



# TOWN OF NORTHFIELD



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## NORTHFIELD BUDGET COMMITTEE Minutes of the Meeting of January 21, 2010

Present: George Corliss, Linda Pardy, Jared Hebert, Ross Cunningham, Steve Bluhm, Lisa Swancott, Leif Martinson

Also Present: Chief Adams, Geoff Ziminsky, Glenn Smith

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm.

The Chair recognized Steve Adams who outlined staffing considerations that may require increased overtime costs and asked that the \$5,000 scheduled for reduction be reinstated.

Committee members discussed salary increases for 2010. Several members stated that given the state of the economy it would not be appropriate to include raises in the 2010 budget. Ross Cunningham expressed his belief that it was important not to balance the budget on the backs of the employees. Discussion followed concerning economic and tax impacts of various salary increase scenarios.

Committee members agreed by consensus to budget to reduce the proposed salary increase for town employees from 2.5% to 1.5% of salaries, and to reduce the proposed salary adjustment for the Town Clerk/Tax Collector. The Selectmen had proposed adjusting the salary to bring her to the midpoint for her grade, Committee members agreed to an increase that would bring the salary from its current position of below the minimum for the grade to a point of half way between the existing salary and the grade midpoint.

Committee members discussed fire district costs and the potential cost of dissolution to the Northfield taxpayers.

Committee members reviewed capital items, agreeing by consensus to remove funds proposed for the replacement of the 4x4 in the police department.

**Pardy/Martinson** moved to remove proposed repairs to Rand Road and View Street from the proposed budget. **Motion passed 4-3**

**Martinson/Swancott** moved to proposed to the Northfield voters a proposed 2010 budget in the amount of \$3,338,336. **Motion passed.**

There being no other business the meeting was adjourned.