

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**  
**MINUTES OF THE MEETING**  
**FEBRUARY 4, 2010**

**MEMBERS PRESENT** John Greenlee, Helen B. Wilkins, Matthew R. Treadwell, Herbert A. Stone, Gordon A. Prime, Faith D. Ballenger, James Drummey, Margaret Trowbridge, Alan Walsh Marguerite Herlihy, and Victor DiGregorio

Chairman Helen B. Wilkins called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM with words of welcome to all. She distributed a copy of Section 502. Finance Committee, of the Sanford Town Charter, stating their tasks, to each member.

There was a motion by Alan Walsh, seconded by John Greenlee to accept the Minutes of the January 14, 2010 meeting as printed. The vote was unanimous.

Town Manager, Mark Green, presented his expected Revenue Shortfall for the year 2010-2011 Budget Year bases on this current budget year. His **preliminary** tax increase for 2010-2011 is \$1,626,240.00. Adjustments under consideration are PAYT \$1,000,000.00-- \$1,600,000.00, Changes in Wages and Benefits, \$460,000.00, and others cuts of 0 -- \$250,000.00.

There was a question asked if these figures included the same cuts as last year and a statement that future interest rates are a great concern and must be considered in budgeting for the future. Everything is up for discussion.

Mr. Green stated that the State's evaluation is down, thus the Town's evaluation goes down. Walmart & Lowe's will be part of the evaluation for the coming tax year. Town's have formed a York County Coalition that meets monthly and are working with are legislators.

Herbert Stone asked how we cut the shortfall - cutting services is hard - but must consider that people are hurting.

Mr. Green stated that the Police Department has cut one (1) officer and that the Fire Department has cut one (1) fire fighter. Overtime has been decreased and training given only if necessary. The Council does not want to see any increases in taxes. Layoffs may be inevitable and to freeze wages requires a concession from the employee unions.

When asked about receiving stimulus funds for road repair, Mr. Green stated that MDOT is using the funds on Rte 295 north of Portland.

Chairman Wilkins thanked Town Manager, Mark Green, for his presentation.

Superintendent Betsy St. Cyr introduced the School Department's new Business Manager, Michael Kucsma, to the Committee and Dr. Mark Lucier, School Committee Chair. The committee received a packet of the Revenue Projects - 2010-2011 school year. Mr. Kucsma reviewed this packet. The adjusted state share, subsidy allocation, reflects a reduction of \$1,230,458.00. The school department has some very hard adjusts to make due to this shortfall. The supply budget came up during discussion. Margaret Trowbridge offered to spearhead a drive to have supplies donate to the school system. They will keep this offer in mind.

Chairma Wilkins thanks Superintendent Betsy St. Cyr, Business Manager, Michael Kucsma, and School Committee Chair, Mark Lucier, for their presentation.

Chairman Wilkins presented a plan to have sub-committees. Her plan was that each department would have a committee, who meet among themselves only, review the budget and have a list of questions and/or concerns to be asked when that department came before the Finance Committee. They would not be meeting with any department nor would they be making recommendations. The consensus vote was six (6) noes and five (5) yeses. The concept was defeated.

Our next meeting will on Thursday, March 4, 2010 at 7:00 PM in the Town Hall Chambers.

Gordon Prime stated that he may miss a meeting or two due to knee surgery. He offered to have his wife be his replacement. Matthew Treadwell stated that may not be at our next meeting as he could be out of the country on company business.

There was a motion by James Drummey, seconded by Alan Walsh to adjourn at 8:35 PM. The vote was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Faith D. Ballenger  
Secretary