Belanger to approve the minutes of January 9, 2008. Roy Roberts seconded the motion. Voted 6-0 to approve.

Reviewed FY 2007 spending to December 31, 2007. It was noted that Legal Counsel has spent a good portion of their budget.

Reviewed FY 2008 & 2009 projections: Marie Arsenault, Accountant, stated we have a deficit of $345,519.00 at this time.

Reviewed Department Budgets:
#3: Advisory Committee. There were no objections or comments.

#4: Town Accountant. Marie Arsenault was present to answer questions. Marie will be attending a class to be able to prepare Basic Financial Statements for the annual audit.

#41: Library. Lisa Careau and Mark Jordan were present to answer questions. We have received a copy of the Library Assessment. For the next 5-15 years, suggested changes or alternatives amount to $335,000.00 of things needed to be done. We will add this to the capital list of things to be done. The library would like for this year’s project to take care of the exterior wooden frames of the windows, which are rotting and have chipped lead paint. They have $35,000.00 to put towards this project, which is a little more than half of the cost of the project. They questioned whether or not they could use the building maintenance account for the remainder. Library will talk to selectmen regarding this. Library wants to add 9 page hours per week.

#51 Water Department: Lester Paquette, Barry Nadon, Sr. and Bob Benson were present to answer questions. The Committee received a Reserve Fund Transfer from the Water Department for $30,000.00 for emergency replacement of four filters because there is a high iron content in the water. The Water Department has the money in their Water Surplus Account but cannot access it without a town meeting. Discussion followed whether to hold a special town meeting or take the money from the Reserve Fund. A
motion was made by Tom Schnare to grant the Reserve Fund Transfer at this time and if necessary, hold a special town meeting later on to replenish the account. Seconded by Bev Potvin Kenniston. Voted 6-0 to approve transfer. Budget Revenue should be revised to read $325,000.00 instead of $305,000.00.

#8: Legal Counsel. Johanna Barry was present to answer questions. The Committee requested that she provide an up-to-date monthly legal schedule for next meeting.

#15: General Insurance. Johanna Barry was present to answer questions. She said she is going out to bid again this year.

#16: Town Advisory Reports: Johanna Barry was present to answer questions. The question from Advisory Committee was, “Is this enough money?” Johanna said it depends upon the number of pages and the cost of postage on what the final cost will be.

Secretary to notify those Departments scheduled to meet with us at our next meeting on February 13, 2008.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine M. Long, Secretary