MINUTES BOARD OF SELECTMEN FEBRUARY 28, 2004 BUDGET HEARING

The Board of Selectmen convened in a Special Budget Session with the School Committee at 9:00 a.m. in the Selectmen's Meeting Room of the Town Hall.

The Board discussed the fiscal year 2005 state aid projection.

The Board discussed the FY05 revenue allocation process.

The Board discussed the Town Administrator's recommendation that \$79,000 in professional liability and property insurance and employee assistance program costs be put in the School budget.

The Board generally agreed that the School Department should be held harmless with respect to the allocation recommendation.

The School Superintendent presented a list of needs for his Department's FY05 budget.

The Selectmen heard comments from residents regarding the school's FY05 budget.

The Board received an update from the Town Administrator regarding how the Town is likely to fund the costs related to the Burbank School oil release clean-up costs.

The School Committee Chairman noted maintenance needs relative to the Wellington School.

The Board discussed opportunities for the consolidation of the Town and School's buildings and grounds function.

The Town Administrator provided his thoughts relative to this issue. He noted his desire that the Town, Schools, and Library buildings all be included in this discussion. He recommended that he meet with the school superintendent and library director to develop a proposal for consolidation of these functions.

The Board requested the Town Administrator, School Superintendent, Patricia Brusch, and a member of the Capital Budget Committee to identify the capacity gaps in the buildings and facilities functions to be completed by the end of the August 2004.

The Board moved: to enter executive session for the purpose of discussing strategy with respect to collective bargaining.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0), by roll call vote; and further that the Board will not return to open session.

The open session adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

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Melvin A. Kleckner, Town Administrator

Clerk, Board of Selectmen