

**BOARD OF ALDERMEN
BUDGET DELIBERATIONS
MAY 19, 2008**

The Board of Aldermen of the City of Milford held a Budget Deliberation Session for the FY 2008-2009 on Monday, May 19, 2008 in the aldermanic chambers of City Hall. Chairman Blake called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m. and asked everyone present to stand and join in the Pledge of Allegiance. Chairman Blake asked everyone to remain standing after the Pledge for a moment of silence in memory of Dominick Veccharelli.

1. Roll Call

Board Members Present

B. Bier
J. Blacketter
B. Blake
V. Ditchkus
A. Giannattasio
M. Hardiman
B. Lambert
S. Manning
R. Nunno
J. Patterson
J. Toohey
N. Veccharelli
P. Vetro
R. Vitali
S. Willey

Also Present

Mayor James L. Richetelli, Jr.
A. Jepson, City Clerk
J. Doneiko, Finance Director
J. O'Connell, Mayor's Admin. Asst.

Chairman Blake opened the session by recognizing the hours, days, weeks and months in order to get the Board to this point tonight. He acknowledged the Mayor, all the department heads, Superintendent of Schools, Board of Finance, Board of Education, Finance Director and her staff and thanked them for their tireless efforts on behalf of the City. He continued reading a prepared statement as to the entire budget process. He commented in the past weeks the Board heard passionate invocations from parents and seniors among others. He stated tonight he hoped the Board could transcend personal politics and do what is best for the City. He continued reading his statement asking the Board to vote on the budget and that tonight was not for additional fact finding. He asked the Aldermen and the Mayor to keep the meeting focused and spoke as to the need for respect in deliberating this evening.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4111 Board of Aldermen as recommended by the Board of Finance with the following changes: line item 4798 0000 Other Supplies & Charges reduce to \$50 for a new sub-total in Operational Expenses of \$650 and a new department total of \$9,150.

Ald. Ditchkus and Ald. Toohey moved to amend Acct. 0010 4111 as follows: reduce line 4168 0000 Secretarial Fees to \$6,000 for a new sub-total in Personal Services of \$6,000 and a new department total of \$8,150. Motion carried unanimously.

On the main motion, motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4112 Elections as recommended by the Board of Finance in the amount of \$70,000.

Ald. Ditchkus and Ald. Toohey moved to amend Acct. 0010 4112 as follows: reduce line 4701 0000 Election Expenses to \$68,500 for a new department total of \$68,500.

By roll call vote the amendment passes 8 yes (Bier, Blake, Ditchkus, Giannattasio, Patterson, Toohey, Vitali, Willey) and 7 no (Blacketter, Hardiman, Lambert, Manning, Nunno, Veccharelli, Vetro).

Ald. Ditchkus stated he wished to confirm the motion was passed in the amount of \$68,500.

On the main motion . . .

Ald. Ditchkus interjected raising a point of order. He stated a 2/3 vote was needed.

Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Nunno made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4115 Registrar of Voters as recommended by the Board of Finance with the following changes: line item 4774 0000 Postage to \$1,250 and line item 4783 0000 Office Supplies & Expenses for a new department sub-total in Operational Expenses of \$3,952 and a new department total of \$131,831.

Ald. Ditchkus stated he would not repeat himself throughout the entire evening, but that he felt reducing postage in a time when the postage has just increased would be unwise.

Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Hardiman made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4121 Mayor as recommended by the Board of Finance with the following changes: line item 4774 0000 Postage to \$1,500; line item 4775 0000 Office Equipment Upkeep to \$250; line item 4781 0000 Duplicating Costs to \$250; line item 4783 0000 Office Supplies & Expenses to \$600; and line item 4784 0000 Printing & Binding to \$350 for a new department sub-total in Operational Expenses of \$3,100 and a new department total of \$250,760. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4122 General Expenses as recommended by the Board of Finance with the following changes: line item 4117 0000 Seasonal/Temporary to \$6,000 for a new department sub-total in Personal Services of \$80,177; and reduce line item 4776 0000 Telephone System Costs to \$82,000 and line item 4798 0000 Other Supplies & Changes to \$2,000 for a new department sub-total in Operational Expenses of \$160,300; and line item 4879 0000

Miscellaneous Expenses to \$4,000 for a new department sub-total in General Charges in the amount of \$79,300 for a new department total of \$373,777.

Ald. Ditchkus and Ald. Toohey moved to amend the motion and reduce line item 4781 0000 Duplicating Costs to \$47,000 for a new department sub-total in Operational Expenses of \$159,300; and line item 4998 0014 Respect Campaign to \$3,000 for a new department sub-total in Capital Outlays of \$53,500 for a new department total of \$369,777. Motion carried unanimously.

On the main motion, motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Richetelli asked with regard to the line item 4117 0000 Seasonal/Temporary, if it was the Board's wish to reduce that person's hours.

Chairman Blake asked if the way to handle this is by reducing that person's hours, than yes.

Mayor Richetelli referred to line item 4776 0000 Telephone System Costs and the \$10,000 reduction and asked the rationale. He stated the number presented to the Board is for the telephone system support which is the number given by the City.

Chairman Blake responded it was the MIS Director who testified that the new system would allow this reduction by \$10,000. Chairman Blake also asked the Mayor to limit the inquiries and fact finding which has already been done.

Mayor Richetelli replied he understood that, but the Board should realize the new system would not be up and running for several months and that this affects the entire City.

Ald. Ditchkus commented the majority was correct the number could be reduced but it was also explained it would take up to 6 months or more to get that new system up and running. He also commented last year this Board paraded every department head up here and that the Board owed the respect to the may to get an answer.

Ald. Patterson stated the new department total he comes up with for this department is \$372,277.

On the main motion, motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4123 Community Development as recommended by the Board of Finance in the amount of \$102,678. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Veccharelli made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4129 City Clerk as recommended by the Board of Finance with the following changes: line item 4718 0000 Travel & Conferences to \$550 and line item 4783 0000 Office Supplies & Expenses to \$1,700 for a new department sub-total in Operational Expenses of \$50,589 and a new department total of \$393,825.

Ald. Ditchkus and Ald. Toohey moved to amend the motion reducing line item 4778 0000 Index/Recording to \$10,000 for a new department sub-total in Operational Expenses of \$41,345 and a new department total of \$384,481.

By roll call vote, the amendment carried 8 yes (Bier, Blake, Ditchkus, Giannattasio, Patterson, Toohey, Vitali, Willey) and 7 no (Blacketter, Hardiman, Lambert, Manning, Nunno, Veccharelli, Vetro).

Main motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Ditchkus made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4131 Law Department as recommended by the Board of Finance with the following changes: reduce line item 4718 0000 Travel & Conferences to \$3,500; line item 4775 0000 Office Equipment Upkeep to \$400 and line item 4783 0000 Office Supplies & Expenses to \$1,800 for a new department sub-total in Operational Expenses of \$14,950; and line item 4990 0501 Furniture, Fixtures & Equipment to \$0 for a new department sub-total in Capital Outlays of \$11,500 for a new department total \$ \$600,901. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4132 Ethics Commission as recommended by the Board of Finance with the following changes: reduce line item 4189 0000 Misc. Professional Fees & Svc. To \$5,000 for a new department sub-total in Personal Services of \$5,500; and reduce line item 4712 0000 Training Expenses to \$2,000 for a new department sub-total in Operational Expenses of \$2,400 for a new department total of \$7,900. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Ditchkus made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4133 Probate Court as recommended by the Board of Finance in the amount of \$13,635. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Ditchkus made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4141 Board of Finance as recommended by the Board of Finance in the amount of \$1,050. Motion carried unanimously

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Veccharelli made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4142 Planning & Zoning as recommended by the Board of Finance with the following changes: reduce line item 4111 0000 Regular Wages to \$319,274 and line item 4112 0000 Overtime to \$9,000 for a new department sub-total in Personal Services of \$337,437; and line item 4713 0000 Membership to \$1,400; line item 4718 0000 Travel & Conferences to \$3,000; line item 4772 0000 Publications to \$1,150; line item 4775 0000 Office Equipment Upkeep to \$750; and line item 4781 0000 Duplicating Costs to \$500 for a new department sub-total in Operational Expenses of \$29,800 and a new department total of \$371,137.

Ald. Ditchkus asked about the change to the Assistant City Planner in the amount of \$55,308, which he stated would put the salary of the Assistant City Planner below that of the Zoning Enforcement Officer, who reports to the Assistant City Planner. He asked how the majority was looking at paying someone less than someone who works under them.

Chairman Blake responded the reduction reflects Step 1 for the Assistant City Planner. He also pointed out the Zoning Enforcement Officer has been with the City for sometime and that the new person would have the opportunity to work his or her way up.

Ald. Ditchkus stated it is the Assistant City Planner who is the assistant to the City Planner and that the Zoning Enforcement Officer could not work her way up to that position or the current Zoning Enforcement Officer would take a cut in pay to take that position.

Ald. Veccharelli stated they are not hiring an Assistant City Planner, but recanted his statement saying he stood corrected.

Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4143 Board of Assessment Appeals as recommended by the Board of Finance in the amount of \$4,720. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4144 Zoning Board of Appeals as recommended by the Board of Finance with the following changes: reduce line item 4771 0000 Advertising to \$13,000 and line item 4774 0000 Postage for a new department sub-total in Operational Expenses of \$14,425 and a new department total of \$14,925. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4145 Pension Board as recommended by the Board of Finance in the amount of \$3,440. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4146 Flood and Erosion Board as recommended by the Board of Finance with the following changes: reduce line item 4774 0000 Postage to \$1; line item 4781 0000 Duplicating Costs to \$1 and line item 4783 0000 Office Supplies & Expenses to \$1 for a new department sub-total in Operational Expenses of \$3 and a new department total of \$53. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Ditchkus made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4147 Tree Commission as recommended by the Board of Finance with the following changes: reduce line item 4781 0000 Duplicating Costs to \$50; reduce line item 4783 0000 Office Supplies & Expenses to \$50; and line item 4784 0000 Printing & Binding to \$25 for a new department sub-total in Operational Expenses of \$475 and a new department total of \$1,775. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4151 Civil Service Commission as recommended by the Board of Finance in the amount of \$50. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4153 Park, Beach and Recreation Commission as recommended by the Board of Finance in the amount of \$600. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4155 Economic Development Commission as recommended by the Board of Finance in the amount of \$1. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Ditchkus made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4156 Conservation Commission as recommended by the Board of Finance with the following changes: reduce line item 4712 0000 Training Expenses to \$300; line item 4713 0000 Membership to \$45; and line item 4783 0000 Office Supplies & Expenses to \$25 for a new department sub-total in Operational Expenses in the amount of \$405 and a new department total of \$1,305. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4158 Inland Wetlands Agency as recommended by the Board of Finance with the following changes: reduce line item 4189 0000 Misc. Professional Fees & Svcs. to \$1 for a new department sub-total in Personal Services of \$102,770; and line item 4331 0000 Gas & Other Propellants to \$200 for a new department sub-total in Vehicle and Equipment Upkeep of \$200; and line item 4771 0000 Advertising reduce to \$3,000 and line item 4784 0000 Printing & Binding to \$200 and line item 4798 0000 Other Supplies & Charges to \$400 for a new department sub-total in Operational Expenses of \$9,574 for a new department total of \$115,090.

Ald. Ditchkus expressed concern over reducing Misc. Professional Fees & Svcs. to \$1 with the amount of work the department does. He stated if they have to go out and do even one survey the money would not be enough.

Ald. Nunno commented legislature was passed recently regarding professional fees and services and putting it onto the applicant. He explained the details to the Board.

Mayor Richetelli stated in the interest of expediency he would say this only once concerning Gas & Other Propellants. He explained when this budget was put together the number was based on gasoline being locked in at \$2.99. He stated when they go out to bid it could be closer to \$4.00, which could cause a problem in reducing this account.

Chairman Blake responded the City could implement conservation measures, i.e. idling or other.

Ald. Lambert commented in consideration of any of the reductions they took into consideration the average over the last year and that these were not just random numbers but based on averages.

Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Blacketter made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4159 Fowler Memorial Commission as recommended by the Board of Finance.

Ald. Ditchkus raised a point of order asking that the department total be read for the public and for the secretary.

Ald. Vetro stated the department total for Acct. 0010 4159 is \$350.

Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4160 Housing Code Board of Appeals as recommended by the Board of Finance with the following changes: reduce line item 4168 0000 to \$200 for a new department total of \$200. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4161 Housatonic River Estuary Commission as recommended by the Board of Finance in the amount of \$1,000. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Lambert made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4193 Public Library as recommended by the Board of Finance with the following changes: reduce line item 4718 0000

Travel & Conferences to \$1,000 and line item 4796 0001 Magazine Index Database to \$8,000 for a new department sub-total in Operational Expenses of \$82,225 and a new department total of \$1,026,676. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Veccharelli requested a 5-minute recess at 7:53 p.m.

Chairman Blake reconvened the Board at 8:03 p.m.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Hardiman made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4210 Finance Department as recommended by the Board of Finance with the following changes: reduce line item 4111 0000 Regular Wages to \$1,389,085 for a new department sub-total in Personal Services of \$1,430,397; reduce line item 4718 0000 Travel & Conferences to \$5,500 and line item 4784 0000 Printing & Binding to \$45,300 for a new department sub-total in Operational Expenses of \$203,345; and reduce line item 4977 0130 Office Chair to \$0 for a new department sub-total in Capital Outlays of \$6,127 and a new department total of \$1,641,269.

Ald. Ditchkus stated he wished to clarify this motion removes the position of account.

Chairman Blake responded yes.

Ald. Veccharelli stated he wished to amend the \$80,997 for the new accountant position. He stated this department continues to be one of the best departments and performs and gets recognized by various award and that they do an outstanding job even with the tremendous amount of work load they have. He stated he understood this Board is trying to save taxpayer money, but he believed this position is needed for this department. He stated he would recommend reducing the original amount to Step 1 at \$70,551 and that he would make that in the form of a motion. Ald. Nunno seconded the motion.

Mayor Richetelli commented this Board heard the Finance Director make an eloquent pitch and the reasons why this department needs another accountant and that he would concur wholeheartedly with Ald. Veccharelli.

Ald. Ditchkus stated the in amount in line item 4111 0000 Regular Wages would be \$1,459,636.

The amendment carried unanimously.

The new department sub-total in Personal Services is \$1,500,948 with a new department total of \$1,711,820.

Ald. Patterson asked if there would be any adjustment to the 1/5 Fiscal Week (line item 4111 9942).

Ms. Doneiko replied there would be a minor change.

On the main motion, motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Ditchkus made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4215 Management Information Systems (MIS) as recommended by the Board of Finance with the following changes: reduce line item 4189 0000 Professional Fees to \$20,000 for a new department sub-total in Personal Services of \$455,265; and reduce line item 4712 0000 Training Expenses to \$3,000; reduce line item 4718 0000 Travel & Conferences to \$250 and reduce line item 4798 0000 Other Supplies & Charges to \$4,000 for a new department

sub-total in Operational Expenses of \$180,887 and a new department total of \$648,352. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Ditchkus made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4219 Personnel as recommended by the Board of Finance with the following changes: reduce line item 4112 0000 Overtime to \$1,000 and line item 4189 0000 Misc. Professional Fees & Svcs. to \$250 for a new department sub-total in Personal Services of \$248,963; and reduce line item 4771 0000 Advertising to \$4,000 for a new department sub-total in Operational Expenses to \$6,800; and line item 4977 0109 Typewriter to \$400 for a new department sub-total in Capital Outlays of \$400 and a new department total of \$255,163. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4310 Police as recommended by the Board of Finance with the following changes: reduce line item 4117 0000 Seasonal/Temporary to \$65,000 for a new department sub-total in Personal Services of \$8,961,286; and reduce line item 4775 0000 Office Equipment Upkeep to \$38,500 for a new department sub-total in Operational Expenses of \$404,318 and reduce line item 4942 0751 Scuba Equipment to \$4,000; reduce line item 4977 0109 Typewriter to \$400; reduce line item 4990 0529 Office furniture to \$3,500 for a new department sub-total in Capital Outlays in \$345,154 and a new department total of \$10,058,888.

Ald. Ditchkus and Ald. Toohey moved to amend the motion and reduce line item 4971 0214 Police Cruisers to \$175,000 for a new department sub-total in Capital Outlays of \$295,154 and a new department total of \$10,008,

By roll call vote, amendment fails 5 yes (Bier, Ditchkus, Giannattasio, Toohey, Willey) and 10 no (Blacketter, Blake, Hardiman, Lambert, Manning, Nunno, Patterson, Veccharelli, Vetro, Vitali).

Ald. Lambert and Ald. Patterson moved to amend the motion and reduce line item 4971 0214 Police Cruisers from \$225,000 to \$200,000.

Ald. Ditchkus commented you couldn't specifically say this one police cruiser would be going to a new police officer. He explained there is a rotating stock and this Board cannot dictate where their cruisers go.

By roll call vote, motion carried 13 yes (Bier, Blacketter, Blake, Giannattasio, Hardiman, Lambert, Manning, Nunno, Patterson, Toohey, Veccharelli, Vetro, Willey) and 2 no (Ditchkus, Vitali).

Ald. Patterson stated the new department sub-total in Capital Outlays is \$320,154 with a new department total of \$10,033,888.

On the main motion, motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Ditchkus made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4320 Fire Department as recommended by the Board of Finance with the following changes: reduce line item 4189 0000 Professional Fees & Svcs. to \$22,000 for a new department sub-total in Personal Services of \$9,212,523; and reduce line item 4333 0000 Auto Supply & Upkeep to \$56,000 for a new department sub-total in Vehicle & Equipment Upkeep of \$189,950; and reduce line item 4413 0000 Janitorial Supplies to \$12,000 for a new department sub-total in Property Upkeep of \$209,960; and reduce line item 4715 0000 Meal Allowance to \$1,000; reduce line item 4726 0001 Fire Intervention to \$3,000; reduce line item 4728 0000 Scuba Supplies &

Costs to \$4,500 for a new department sub-total in Operational Expenses of \$342,300; and reduce line item 4923 0350 Fire Station Improvements to \$35,000; reduce line item 4976 0000 Communications equipment to \$9,500; and 4977 0152 Tables and chairs to \$750; and line item 4977 0190 Computer to \$2,000 for a new department sub-total in Operational Expenses of \$178,100 and a new department total of \$10,337,583.

Ald. Ditchkus and Ald. Toohey moved to amend the motion to reduce line item 4112 9941 Overtime, Rescue Truck to \$100,000 for a new department sub-total in Personal Services of \$9,192,523 and a new department total of \$10,317,583.

By roll call vote, motion fails 10 no (Blacketter, Blake, Hardiman, Lambert, Manning, Nunno, Patterson, Veccharelli, Vetro, Vitali) and 5 yes (Bier, Ditchkus, Hardiman, Toohey, Willey).

On the main motion, by roll call vote, motion carried 13 yes (Bier, Blacketter, Blake, Ditchkus, Giannattasio, Hardiman, Lambert, Manning, Nunno, Patterson, Veccharelli, Vetro, Willey) and 2 no (Toohey, Vitali).

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4331 Civil Preparedness as recommended by the Board of Finance with the following changes: reduce line item 4325 0001 Equipment Upkeep to \$1,000 for a new department sub-total in Vehicle & Equipment Upkeep of \$1,200; and reduce line item 4718 0000 Travel & Conferences to \$1,000 for a new department sub-total of \$28,350 and a new department total of \$70,550. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4340 Animal Control as recommended by the Board of Finance with the following changes: reduce line item 4111 0000 Regular Wages to \$217,943 for a new department sub-total in Personal Services of \$283,556; and reduce line item 4718 0000 Travel & Conferences to \$750 for a new department sub-total in Operational Expenses of \$30,750; and reduce line item 4977 0704 Weed wacker, gas powered to \$200 for a new department sub-total in Capital Outlays of \$2,200 and a new department total of \$353,006.

Ald. Ditchkus stated he wished to clarify the change is to the Animal Control Warden position reducing that grade to \$50,239.

Chairman Blake responded he believed that is first step.

Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4350 Building Inspection as recommended by the Board of Finance with the following changes: reduce line item 4111 0000 Regular Wages to \$385,864, line item 4112 0000 Overtime to \$20,000, reduce line item 4117 0000 Seasonal/Temporary; and reduce line item 4180 0000 Other Professional Svcs. to \$500 for a new department sub-total in Personal Services of \$409,373; and reduce line item 4772 0000 Publications to \$2,700, line item 4783 0000 Office Supplies & Expenses to \$1,000, reduce line item 4798 0000 Other Supplies & Charges to \$250 for a new department sub-total in Operational Expenses of \$20,150; and reduce line item 4977 0121 Desk to \$0; and line item 4977 0190 Computer to \$1,300 for a new department sub-total in Capital Outlays of \$3,900 and a new department total of \$442,923.

Ald. Vitali commented cutting this department in light of all the complaints of expediency it would not give the department enough manpower to do the job.

By roll call vote, motion carried 13 yes (Bier, Blacketter, Blake, Ditchkus, Hardiman, Lambert, Manning, Nunno, Patterson, Toohey, Veccharelli, Vetro, Willey) and 2 no (Giannattasio, Vitali).

Ald. Veccharelli wished to clarify the Deputy Chief Building Inspector position, that line item is \$0 and Building Inspector A has now been added. He wanted to make sure this was correct and that the difference is reflected in the wage amount.

Mayor Richetelli stated the Board made it clear by its motion, but certainly could include this document by reference so there is no question as to intent.

Ald. Veccharelli stated the intent needs to be clear that basically the change is in the step, not a deputy chief position and that the Board is putting on one Building Inspector A position.

Chairman Blake stated so it is clear and there is no ambiguity if Ald. Veccharelli was making this in the form of a motion.

Ald. Ditchkus raised a point of order stating this Board had not voted on all the changes.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4360 Lighting, Hydrants, Water as recommended by the Board of Finance in the amount of \$1,431,000. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4420 Public Works Office as recommended by the Board of Finance with the following changes: reduce line item 4783 0000 Office Supplies & Expenses to \$1,250 for a new department sub-total in Operational Expenses of \$7,425 and a new department total of \$242,953. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4421 Highway/Parks as recommended by the Board of Finance with the following changes: reduce line item 4112 0000 Overtime to \$120,000, and line item 4117 0000 Seasonal/Temporary to \$25,000 to a new department sub-total in Personal Services of \$2,242,412; and reduce line item 4432 0000 Trees, Shrubs, & Law Supplies to \$15,000 for a new department sub-total in Property Upkeep of \$127,250; and reduce line item 4516 0000 Seawall & Dock Upkeep to \$2,500, and line item 4524 0000 Loam to \$3,000, and line item 4525 0000 Street Marking Materials to \$8,000, and line item 4532 0000 Gravel to \$8,000, and line item 4533 0000 Ice Control Expense to \$25,000 for a new department sub-total in Street & Highway Upkeep of \$208,000 and a new department total of \$2,596,912.

Ald. Ditchkus responded he understand some of the changes. He cited as an example line item 4533 0000 Ice Control and commented the cost of those materials has gone up and would not recommend that new amount. He also expressed concern about the buildings and sidewalks.

Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Veccharelli made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4423 Building Maintenance as recommended by the Board of Finance with the following changes: reduce line item 4112 0000 Overtime to \$45,000, and line item 4117 0000 Seasonal/Temporary to \$10,000, and line item 4164 0000 Outside services/Labor to \$5,000 for a new department sub-total in Personal Services of \$1,338,776; and line item 4413 0000 Janitorial Supplies to \$35,000, and line item 4450 0000 Building Repairs to \$36,000, and line item 4471 0000 Buildings & Grounds Supplies to \$57,000 for a new department sub-total in Property Upkeep of \$1,483,622; and line item 4923 0000 Building Improvements to \$35,000; and line item 4923 0502 Roof Repairs to \$5,000, and line item 4978 0000 to \$10,000 for a new department sub-total in Capital Outlays of \$50,000 and a new department total of \$2,961,002

Ald. Ditchkus stated there were a number of line items he just could not support in this motion especially after so much was cut previously and that they just could not let the infrastructure go. He stated although it seems like a small amount these cuts can only hurt. He also pointed out rising fuel costs. He reiterated the importance of maintaining our City buildings and wanting our buildings to look good.

Chairman Blake stated he wished to make it clear, they did not cut, they just did not bond several different roofs, i.e. Fanny Beach, etc.

Ald. Ditchkus responded there are numerous buildings within the City other than the ones they wanted to bond.

By roll call vote, motion carried 13 yes (Bier, Blacketter, Blake, Giannattasio, Hardiman, Lambert, Manning, Nunno, Patterson, Toohey, Veccharelli, Vetro, Willey) and 2 no (Ditchkus, Vitali).

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4424 Engineering as recommended by the Board of Finance with the following changes: reduce line item 4111 0000 Regular wages to \$394,100 and line item 4189 0000 Professional Fees & Services to \$20,000 for a new department sub-total in Personal Services of \$460,206; and reduce line item 1775 0000 Office Equipment Upkeep to \$4,500 for a new department sub-total in Operational Expenses of \$11,725; and reduce line item 4977 0108 Computer desk to \$0 for a new department sub-total in Capital Outlays of \$5,500 and a new department total of \$477,821.

Ald. Willey stated he wished to clarify part of the reduction is the elimination of a position and asked if that position is currently open.

Mayor Richetelli responded yes.

Chairman Blake followed up stating there are two Engineering Technician positions open since 2004 and 2006 and that they have tried to fill those positions but could not.

Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Ditchkus made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4429 General Garage as recommended by the Board of Finance with the following changes: reduce line item 4112 0000 Overtime to \$30,000 for a new department sub-total in Personal Services of \$517,306; and reduce line item 4333 0000 Auto Supply & Upkeep to \$55,000 and line item 4335 0000 Equipment Supply & Upkeep to \$235,000 for a new department sub-total in Vehicle & Equipment Upkeep of \$686,000 and reduce line item

4751 0000 License Permits & Fees to \$1,000 for a new department sub-total in Operational Expenses of \$1,000 and a new department total of \$1,209,306. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4431 Solid Waste as recommended by the Board of Finance with the following changes: reduce line item 4112 0000 Overtime to \$500,000 and line item 4189 0000 Misc. Professional Fees & Svc. to \$1,000 for a new department sub-total in Personal Services of \$1,931,168 and a new department total of \$4,654,662.

Ald. Toohey asked with respect to overtime if the majority could explain where that \$100,000 is from and where they would see savings.

Chairman Blake responded it is a year of sacrifices and that the final decision of where the overtime will be cut would be with the department head. He stated if the department head decides to reduce bulk trash, so be it.

Ald. Toohey commented overtime for bulk trash pick up is \$60,000 and that tipping fees are \$20,000 so you really would be cutting into another bulk trash pickup.

Chairman Blake stated it was Mr. Kolwicz's testimony that approximately \$90,000 is spent in overtime for bulky trash pickup.

Mayor Richetelli added that Ald. Toohey is correct in that there are bulky waste disposal fees and also city waste disposal fees that come out of these accounts and suggested the Board look at the historical data. He explained this year they estimated on the low side at \$600,000. He stated the Board should make it clear if they wish to cut bulk pick up. He also commented cutting \$100,000 would not cut just one pick up because of the contractual costs as well as an additional bulk pickup. He also commented the Board owed it to the City of Milford to let them know what they wanted to do.

Ald. Ditchkus stated he concurred with the Mayor that this Board owes it to our citizens to let them know if there will be a July or September bulk trash pick up and that someone needed to take responsibility. He also pointed out Public Works should know what the Board wants.

Chairman Blake asked if Ald. Ditchkus was offering an amended motion.

Ald. Ditchkus and Ald. Toohey moved to amend the motion to reduce line item 4112 0000 Overtime to \$540,000 and line item 4790 9950 City Waste Removal Costs to \$2,180,000 for a new department total of \$4,674,662.

Ald. Vetro requested a 5-min. recess. The Board recessed at 8:53 p.m.

Chairman Vetro reconvened at 8:58 p.m.

Ald. Vitali spoke as to the information being provided and stressed the importance of being transparent in this process and the goal the Board should strive for. He stated the public knows this will cut into the bulk pick up.

Ald. Lambert stated when they asked the director if he had to make a reduction he stated it would be bulk waste, but she stated ultimately this Board should leave it up to the director to make that decision.

Ald. Bier commented what he is hearing is that this Board is saying ultimately it will be the director's job based on the fact this Board is taking \$80,000 which coincidentally happens to be the amount of one bulk pickup. He stated he believed this Board is forcing his hand and that the majority should just come out and say that.

Ald. Toohey commented years ago there were five bulk pickups and this Board made a decision to cut it to three and it was a difficult decision then. She continued speaking regarding to what this Board previously did and the difficulty in doing so but that they had transparency in government in what they did. She stated this Board should not just dump this on the Public Works Director or tell him it is up to him to find a way to cut.

Ald. Ditchkus stated he agreed with Ald. Toohey. He expressed concern that the Board is not making the public aware of what it is going on. He continued with a lengthy statement regarding this proposed cut. He also spoke as to cutting taxes and that this Board needed to take responsibility for cutting services. He reiterated this Board needed to let the public know as soon as possible what is going to happen and that the public is owed that accountability.

Chairman Blake pointed out it is the minority's amendment to reduce this.

Ald. Ditchkus responded it was the majority's reduction in the overtime account that started this and also that he was clear where his cut was.

Ald. Blacketter commented this Board does not have the responsibility or authority on how a department spends their money. She stated the Public Works Director said this was doable.

Ald. Vetro commented as Chairman of the Public Works Committee that this Board could be assured this would be first on their agenda.

Mayor Richetelli pointed out the question that evening to the Public Works Director was if you had to cut 10% from your budget what would you do and that the Director offered that this Board could decide to eliminate bulk pickup, but the ultimate decision to do that is this Board. He stated it needed to be clear that this Board would be reducing three pickups to two. He pointed out the Public Works Director testified if you cut \$80,000 essentially there is no other way to do it except to cut a bulk pickup.

Chairman Blake referenced a Latin saying.

Ald. Manning commented it is clear from the election the taxpayers elected "us" to save money.

The amendment carried unanimously.

On the main motion, by roll call vote, the motion carried 10 yes (Blacketter, Blake, Hardiman, Lambert, Manning, Nunno, Patterson, Veccharelli, Vetro, Willey) and 5 no (Bier, Ditchkus, Giannattasio, Toohey, Vitali).

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Ditchkus made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4502 Equipment Reserve Allocation as recommended by the Board of Finance in the amount of \$20,000. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Lambert made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4503 Public Debt Service as recommended by the Board of Finance in the amount of \$5,990,144. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4610 Health Department as recommended by the Board of Finance with the following changes: reduce line item 4718 0000 Travel & Conferences to \$1,500, reduce line item 4774 0000 Postage to \$3,500, reduce line item 4783 0000 Office Supplies & Expense to \$2,000, reduce line item 4784 0000 Printing & Binding to \$750 for a new department sub-total in Operational Expenses of \$28,750 and a new department total of \$877,549. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Veccharelli made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4620 Recreation Department as recommended by the Board of Finance with the following changes: reduce line item 4774 0000 Postage to \$3,200, reduce line item 4781 0000 Duplicating Costs to \$1,200, reduce line item 4798 0000 Other Supplies & Charges to \$15,000 for a new department sub-total in Operational Expenses of \$69,700 and no new department total stated.

Ald. Vitali commented the department stated they rely on communication the most as well as postage. He questioned whether the department would have the ability to continue to communicate with the leagues, schools, etc. and stated the postage reduction should be reconsidered.

Chairman Blake responded there is nothing capricious about the reductions and noted they are substantially under budget in these accounts.

Ald. Vitali commented as to reducing taxes at any cost, including affecting services. He questioned how much we would pay to the little nickel and dime things this Board is cutting.

Ald. Patterson stated for the motion that the new department total is \$847,314.

By roll call vote, motion carried 14 yes (Bier, Blacketter, Blake, Ditchkus, Giannattasio, Hardiman, Lambert, Manning, Nunno, Patterson, Toohey, Veccharelli, Vetro, Willey) and 1 no (Vitali).

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4710 Employee Benefits as recommended by the Board of Finance with the following changes: reduce line item 4211 9909 Post Employment Benefits to \$350,000 and line item 4221 9919 Self Insurance contribution to \$9,558,581 for a new department sub-total in Employee Benefits of \$13,722,085 and no new department total stated.

Ald. Willey commented he takes exception to the OPEB reduction reciting the theme “pay me now or pay me later”. He spoke as to the \$190,000,000 liability which is growing and that a year ago this City gave away benefits and did not fund. He stated this Board just should not go in that direction. He spoke commented the Board would be passing this liability onto our kids. He stated to do that is just plain selfish, irresponsible and not the non-partisan thing to do and stated it was time to stand up and take responsibility.

Ald. Willey and Ald. Ditchkus moved to amend the motion and restore the amount of \$1,750,000 to line item 4211 9909 Post Employment Benefits.

Ald. Blacketter spoke as to a number of training sessions some of the members of this Board attended. She stated this is still a new topic and that the City's responsibility is to take incremental steps in addressing this. She also pointed out this is an increase from last year and generally in line with recommendations.

Ald. Lambert stated they deliberated and agonized over this. She also spoke as to the conference and recommendations made to Milford. She stated the most responsible thing they can do is to have a plan. She also noted it has increased from last year and also that Milford is far ahead of the average town. She stated this cut is responsible and expressed her confidence in the plan they have.

Ald. Ditchkus agreed there is a plan and that plan was presented to the previous Board. He explained what the actuaries' look at for in determining the City's bond rating. He stated it should be \$10,000,000 a year and that it is not even close to that. He also commented the sooner they get a start on this the sooner it starts earning money. He expressed concern if they don't do that soon and get close to that number in a few years when it is really needed this Board will have passed the buck onto our future generations and also we may need to bond out.

Ald. Willey stated he wished to clarify that this Board is not cutting taxes by reducing this line item. He stated if you want taxes to go down you have to cut spending. He stated he is all for low taxes, but also for lower spending and this type of a cut does not lower spending.

Mayor Richetelli spoke as to the pension fund. He stated the reason it is in the condition it is in is because it has had responsibly funded and without responsible funding it would be set on a bad course. He also reminded the Board as it had been pointed out in a recent Executive Session that a number of unions are in negotiations.

By roll call vote the amendment fails 9 no (Blacketter, Blake, Hardiman, Lambert, Manning, Nunno, Patterson, Veccharelli, Vetro) and 6 yes (Bier, Ditchkus, Giannattasio, Toohey, Vitali, Willey).

Ald. Bier asked if it were possible to make another amendment.

Chairman Blake explained the rules and responded yes.

Ald. Bier and Ald. Toohey moved to amend the motion and restore the amount of \$1,000,000 to line item 4211 9909 Post Employment Benefits.

By roll call vote the amendment fails 9 no (Blacketter, Blake, Hardiman, Lambert, Manning, Nunno, Patterson, Veccharelli, Vetro) and 6 yes (Bier, Ditchkus, Giannattasio, Toohey, Vitali, Willey).

Ald. Manning requested a 5-min. recess. The Board recessed at 9:30 p.m.

Chairman Blake reconvened the Board at 9:35 p.m.

On the main motion, by roll call vote the the motion carried 9 yes (Blacketter, Blake, Hardiman, Lambert, Manning, Nunno, Patterson, Veccharelli, Vetro) and 6 no (Bier, Ditchkus, Giannattasio, Toohey, Vitali, Willey).

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4720 Insurance and Bonds as recommended by the Board of Finance in the amount of \$3,097,757. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4740 Claims and Refunds as recommended by the Board of Finance in the amount of \$415,000. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4790 Benefit & Salary Reserve as recommended by the Board of Finance in the amount of \$26,000. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4799 Unallocated Contingency as recommended by the Board of Finance with the following change: reduce line item 4899 0000 Contingency Account to \$50,000 for a new department sub-total in General Charges of \$50,000 and a new department total of \$50,000.

Ald. Vitali requested a 5-min. recess. The Board recessed at 9:38 p.m.

Chairman Blake reconvened the Board at 9:48 p.m.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Veccharelli made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4801 Council on Aging as recommended by the Board of Finance with the following changes: reduce line item 4708 0000 Grant to \$1,340,000 and reduce line item 4783 0000 Office Supplies & Expenses to \$2,250 for a new department sub-total in Operational Expenses of \$1,346,250 and a new department total of \$1,367,750.

By roll call vote, motion carried 12 yes (Blacketter, Blake, Giannattasio, Hardiman, Lambert, Manning, Nunno, Patterson, Toohey, Veccharelli, Vetro, Willey) and 3 no (Bier, Ditchkus, Vitali).

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Lambert made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4803 Fine Arts Council as recommended by the Board of Finance with the following changes: reduce line item 4708 0000 Grant to \$71,250 for a new department total of \$71,250.

By roll call vote, motion carried 12 yes (Bier, Blacketter, Blake, Hardiman, Lambert, Manning, Nunno, Patterson, Toohey, Veccharelli, Vetro, Willey) and 3 no (Ditchkus, Giannattasio Vitali).

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Veccharelli made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4805 C-MED as recommended by the Board of Finance with the following changes: line item 4708 0000 Grant increase to \$93,360 for a new department sub-total in Operational Expenses and a new department total of \$93,360.

Ald. Ditchkus raised a point of order stating this is an increase and would require a 2/3 vote to increase.

Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Lambert made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4807 Regional Mental Health Board as recommended by the Board of Finance in the amount of \$2,996. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Veccharelli made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4811 Borough of Woodmont as recommended by the Board of Finance with the following changes: reduce line item 4708 0000 Grant to \$168,000.

Ald. Ditchkus commented regarding a remark during the public session with the Burgess asking what he could do with 10% more if this number if the number was negative what would happen with a 10% cut. Ald. Ditchkus stated this number is a number negotiated in good faith with the Mayor.

By roll call vote, motion fails 7 yes (Blake, Hardiman, Lambert, Manning, Nunno, Patterson, Veccharelli) and 8 no (Bier, Blacketter, Ditchkus, Giannattasio, Toohey, Vetro, Vitali, Willey).

Ald. Toohey and Ald. Ditchkus made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4811 borough of Woodmont as recommended by the Board of Finance with the following changes: reduce line item 4708 0000 Grant to \$175,000.

By roll call vote, motion carried 12 yes (Bier, Blacketter, Blake, Giannattasio, Hardiman, Lambert, Patterson, Toohey, Veccharelli, Vetro, Vitali, Willey) and 3 no (Ditchkus, Manning, Nunno).

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4812 Transit Authority as recommended by the Board of Finance with the following changes: reduce line item 4708 0000 Grant to \$345,242 for a new department sub-total in Operational Expenses of \$345,242 and a new department total of \$345,242. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Lambert made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4813 Bridges Community Support as recommended by the Board of Finance with the following changes: reduce line item 4708 0000 Grant to \$372,500 for a new department sub-total in Operation Expenses of \$372,500 and a new department total of \$372,500.

Ald. Vitali commented in the advent of Cola being taken or not given to the non-profits a small cut would go a long way. He stated Bridges or other non-profits cannot sustain this cut and that he is opposed to this cut. He implored the Board to please understand there is no Cola to any non-profit this year.

Ald. Veccharelli stated he agreed with Ald. Vitali, but he had a sheet in front of him where the Republican aldermen are proposing a further cut that is not as deep as the Democrats cut. He noted the Republicans are proposing an amount of \$365,000.

Ald. Lambert stated she too agreed with Ald. Vitali but spoke as to the other contributions they receive. She stated when making this reduction the majority tried to keep it small as any other cut would have been too great.

Ald. Vitali responded any other contribution goes to offset services in those towns. He stated this cut would affect Milford directly. He stated he would like to see the amount maintained at the level recommended by the Board of Finance.

Ald. Ditchkus stated a comment was made about the Republicans cutting this further. He stated everyone is feeling the pinch. He stated other towns needed to step up a little more and that is concern is that other towns pay their fair share.

Ald. Ditchkus and Ald. Toohey moved to amend the motion and reduce line item 4708 0000 to \$365,000 for a new department sub-total of \$365,000 and a new department sub-total of \$365,000.

Ald. Lambert commented through the Chair to Mr. Ditchkus there have never been harder times than the people that Bridges services. She stated she would not make any further reduction.

By roll call vote, the amendment fails 10 no (Blacketter, Blake, Hardiman, Lambert, Manning, Nunno, Patterson, Veccharelli, Vetro, Vitali) and 5 yes (Bier, Ditchkus, Giannattasio, Toohey, Willey).

Ald. Vitali and Ald. Veccharelli moved to amend the motion and restore the amount of \$375,000 to line item 4708 0000 Grant as recommended by the Board of Finance.

By roll call vote, the amendment fails 12 no (Bier, Blacketter, Blake, Ditchkus, Giannattasio, Lambert, Manning, Nunno, Patterson, Toohey, Vetro, Willey) and 3 yes (Hardiman, Veccharelli, Vitali).

On the main motion, by roll call vote, motion carried 12 yes (Bier, Blacketter, Blake, Giannattasio, Hardiman, Lambert, Manning, Nunno, Patterson, Veccharelli, Vetro, Willey) and 3 no (Ditchkus, Toohey, Vitali).

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Hardiman made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4815 Veterans Graves as recommended by the Board of Finance in the amount of \$2,850. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Hardiman made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4816 Milford Flotilla 73 as recommended by the Board of Finance in the amount of \$7,500. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Hardiman made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4817 Human Services Department as recommended by the Board of Finance with the following changes: reduce line item 4708 0000 Grant, Human Services to \$197,500 and line item 4710 0000 Grant, Youth & Family Services to \$219,500 for a new department sub-total in Operational Expenses of \$425,000 and a new department total of \$425,000.

Ald. Ditchkus and Ald. Toohey moved to amend the motion and reduce line item 4710 0000 Grant, Youth & Family Services to \$216,000 for a new department sub-total in Operational Expenses of \$413,500 and a new department total of \$413,500.

Ald. Vitali stated this Board couldn't afford to cut any of our Youth & Family Services. He spoke as to the societal ills, disrespect, etc.

Ald. Manning stated she agreed with Ald. Vitali adding the amount is less than allocated last year.

By roll call vote the amendment fails 5 yes (Bier, Ditchkus, Giannattasio, Toohey, Willey) and 10 no (Blacketter, Blake, Hardiman, Lambert, Manning, Nunno, Patterson, Veccharelli, Vetro, Vitali).

On the main motion, by roll call vote, motion carried 9 yes (Blacketter, Blake, Hardiman, Lambert, Manning, Nunno, Patterson, Veccharelli, Vetro) and 6 no (Bier, Ditchkus, Giannattasio, Toohey, Vitali, Willey).

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Veccharelli made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4818 Historic District as recommended by the Board of Finance in the amount of \$715. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4819 Milford Progress Inc. as recommended by the Board of Finance with the following changes: reduce line item 4708 0000 Grant to \$13,500 for a new sub-total in Operational Expenses of \$13,500 and a new department total of \$13,500.

By roll call vote, motion carried 9 yes (Blacketter, Blake, Hardiman, Lambert, Manning, Nunno, Patterson, Veccharelli, Vetro) and 6 no (Bier, Ditchkus, Giannattasio, Toohey, Vitali, Willey).

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Nunno made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4820 Historic District II as recommended by the Board of Finance in the amount of \$715. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Nunno made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4821 Health Services/VNA as recommended by the Board of Finance in the amount of \$41,000. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Nunno made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4822 Cemetery Association as recommended by the Board of Finance in the amount of \$9,500. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Nunno made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4823 Patriotic Organization Association as recommended by the Board of Finance in the amount of \$9,500. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4825 Homeless Shelter CPAC as recommended by the Board of Finance with the following changes: reduce line item 4708 0000 Grant to \$62,500 for a new department sub-total in Operational Expenses of \$62,500 and a new department total of \$62,500.

Ald. Blacketter noted for the records the organization is no longer CPAC and just Beth El Shelter.

Ald. Vitali commented the non-profits are taking a hit. He spoke as to the excellent work they do. He stated although it is a small cut it would have an impact.

By roll call vote, motion carried 12 yes (Bier, Blacketter, Blake, Giannattasio, Hardiman, Lambert, Manning, Nunno, Patterson, Veccharelli, Vetro, Willey) and 3 no (Ditchkus, Toohey, Vitali).

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4992 Private School Textbook State Mandate as recommended by the Board of Finance with the following changes: reduce

line item 4708 0000 Grant to \$0 for a new department sub-total in Operational Expenses of \$0 and a new department total of \$0.

Ald. Toohey commented this City gives very little to the private schools. She stated she could not accept taking from \$21,270 to \$0 and that she was not in favor of this cut and would not support it.

Ald. Lambert stated she agreed and reiterated we do very little for the private schools.

Ald. Vitali commented he did not believe this is a state mandate. He noted we provide busing, nurses and resources but it is a small price to pay. He also commented if the private schools were out of business we would have a price to pay far in excess of \$21,270, a small price and a good gesture.

Ald. Ditchkus stated there are over 700 children that would go to the public school system and we would be in big trouble and that the taxpayers would pay double. He commented those individuals pay for private school and also pay taxes. He also commented he did not use the bus service. He stated it is really a small price to pay when you consider the amount the city would have to pay to handle the influx of children.

Ald. Ditchkus and Ald. Toohey moved to amend the motion and restore the amount of \$21,270 to line item 4708 0000 Grant as recommended by the Board of Finance.

By roll call vote, motion to restore the funds carries 9 yes (Bier, Blacketter, Ditchkus, Giannattasio, Lambert, Manning, Patterson, Toohey, Vitali) and 6 no (Blake, Hardiman, Nunno, Veccharelli, Vetro, Willey).

Ald. Veccharelli stated he wished to go on record as saying he has sympathy for private schools that are suffering and have hardship, but he is trying to be responsible to the taxpayer. He stated it is a philosophical difference and that they are not part of the City schools and also is \$21,270. He stated this Board has cut \$2,000 here and \$2,000 here and noted this Board is not mandated to provide the money. He stated the \$21,000 would not break the City but could open a Pandora's box. He stated he could not support this.

Ald. Ditchkus responded Ald. Veccharelli was correct in stating they are not part of the City schools, but many of those children, their parents are taxpayers and they do receive all the benefits. He reiterated they are still taxpayers and voters of this town.

Ald. Veccharelli stated it is not that the City of Milford see this is a hardship, but currently the Board of Education gives them their used text books to the private schools and that we currently offer the City of Milford's books to the private schools and that it is like an exchange program that we offer. He stated this is just another line item on the city side.

Ald. Vitali stated he wished to set the record straight. He stated the Board of Education does not give outdated/used books to the private schools. He stated it would be a greater burden if those schools went under and we had to educate all those children. He reiterated the Board of Education does not give outdated books to the private schools.

Ald. Lambert spoke as to Connecticut General Statutes §10-228 that states they may borrow books currently in use.

By roll call vote the main motion carried 10 yes (Bier, Blacketter, Ditchkus, Giannattasio, Hardiman, Lambert, Manning, Patterson, Toohey, Vitali) and 5 no (Blake, Nunno, Veccharelli, Vetro, Willey).

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4994 Education Audit Fees as recommended by the Board of Finance in the amount of \$21,580. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4993 School Debt as recommended by the Board of Finance in the amount of \$3,691,653. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4995 Employee Benefits, Non-Teaching as recommended by the Board of Finance in the amount of \$1,038,946. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Ditchkus requested a 5-min. recess. The Board recessed at 10:33 p.m.

Chairman Blake reconvened the Board at 10:42 p.m.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to increase the budget for Acct. 0010 4996 Education Operations to \$81,826,621.

By roll call vote, motion carried 10 yes (Blacketter, Blake, Hardiman, Lambert, Manning, Nunno, Patterson, Veccharelli, Vetro, Vitali) and 5 no (Bier, Ditchkus, Giannattasio, Toohey, Willey).

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4997 Education Health Insurance Contribution as recommended by the Board of Finance with the following changes: reduce line item 4221 0000 Contribution, Self Insurance Fund to \$15,237,621 for a new department sub-total in Employee Fringe Benefits of \$15,237,621 and a new department total of \$15,237,621.

Ald. Ditchkus asked if the numbers could be re-read.

Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Lambert made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4998 Education Health Services: School Nurses as recommended by the Board of Finance with the following changes: reduce line item 4117 0000 Seasonal/Temporary to \$23,000 for a new department sub-total in Personal Services of \$1,253,444; and reduce line item 4775 0000 Office Equipment Upkeep to \$500 for a new department sub-total in Operational Expenses of \$41,750; and reduce line item 4977 0190 Computer to \$2,775 for a new department sub-total in Capital Outlays of \$3,850 with no new department total provided. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0012 4154 Sewer Commission as recommended by the Board of Finance in the amount of \$786,115. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Lambert made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0012 4426 Wastewater as recommended by the Board of Finance with the following changes: reduce line item 4417 0000 Tools & Tool Upkeep to \$3,000, reduce line item 4442 0000 Electricity to \$1,500,000, reduce line item 4450 0000 Building Repairs to \$9,000, reduce line item 4471 0000 Buildings & Grounds Supplies to \$130,000 for a new department sub-total in Property Upkeep of \$1,822,450; and reduce line item 4517 0000 Sewer Line Maintenance to \$50,000 for a new department sub-total in Street & Highway Upkeep of \$85,000; and reduce line item 4775 0000 Office Equipment Upkeep to \$2,500 for a new department sub-total in Operational Expenses of \$957,200 with no new department total provided. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve the Revenue for Acct. 0012 0000 Sewer Fund for \$6,636,520.

Mayor Richetelli interjected and stated the Board could not do that because the revenue needed to match the expenditure.

Ms. Doneiki stated the new expenditure is \$6,563,520 and the new department total is \$4,961,520 and the sewer use fee \$6,563,520. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0036 4157 Harbor Commission as recommended by the Board of Finance in the amount of \$341,510. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve the Marina Enterprise Revenue Acct. 0036 4157 in the amount of \$341,510. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson moved to approve the budget for Acct. 0018 4121 Golf Course (Expenditures) as recommended by the Board of Finance in the amount of \$70,000. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Hardiman made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0018 4121 Golf Course (Revenues) as recommended by the Board of Finance in the amount of \$70,000. Motion carried unanimously.

The Board recessed at 11:00 p.m. Chairman Blake reconvened the Board at 11:07 p.m.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 0000 General Fund Revenue as recommended by the Board of Finance with the following changes: reduce line item 3112 0000 Prior Year Taxes to \$1,600,000; reduce line item 3206 0000 Disposal Area Licenses to \$55,000 for a new department sub-total in Licenses & Permits of \$65,700; and increase line item 3516 0000 Transportation to \$197,720 and increase line item 3517 0000 Education Cost Sharing to \$10,728,519 for a new department sub-total in State Education Grants of \$11,765,939; and reduce line item 3643 0000 State Realty to \$638,288, reduce line item 3643 0001 State Realty – Pequot to \$616,282, reduce line item 3647 0000 Private Exemptions to \$520,020 for a new department sub-total in State PILOT Grants of \$4,066,794; and increase line item 3657 0000 Telephone Access Line Grant to \$271,000 for a new department sub-total in General Purpose State Grants of \$271,000; and reduce line item 3711 0001 Conveyance Tax to \$750,000 for a new department sub-total in General Service Revenue of \$12,258,849; and reduce line item 3721 0000 Fire Department Fees to \$1,000; and line item 3727 0000 False Alarm Fines to \$35,000 and line item 3727 0001 Fire Dept. Alarm Fines to \$1,300

for a new department sub-total in Public Safety Revenue of \$1,069,413; reduce line item 3751 0000 Planning & Zoning Fees to \$25,000; reduce line item 3752 0000 Zoning Appeals to \$13,000 for a new department sub-total in Boards & Commissions Fees of \$94,998; and reduce line item 3403 0000 Investment of Idle Funds to \$700,000 for a new department sub-total of \$866,545 in Use of Money & Property; and reduce line item 3901 0000 Appropriated Fund Balance to \$1,750 for a new department sub-total in General Long Term Liability Proceeds of \$1,750,000 and new department total given.

Ald. Ditchkus asked the Finance Director through the Chair the impact of the \$250,000 increase to line item 3901 0000 and what that would do to the appropriated fund balance.

Ms. Doneiko responded this is a projected number and cautioned the Board this is just a projection of where the department heads expect to end up. She continued with a lengthy explanation of how they arrive at the year-end, where the year started transfers to that account.

Ald. Ditchkus stated he thought the recommendation was always to keep it at 7.0% to keep a higher bond rating.

Ms. Doneiko explained the AA bond rating the City has held for years which is 8%. She explained how that number is determined and the factors that go into the bond rating.

Ald. Ditchkus asked if the recommendation is 7-8%.

Ms. Doneiko responded yes, it should be in the 7-8% range. She stated right now they are on the cusp, but that there had been some changes today. She reiterated the numbers were based on estimates from the department heads.

Chairman Blake stated he sat down with the Finance Director and she reduced what the Board of Finance recommended by \$2,500,000 and it was still over the 7.5%. He stated tonight the Board has made about \$3,000,000 in total cuts so they should still be over the 7.5%.

Ald. Ditchkus commented even if they are at 7% the city should still be higher then by taking more out of the fund balance. He stated he felt they are on the border and that it was more prudent to keep it at the recommended fund balance. He also spoke as to a AA bond rating and maintaining that type of rating which keeps good interest rates.

Ald. Ditchkus and Ald. Toohey moved to amend the motion by keep line item 3901 0000 Appropriated Fund Balance at \$1,500,000 as recommended by the Board of Finance.

By roll call vote, the amendment fails 9 no (Blacketter, Blake, Hardiman, Lambert, Manning, Nunno, Patterson, Veccharelli, Vetro) and 6 yes (Bier, Ditchkus, Giannattasio, Toohey, Vitali, Willey).

On the main motion, by roll call vote motion carried 9 yes (Blacketter, Blake, Hardiman, Lambert, Manning, Nunno, Patterson, Veccharelli, Vetro) and 6 no (Bier, Ditchkus, Giannattasio, Toohey, Vitali, Willey).

The Board recessed at 11:22 p.m.

Chairman Blake reconvened the Board at 12:27 a.m.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to waive the reading of the Ordinance in its entirety. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve An Ordinance establishing a budget for the City of Milford for fiscal year 2008-2009, setting the mill rate and establishing a due date in accordance with the provisions of the Connecticut General Statutes and the Charter of the City of Milford.

Whereas: The Board of Finance of the City of Milford has made estimates of the income and the amount of money necessary to appropriate for the expenses of the City of Milford for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2008 and ending June 30, 2009, and has classified such expenses under appropriate headings, departments, and appropriations as more fully appears in the proposed Fiscal Budget submitted to the Board of Aldermen in accordance with Article VI, Section 2 of the Charter of the City of Milford; and,

Whereas: The Board of Aldermen, having met and conducted a public hearing, has considered said proposed fiscal budget and has made changes therein pursuant to Article VI, Section 3 of the Charter of the City of Milford; and,

Whereas: The Board of Aldermen, in its deliberations and voting on said budget, has estimated revenues for the 2008-2009 fiscal year in the amount of \$172,125,308 and authorized appropriations for the 2008-2009 fiscal year in the amount of \$172,125,308.

Now, therefore, be it and it is hereby ordained and enacted by the Board of Aldermen of the City of Milford as follows:

That the proposed fiscal budget for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2008 and ending June 30, 2009, as amended by the action of the Board of Aldermen pursuant to law, is hereby adopted and ordered to be filed with the City Clerk.

That taxes for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2008 and ending June 30, 2009, at the rate of 28.23 mills upon the ratable estate within the limits of the City of Milford, are hereby laid and levied to meet the expenses of said budget. Said mill rate is set on the predication that it is estimated that \$544,211 of said levy will be granted for Elderly Exemptions (State of Connecticut), \$860,000 will be granted for a local tax relief program for the elderly, \$752,792 will be granted for a local tax relief program for Veterans and 97.85% of the resulting levy will be collected during the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2008 and ending June 30, 2009. Said taxes shall be paid on the Grand List of October 1, 2007 and shall be due and payable on July 1, 2008, provided that if the taxes of any person shall exceed Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00), the first installment thereof, but not less than on-half of the amount of such taxes shall be due and payable on the first day of July 2008 and the remainder due and payable on the first day of January 2009, but any taxpayer may pay the total amount of the tax for which he or she is liable at the time when the first installment shall become payable. Such tax rate shall apply to all districts of the City of Milford.

<u>TAXES TO BE RAISED</u>	<u>\$143,525,499</u>
<u>TOTAL APPROPRIATION</u>	<u>\$172,125,308</u>
<u>TOTAL REVENUE</u>	<u>\$172,125,308</u>

This Ordinance shall take effect in accordance with the Charter of the City of Milford.

Ald. Toohey in summing up tonight's meeting stated she believed the taxpayers deserved responsible government. She stated to cut the City side of the budget as greatly as we did and to be less than what our City came in last year is irresponsible and giving back to the Board of Education to be at a 5% increase. She stated there would not have been layoffs in the Board of Education. She stated what was done is not fiscally responsible or responsive to future debt and will ultimately add undue restraint to our taxpayers. She stated she could not in good conscious vote for this budget.

Ald. Willey spoke as to the opportunities this Board had this evening and that the Board should have funded OPEB and have just pushed off our debt to future years. He also spoke as to the way funding was cut and that you needed to cut spending to cut taxes. He stated he too would vote against this budget.

Ald. Ditchkus commented there are many things in this budget he could support and many he cannot and things in this budget that will hurt the taxpayers in the long run. He stated the reality is we have only shifted things around and it will catch up to us next year. He also stated he did not want to see the City's bond rating go down. He also stated this Board owed it to the taxpayers to be fiscally responsible and not irresponsible with their money. He also stated this would catch up to our kids and that somebody will have to pay eventually.

Chairman Blake thanked everyone in getting through this budget process. He also pointed out the organizational chart in the City and stated the electorate asked for less spending and it is less than a 1% increase this year.

By roll call vote, motion carried 9 yes (Blacketter, Blake, Hardiman, Lambert, Manning, Nunno, Patterson, Veccharelli, Vetro) and 6 no (Bier, Ditchkus, Giannattasio, Toohey, Vitali, Willey).

Ald. Ditchkus and Ald. Vetro moved to adjourn at 12:36 a.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen K. Huber
Board Secretary