

**TOWN OF NORTHFIELD
BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING
NORTHFIELD TOWN HALL
21 SUMMER STREET
NORTHFIELD, NH**

MINUTES

DATE: February 5, 2004

PRESENT:	George Corliss, Jr.	Yes
	Leif Martinson	Yes
	Steve Randall	Yes
	Linda Pardy	Yes
	Aurlow Stanley	Yes
	David Curdie	Yes
	Sel. Glen Brown	Yes

THE MEETING STARTED AT: 7:40 p.m.

BUDGETS DISCUSSED:

Chairman Corliss opened the public hearing at 7:41 p.m. In attendance were L. Dearborn, J. Fulweiler, S. Hilliard, A. Cross, G. King, J. Huckins, S. Stephen, E. Conde, G. Wilder, M. Douglass, W. Kenneson, M. Ahlgren, C. Cross.

S. Stephen, Welfare Administrator asked the Committee to reconsider the request for \$60,000 welfare vendor payments. Sel. Brown stated that the Selectmen support the requested amount due to anticipated higher caseloads. M. Douglass, Youth Assistance Program Director, asked the Committee to reduce her request by \$1,120 due to a reduction in health insurance expenses. J. Huckins, Town Clerk, explained the purpose of books/periodicals. J. Fulweiler asked the Committee to not recommend \$60,000 for a sewer line extension on Route 140 as the Selectmen will conduct a feasibility study at the present time.

There being no further questions, the Chairman closed the public hearing at 8:00 p.m.

VOTES TAKEN: The Committee agreed to the following line item revisions:

- Youth Assistance Program reduced by \$1,120.
- Capital Outlay Route 140 Sewer Engineering Project reduced by \$60,000.
- Health Insurance Reimbursements increased by \$9,650.
- Other Insurance Reimbursements (Revenue line item) increased by \$9,650.

The Committee agreed to recommend Article #5 (assessment update).
The Committee agreed to recommend Article #6 (increasing Land Use Change Tax from 20% to 50%). The vote was 3-2 with L. Martinsen, L. Pardy, D. Curdie

in the affirmative. S. Randall and A. Stanley opposed.

The Committee agreed to recommend Article #7 (cruiser lease/purchase).

The Committee agreed to recommend Article #8 (highway department roll).

The Committee agreed to not recommend Article #9 (Knowles Pond Road Improvements).

The Committee agreed to recommend Article #10 (Elm Street Engineering).

The Committee agreed to recommend Article #11 (Surette Park Project) and make it a non lapsing appropriation.

The Committee agreed to recommend Article #12 (Town Beach Project) and to make it a non lapsing appropriation.

The Committee agreed to recommend Article #13 (Knowles Pond Conservation Area Purchase).

The Committee agreed to not recommend Article #14 (Route 140 Sewer Extension Engineer). J.. Fulweiler will request the Selectmen to remove this article from their warrant.

The Budget Committee agreed on a bottom line operating budget recommendation of \$3,080,740.

Estimated impact on the 2004 tax rate: \$10.47 or a reduction of \$.12

Net Assessed Value with 3% increase	\$157,170,651
Appropriations	\$3,080,470
Less Estimated Revenues	<u>- 1,435,450</u>
Amount to be raised by taxes	\$1,645.020

THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT: 8:30 p.m.

Recording Secretary: David Curdie