The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Chair Al Collings.

Jack Tivnan made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Roy Roberts seconded the motion. Voted 5-2 abstain to approve the minutes.

**Review corrected FY 2011 revenue & expense budgets and schedule of department reviews:** Marie Arsenault reviewed the Draft FY 11 Budget Worksheet.

**Library:** Question is if you budget for an item in another budget should it be library specific like library computers in technology budget. In the library budget is the simplest way but can be in library or town account specific for the library. This year library has enough dollars to meet budget. Al Collings has received a copy of the filings today and he will make copies of this for the next meeting.

**Computer Technology:** Al Collings has compiled a 2009 expenditures and budget comparison and suggested sending a copy of the analysis to Gary Simone and have him come in. Al Collings suggested we should have a 5-year plan for hardware and software. We have an inventory of computers but we need to have a replacement program.

We will be meeting all Wednesdays in March. The annual meeting is May 11, 2010. We will have our budget presentation on April 28, 2010. The Warrant must be mailed out two weeks prior to the election per our Town by-law. We need to have our budgets finished by April 7, 2010. Any revisions after this must be made at the Annual Town Meeting. All Articles need to be presented to the Advisory Committee by March 15, 2010. Johanna will send a follow up letter to those she has not heard from and give them a week to reply.

Marie Arsenault talked to Assessor Peggy Walker. We wanted a breakdown of the revaluation bill. She needs to have $11,000.00 for next year. Each year she asks for $4,500.00. She has an $8,000.00 balance for revaluation.
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Fire Department: Present to discuss the Fire Department Budget was Paul Lupacchino, Bob Benson and Danny Santos. Al Collings thanked them for a very comprehensive report and budget. Paul Lupacchino stated that they have level funded the budget.

Engines: They would like to refurbish Engine #2, which is 28 years old. He stated the light pumping system needs to be replaced, tires, springs, brakes, shocks. If refurbished, he feels it will extend the life of the truck eight to ten years. We are talking probably $40,000.00. He needs to have someone evaluate the truck. Discussed putting out to bid piecemeal. He asked if these monies could be taken out the Fire Truck Stabilization Fund. It would cost $400,000.00 to replace this engine with a life span of 30-35 years. David Eisenthal asked about time out of service and the impact on the department. Paul Lupacchino said that Engine #4 will be a back up and the truck would only be out of service a few days at a time. Engine #1 can be maintained at this point but there are some body cracks, paint issues, exhaust issues, which will become worse with time and cost more to repair. Al Collings suggested getting an estimate for Engine #1 as well. Paul Lupacchino said he needs more than the $2,500.00 in his maintenance budget to bring the vehicles up-to-date with their maintenance requirements. He has been going over the records for the past three years and none of the vehicles have had an oil change in the last two years. The standard is for two oil changes a year. Al Collings asked how much do you really need? Paul Lupacchino said he is in the process of consulting vendors.

Fire Cruiser Replacement: Paul Lupacchino would like swap the current fire cruiser for the retiring 2004 Chevy Tahoe Police Cruiser. The cost of painting, et cetera will be approximately $4,500.00.

Gear: The Fire Chief brought fire gear to the meeting. Most of the present gear is 10-15 years old and most of it has been handed down. There are openings on the department and there is no gear available. As of this date, there are 14 members and three chiefs on the department. He is allowed 24 members and three chiefs. The zip-out part can be replaced at 40% of the cost. A new pants and jacket costs $1,600.00, a helmet $225.00, a more protective helmet $485.00. He needs $30,000.00 for turnout gear to bring the Department up to speed. Al Collings asked if he could do with minimum funding $10,000.00 to $15,000.00 now. Paul Lupacchino said he could and is hoping to get grants. He stated that $10,000.00 would get him over the immediate crisis.

Furnace: The furnace was put in 1974. It is serviceable now but question the efficiency. Looking to the future, if it is replaced, they would like to relocate it and get one big enough for an addition and change to gas. Tom Schnare said to come back with numbers in savings and talk with National Grid to see if there are any incentives.
Generator: Paul Lupachinno said he is looking into grants for a generator.

School Department: Bret Kustigan, Joe Scanlon, John Dolan and Tom Baker were present. Bret Kustigan gave a presentation of FY 2011 level funded budget. The Budget has been frozen since October. Concerns are higher class size, a severe lack of electives, which contributes to a large amount of students in study halls and SPED costs have increased. There is a need for updated books. The Track Project has been settled, received free Solar Rebate for panels and work to begin this summer, signed up for the “Race to the Top” and may get grant funds. We are looking into outsourcing our custodians. An RFP has been sent out. Our books have improved considerably. The auditors are coming in two weeks. Bret Kustigan stated his office is relocating to the High School with a savings of $20,000.00. They will return again on March 24, 2010 at 7:45.

Phil Landine made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Diane Vayda seconded the motion. Voted 7-0 to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine M. Long
Secretary