

A special meeting of the Town Council held on Thursday, March 6, 2008 for the Town at Town Council Chambers and was called to order at 6:02 PM. Council President Budway presiding.

After pledging allegiance to the flag of our country, Town Clerk Long called the roll:

Councilman Collins-present	Councilman Salisbury - absent
Councilwoman Knowlton-absent	Councilman D'Agostino - present
Councilman Winfield - present	Council Vice-President Farrar - present
Council President Budway – present	

Councilman Salisbury arrived at 6:15 PM.

Council President Budway informed the audience that the School budget will not be discussed this evening. The Council will be voting on the entire Town budget as submitted by the Budget Committee. He explained that the School Committee has responsibility to spend the money that is allocated to them in the best way that they see fit. He said that it is important to have a balanced school experience for our students which includes athletics, music and honors programs.

Council Vice-President Farrar said that the budget process is very hard. He said that he wanted to commend the School Committee for agreeing to work with the Town Council to not exceed the State mandated cap. He said that they could have refused and taken the Town Council to court, which would have just delayed the entire process and cost the Town unnecessarily spent money which we do not have. He said that it is important that we all work with the School Committee to try to try to do what is best for the students, not against them.

Councilman Collins asked if the capital expenditures that we are approving this evening for the School Department are the only requests that they made.

Town Treasurer Przybyla said that it has been the practice for the last few years to incorporate the school capital improvements with the Town's so we can take out just one bond and therefore save money. He said in answer to Councilman Collins question these are the only capital requests from the School Department that he is aware of.

Council President Budway said he will entertain audience participation at this point but asked that it not exceed five minutes.

Mike Marcello, 874 Chopmist Hill Road asked what the Recreation capital request is for.

Councilman Winfield said that it is to repair and install fencing at various fields throughout Town but especially at Hope Pond.

Kathryn Miller, 17 Castle Drive, Hope said that she moved to Scituate because of the excellent school system and she has seen over the years that the budgets are continually cut. She said that she is not sure how this will effect the education system but feels it will not be in a positive way.

Roger Cichy, 40 Carue Drive said that he feels that school budget is not balanced, that they fund certain programs more than others and he does not agree with that.

Joseph D'Agostino, Bungy Drive said that he not in favor of cutting the late buses. He said that this will be very dangerous for the children.

Council President Budway said that there might be away to reinstate the late buses and that is being investigated.

Emilio DiPaolo, 2 Castle Drive, Hope said that he feels with any cuts it should start at the top and work down, but this School Committee didn't do this. He said that he moved to Scituate because of the excellent school system. He said that he feels that the support staff is just as important as the teaching staff. He said that the School nurse has been a big help with his children's education. He asked what is happening with the PWSB tax dispute.

Council President Budway said that former Town Council President Ted Richard is still the chief negotiator for this, along with Town Treasurer Przybyla and himself. He said that they have been working very hard on this project.

Motion made by Councilman Collins, seconded by Councilman D'Agostino and voted by consent agreement to approve the 2008-2009 budget as submitted by the Budget Committee.

Motion made by Councilman Collins, seconded by Council Vice-President Farrar and voted by consent agreement to approve the resolution to borrow 2 million dollars in Tax Anticipation Notes (TANS).

Motion made by Councilman Winfield, seconded by Council Vice-President Farrar and voted by consent agreement to approve the resolution to borrow \$430,000.00 for capital expenditures.

Motion made by Councilman Collins seconded by Council Vice-President Farrar and voted by roll call to adjourn to closed session pursuant to R.I.G.L. 42-46-5 (A)2-Collective Bargaining/Labor relations at 6:20 PM.

Open session reconvened at 6:40 PM.

Motion made by Councilman Salisbury, seconded by Councilman Collins and voted by consent agreement to reaffirm the motion that passed in closed session.

Motion made by Council Vice-President Farrar, seconded by Councilman Collins and voted by consent agreement to adjourn at 6:45 PM and to keep the minutes of the meetings

previously closed to the public; closed pursuant to RIGL 42-46-4 and 42-46-5 and to allow the Town Clerk 14 days to prepare the minutes of the meeting. For complete discussion, refer to audiotape.

Attest:

Margaret M. Long, Town Clerk