

**BOARD OF ALDERMEN
BUDGET DELIBERATIONS SESSION
MAY 19, 2009**

The Board of Aldermen held a budget deliberation session on Tuesday, May 19, 2009 in the Board of Education Conference Room in the Parsons Complex Re: Consideration and Voting on the proposed 2009-2010 Milford General Budget. Chairman Blake asked Chief LaVecchia to lead the pledge of allegiance.

1. Roll Call

Board Members Present

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

Also Present

Mayor J. Richetelli, Jr.
J. Doneiko, Finance Director
L. Bull DiLullo, Mayor's Admin. Asst.
A. Jepson, City Clerk

Ald. Ditchkus and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to come out of recess at 7:39 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Blake stated tonight is the final step in the budget process. He thanked the Mayor, Department Heads, Finance Director and her staff as well as the Board of Finance, Dr. Polansky and his staff and the Board of Education. He noted the presence tonight of Board of Education members David Hourigan, Chairman, Greta Stanford, Majority Leader and Joanne Rohrig, Minority Leader and extended a thank you to each of them as well. Chairman Blake also thanked the members of the Board of Aldermen who he stated have put in many days and hours. He stated each year is difficult and they are asked to understand all the needs and wants of each department as well as the 54,000 citizens in Milford noting this year there were a series of fiscal crises that jolted the foundation of our economy. He also stated they needed to give special consideration to our City employees that have lost jobs, lost savings and still the Board needs to find balance between our citizens, students and senior citizens and adopt a budget. He stated the Democratic reductions were prudent, responsible and necessary and yields the best results for our City.

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 4168 0000 Secretarial Fees reduce to \$6,500 for a new sub-total in *Personal Services* of \$6,500; and line item 4774 0000

Postage reduce to \$200 with a new subtotal in *Operational Expenses* of \$350 and a new department total of \$6,850. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Hardiman made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4112 Elections as recommended by the Board of Finance with the following changes: line item 4710 0000 Election Expenses reduce to \$65,000 for a new sub-total in *Election Expenses* of \$65,000 and a new department total of \$65,000. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson 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 4111 0000 Regular Wages reduce to \$99,822, line item 4113 0000 Voter Registration reduce to \$1,200, line item 4117 0000 Seasonal/Temporary reduce to \$12,500 for a new sub-total in *Personal Services* of \$125,729; line item 4714 0000 Other Mileage & Parking reduce to \$50, line item 4718 0000 Travel & Conferences reduce to \$250, line item 4774 0000 Postage reduce to \$1,500, line item 4783 0000 Office Supplies & Expenses reduce to \$1,250, line item 4784 0000 Printing & Binding reduce to \$1,000 for a new sub-total in *Operational Expenses* of \$4,250; and line item 4977 0529 Office Furniture reduce to \$0 for a new sub-total in *Capital Outlays* of \$1,600 and a new department total of \$131,579. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Blake stated because the vast number of residents and children present are for the Education budget he stated he would entertain a motion to re-order the agenda.

Ald. Nunno and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to re-order the agenda and bring forward Acct. 0010 4996 Education Operations. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4996 Education Operations as recommended by the Board of Finance with the following change: reduce lump sum appropriation to read \$82,929,000.

Ald. Ditchkus and Ald. Toohey made and seconded a motion to amend the motion to reduce the lump sum appropriation to read \$82,446,000.

Chairman Blake asked for clarification purposes the amount of reduction reflected in dollars.

Ald. Ditchkus responded \$600,000.

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

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

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Toohey made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4116 Milford Gov't Access TV as recommended by the Board of Finance with the following changes: line item 4189 0001 Government Cable Service reduce to \$12,500 for a new sub-total in *Personal Services* of \$13,000; and line item 4149 0000 Special Equipment Servicing reduce to \$100, line item 4783 0000 Office Supplies & Expenses

reduce to \$100 for a new sub-total in *Operational Expenses* of \$200 and a new department total of \$13,200. 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 4111 0000 Regular Wages reduce to \$243,125 for a new sub-total in *Personal Services* of \$244,841; and line item 4718 0000 Travel & Conferences reduce to \$500, line item 4774 0000 Postage reduce to \$1,200, line item 4775 0000 Office Equipment Upkeep reduce to \$200, line item 4781 0000 Duplicating Costs reduce to \$300, line item 4783 0000 Office Supplies & Expenses reduce to \$500 for a new sub-total in *Operational Expenses* of \$3,100; and line item 4977 0126 Chairs reduce to \$0, line item 4977 0190 Computer reduce to \$1,500 for a new sub-total in *Capital Outlays* of \$1,500 and a new department total of \$252,241.

Ald. Willey commented regarding the contractual wage adjustment, he stated it was explained the obligation was by contract.

Ald. Manning explained this is the non-rep contracted positions. She stated they were just taking out a bonus enacted years ago.

Mayor Richetelli asked for a point of clarification that the majority was saying the contractual wage adjustment for the entire unionized worker would remain but the 40 plus employees not represented would receive a \$300 pay cut.

Chairman Blake responded not all of the unionized positions receive that \$300. He stated the fire department does not.

Mayor Richetelli stated he was hearing that the 40 plus employees who would receive a pay cut were being penalized for not being in a union.

Ald. Manning stated they were not being penalized for not being in a union, but that they could not take that out of the contract.

Mayor Richetelli stated it sounded clear if you were not in a union you will receive a cut, which in essence is a penalty.

Chairman Blake reiterated the fire department does not get it.

Mayor Richetelli also noted most of the postage accounts throughout the budget were reduced. He pointed out last week postage increased to .44 and questioned how these departments would pay for an increase with a reduction.

Chairman Blake responded it is a reflection of the times and that most use e-mail which is effective as compared to "snail mail".

Ald. Vitali commented historically concerning union negotiations. He stated there is a problem and expressed concern as to the affect.

Ald. Nunno stated there is a very large unionized group that does not receive this adjustment. He stated they did not singling out non-unionized employees.

Ald. Vitali commented to put something on the table and then take it off is a powerful piece. He asked if they have any repercussions.

Ald. Blacketter stated this originally was proposed under certain circumstances that have not followed forward.

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 4187 0000 CCM Data Service reduce to \$0 for a new sub-total in *Personal Services* of \$70,000; line item 4702 0000 Budget & Reports reduce to \$4,000, line item 4771 0000 Advertising reduce to \$4,000, line item 4781 0000 Duplicating costs reduce to \$47,000, line item 4798 0000 Other Supplies & Charges reduce to \$1,000 for a new sub-total in *Operational Expenses* of \$169,400; line item 4871 0000 CCM Annual Levy reduce to \$0, line item 4879 0000 Miscellaneous Expenses reduce to \$1,000 for a new sub-total in *General Charges* of \$42,850; and line item 4989 0001 General Items reduce to \$500, line item 4998 0014 Respect Campaign reduce to \$1,500, line item 4998 9956 400th Celebration reduce to \$1,000 for a new sub-total in *Capital Outlays* of \$51,000 and a new department total of \$333,250.

Mayor Richetelli stated part of the motion removed dues for CCM. He stated as it has been discussed he believes CCM is a valuable tool for the City and that the dues come back to the City in many ways, such as the contract the City has for reduced electric rates. He stated Mr. Finley CCM Director was present.

Chairman Blake asked Mr. Finley if he would like to comment.

Mr. Finley stated Milford has been a continuing member since CCM's founding 43 years ago. He stated the City has saved \$276,000 which is eight times the dues fees. Mr. Finley stated they believed they provided full service. He also spoke of the need for municipalities to stand together and the investment the City benefits from by staying with CCM.

Mayor Richetelli asked about the City's contract for electric rates and how it would be affected.

Mr. Finley stated the City would still get the benefits from that program until it expires.

Ald. Blacketter requested a 5 minute recess. The Board recessed at 8:07 p.m.

Chairman Blake reconvened the meeting in public session at 8:14 p.m.

Ms. Doneiko noted a technical change to the budget concerning the personal property audit in the amount of \$66,667. She explained how that would work beginning next month.

Chairman Blake added this is reflected on the revenue side.

Ald. Ditchkus and Ald. Toohey made and seconded a motion to amend the main motion \$66,667 as part of the Finance Director's technical change. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Ditchkus and Ald. Toohey made and seconded a motion to amend the main motion as follows: line item 4187 0000 CCM Data Service restore the account as to the recommendation of the Board of Finance \$2,300 for new sub-total in *Personal Service* \$72,300; and line item 4871 0000 CCM Annual Levy restore that account as to the recommendation of the Board of Finance \$35,600 for a new sub-total in *General Charges* of \$78,450.

Ald. Ditchkus stated he believes the taxpayers have benefited from these accounts, noting the savings from the electrical costs alone. He stated it is wise business to spend \$35,000 to save over \$200,000 adding it would be a disservice to the taxpayer. He reiterated this is a business practice. He stated they needed to look at the overall adding this would catch up to the taxpayer.

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

Ms. Doneiko noted the new department total in the amount of \$437,817.

On the main motion, motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Nunno made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4123 Community Development as recommended by the Board of Finance with the following changes: line item 4111 0000 Regular Wages reduce to \$93,136 for a new sub-total in *Personal Services* of \$93,601 and a new department total of \$102,001.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson 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 4111 0000 Regular Wages reduce to \$320,920, line item 4156 0000 Vital Statistics reduce to \$500 for a new sub-total in *Personal Services* of \$336,168; and line item 4783 0000 Office Supplies & Expenses reduce to \$1,500 for a new sub-total in *Operational Expenses* of \$41,155; and line item 4977 0109 Typewriter reduce to \$0 for a new sub-total in *Capital Outlays* of \$1,208 and a new department total of \$378,531. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson 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: line item 4111 0000 Regular Wages reduce to \$385,946, line item 4111 0000 Seasonal/Temporary reduce to \$1,000 for a new sub-total in *Personal Services* of \$529,073; and line item 4713 0000 Membership reduce to \$1,500, 4714 0000 Mileage/Parking reduce to \$150, line item 4718 0000 Travel & Conferences reduce to \$500, line item 4772 0000 Publications reduce to \$2,500, line item 4774 0000 Postage reduce to \$1,000, line item 4783 0000 Office Supplies & Expenses reduce to \$1,500 for a new sub-total in *Operational Expenses* of \$8,050; and line item 4977 0115 Law Books reduce to \$5,000, line item 4990 0501 Furniture, Fixtures & Equipment reduce to \$0 for a new sub-total in *Capital Outlays* of \$5,000 and a new department total of \$542,123.

Mayor Richetelli noted the change in the table of organization for what the account has.

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: line item 4712 0000

Training Expenses reduce to \$500 for a new sub-total in *Operational Expenses* of \$3,900 and a new department total of \$3,900. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson 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 \$13,205. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Veccharelli 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. Toohey 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: line item 4180 0000 Other Professional Services reduce to \$1,500 for a new sub-total in *Personal Services* of \$339,788; and line item 4718 0000 Travel & Conferences reduce to \$500, line item 4771 0000 Advertising reduce to \$8,500, line item 4772 0000 Publications reduce to \$750, line item 4783 0000 Office Supplies & Expenses reduce to \$3,000, line item 4784 0000 Printing & Binding reduce to \$3,000 for a new sub-total in *Operational Expenses* of \$22,325 and a new department total of \$366,113. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Toohey made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4143 Board of Assessment Appeals as recommended by the Board of Finance with the following changes: line item 4117 0000 Seasonal/Temporary reduce to \$500, line item 4170 0000 Other Remuneration reduce to \$500 for a new sub-total in *Personal Services* of \$1,000; and line item 4771 0000 Advertising reduce to \$400 for a new sub-total in *Operational Expenses* of \$570 and a new department total of \$1,570. 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: line item 4771 0000 Advertising reduce to \$12,500, line item 4783 0000 Office Supplies & Expenses reduce to \$250 for a new sub-total in *Operational Expenses* of \$13,475 and a new department total of \$13,975. 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 with the following changes: line item 4168 0000 Secretarial Fees reduce to \$900 for a new sub-total in *Personal Services* of \$3,530 and a new department total of \$3,530. 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 in the amount of \$53. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson 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: line item 4168 0000 Secretarial Fees reduce to \$600 for a new sub-total in *Personal Services* of \$600; and reduce line item 4718 0000 Travel & Conferences reduce to \$1 for a new sub-total in *Operational Expenses* of \$176 and a new department total of \$1,276. 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. Hardiman 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. Patterson 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: line item 4168 0000 Secretarial Fees reduce to \$800 for a new sub-total in *Personal Services* of \$800; and line item 4712 0000 Training Expenses reduce to \$200 for a new sub-total in *Operational Expenses* of \$305 and a new department total of \$1,105. 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: line item 4771 0000 Advertising reduce to \$3,000, line item 4783 0000 Office Supplies & Expenses reduce to \$1,000 for a new sub-total in *Operational Expenses* of \$8,335 and a new department total of \$112,178. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4159 Fowler Memorial Commission as recommended by the Board of Finance with the following changes: line item 4168 0000 Secretarial Fees reduce to \$350 for a new sub-total in *Personal Services* of \$350; line item 4783 0000 Office Supplies & Expenses reduce to \$50 for a new sub-total in *Operational Expenses* of \$50 and a new department total of \$400. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Hardiman 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 in the amount 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. Nunno 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: line item 4111 0000 Regular Wages reduce to \$730,253, line item 4117 0000 Seasonal/Temporary reduce to \$75,000 for a new sub-total in *Personal Services* of \$818,182; and line item 4718 0000 Travel & Conferences reduce to \$500, line item 4783 0000 Office Supplies & Expenses reduce to \$7,500, line item 4787 0000 Book Supplies/Expenses reduce to \$10,300, line item 4798 0000 Other Supplies & Charges reduce to \$500 for a new sub-total in *Operational Expenses* of \$83,150 and a new department total of \$1,025,382.

Mayor Richetelli asked for clarification regarding the reduction in the Seasonal/Temporary account, if it was the Board's intent to eliminate Saturday hours.

Ald. Blacketter responded no.

Mayor Richetelli pointed out with the reduction of Seasonal/Temporary that could be the effect.

Motion carried unanimously.

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: line item 4111 0000 Regular Wages reduce to \$1,388,271, line item 4112 0000 Overtime reduce to \$6,500, line item 4189 0000 Misc. Professional Fees & Svcs. Reduce to \$20,650 for a new sub-total in *Personal Services* of \$1,427,380; and line item 4712 0000 Training Expenses reduce to \$3,500, line item 4718 0000 Travel & Conferences reduce to \$3,500, line item 4752 0000 Revaluation Operations reduce to \$30,000, line item 4771 0000 Advertising reduce to \$12,000, line item 4772 0000 Publications reduce to \$2,450, line item 4784 0000 Printing & Binding reduce to \$40,000 for a new sub-total in *Operational Expenses* of \$183,980; and line item 4977 0130 Office chair reduce to \$0, line item 4977 0190 Computers reduce to \$5,000 for a new sub-total in *Capital Outlays* of \$5,000 and a new department total of \$1,617,760.

Ald. Vitali through the Chairman asked the Finance Director the impact of these reductions on her department.

Ms. Doneiko replied they would not be able to proceed with updating their computers. She stated the idea of upgrading was to move toward paperless. She stated the Seasonal/Temporary account is used primarily for the tax collector to send notification to the State DMV. She also stated \$18,000 in fees is associated with foreclosure sales. With the reduction she stated they would not be able to do that.

Ald. Vitali commented the anomaly here seems to be we make other departments paperless, but not the Finance Department.

Ms. Doneiko stated they will not be able to give up the practice of typing vouchers. With regard to the foreclosure properties, she stated the tax collector would not be able to pay the associated fees.

Ald. Ditchkus asked the approximate number of foreclosures.

Ms. Doneiko replied she did not have that number with her, but it is approximately 18 and they would not be able to compute those numbers.

Ald. Manning commented last year this Board approved a budget for a software package.

Ms. Doneiko explained the enormous projects, stating there are well over 1,000 projects. She continued with an explanation as to what happens when this Board approves a bond and the work involved for these departments. She pointed out they have been short staffed all along. She also stated her staff is smaller than most towns half the size of Milford.

Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Nunno 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: line item 4111 0000 Regular Wages reduce to \$433,755, line item 4189 0000 Professional Fees reduce to

\$15,000 for a new sub-total in *Personal Services* \$454,417; line item 4712 0000 Training Expenses reduce to \$2,500, line item 4718 0000 Travel & Conferences reduce to \$500, line item 4796 0000 Software & Maintenance reduce to \$132,255, 4798 0000 Other Supplies & Charges reduce to \$2,000 for a new sub-total in *Operational Expenses* of \$178,349; and line item 4777 0193 Server, computer reduce to \$6,000 for a new sub-total in *Capital Outlays* \$7,155 and a new department total of \$638,121. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson 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: line item 4111 0000 Regular Wages reduce to \$229,321 for a new sub-total in *Personal Services* \$242,418; line item 4771 0000 Advertising reduce to \$2,500, 4774 0000 Postage reduce to \$900, line item 4783 0000 Office Supplies & Expenses reduce to \$600 for a new sub-total in *Operational Expenses* \$6,675 and a new department total \$249,093. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Nunno 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: line item 4111 0000 Regular Wages reduce to \$7,451,198, line item 4112 0000 Overtime, Regular reduce to \$375,000, line item 4112 9904 Overtime, Dedicated Training reduce to \$78,183, line item 4112 9943 Overtime, Park reduce to \$10,000, line item 4112 9944 Overtime, Special Ops reduce to \$7,500, line item 4112 9947 Overtime, Oper. Off Road reduce to \$5,000, line item 4112 9948 Overtime, COPSS reduce to \$25,000, line item 4112 9949 Overtime, Oyster Festival reduce to \$18,575, line item 4114 0000 Holiday reduce to \$315,000, line item 4116 0000 Vacation & Relief reduce to \$287,000, line item 4150 0000 Professional Services reduce to \$12,000 for a new sub-total in *Personal Services* \$8,899,565; and line item 4331 0000 Gas & Other Propellants reduce to \$180,000 for a new sub-total in *Vehicle & Equipment Upkeep* \$187,750; and line item 4419 0000 Misc Building Supplies reduce to \$3,000 for a new sub-total in *Property Upkeep* \$3,000; and line item 4701 0000 Election Expenses reduce to \$5,000; and line item 4745 0000 Ordnance Supplies reduce to \$40,000, line item 4771 0000 Advertising reduce to \$3,500, line item 4781 0000 Duplicating Costs reduce to \$14,000, line item 4783 0000 Office Supplies & Expenses reduce to \$7,500, line item 4784 0000 Printing & Binding reduce to \$4,000, line item 4789 0000 Supply Exchange reduce to \$6,000, line item 4792 0000 Marine Patrol Expenses reduce to \$11,225 for a new sub-total in *Operational Expenses* \$414,118; and line item 4942 0751 Scuba Equipment reduce to \$3,500, line item 4944 0000 Police Safety Equipment reduce to \$6,500, line item 4944 0211 Electronic Siren reduce to \$2,000, line item 4971 0214 Police Cruisers reduce to \$150,000, line item 4977 0118 Camera reduce to \$0, line item 4977 0190 Computers reduce to \$35,000, line item 4990 0529 Office furniture reduce to \$3,500 for a new department sub-total in *Capital Outlays* \$257,601 and a new department total of \$9,916,741.

Chairman Blake stated he spoke with the Police Chief prior to tonight's meeting and that the Chief asked for a moment to speak regarding the personnel side.

Chief Mello stated these reductions reduce the overall total department. He stated the Board needed to know the importance of these cuts and what it would mean to public safety. He stated since he joined the force in 1981 he has never seen Milford cut back on safety. He stated in 1986 there were 110 on the force and in 2006 there were 109. Chief Mello went on to describe Milford and how it has grown significantly over the last 10 years, also citing growth on the Boston Post Road and Milford Center as well as the Connecticut Post Mall. He also stated calls for service have spiked over 42.9 percent in those 10 years. Chief Mello went on to speak of an incident this past weekend where they had to call in Stratford and the State Police for assistance at an incident in the Wildemere Beach. He continued speaking as to the length of time for a response which could be longer. He also stated it was his understanding that this Board would continue to add an officer over the next 5 years.

Chief Mello also explained they work on a pick schedule per their contract and explained the last three picks don't always get filled. He also pointed out they had six grievances filed last year for unsafe conditions because of a lack of police on patrols. He stated by contract they have to fill 65% of their positions. He stated with these cuts they are going backwards. Chief Mello reiterated in all his years he has never seen government cut back on public safety adding there would be a financial impact as well. He also addressed the number of mandated hours of training. He questioned if it is money well saved if we are putting our residents and officers at risk.

Chairman Blake noted it is a reduction of one officer, however at the last meeting of the Board of Aldermen the Chief had anticipated received a stimulus grant which would result in 2-3 officers.

Chief Mello reminded the Board these grants are very competitive. He explained there are 3 ways to apply for a grant. He also explained the detailed process as to the criteria to enable them to apply for these grants.

Chairman Blake stated there seemed to be a bit of a disconnect. He stated the Chief represented to the Board that these new positions would be funded through stimulus money.

Chief Mello stated the JAG grant is a formula grant. He also explained with a competitive grant you are competing against the entire country.

Mayor Richetelli followed up with regard to stimulus grants. He stated they are given out on a very competitive basis. He stated they have been careful and continue to apply, but there are no guarantees. He noted a lot of stimulus money is given out to financially stressed communities and thankfully Milford is not. He stated they have been financially prudent and responsible and don't run a deficit. Mayor Richetelli stated the prospect of stimulus money making its way to Milford is not a great prospect. He also noted they have several infrastructure project that have been applied for, but cautioned the board that they shouldn't count on that money.

Ald. Vetro requested a 5-minute recess. The Board recessed at 9:10 p.m.

Chairman Blake reconvened the Board in public session at 9:24 p.m.

Ald. Ditchkus called the reduction of a police officer irresponsible. He stated the City has grown and also pointed out with the growth of the mall there have been incidents there. He stated this cut is a public safety issue and that although he agrees with some of the cuts, taking an officer jeopardizes public safety. He also commented with regard to funding the City receives pointing out doesn't get nearly what other cities get, i.e. ECS. He stated grants are not a given and expressed his hope the Board would restore that position and keep the officer.

Chairman Blake asked Ald. Ditchkus if he had an amendment to offer in light of his comments.

Ald. Ditchkus responded he could put up the amendment.

Ald. Veccharelli stated he wished to be clear that Ald. Ditchkus stated he was not in favor of the cut, but did not put that in the form of a motion. He asked Ald. Ditchkus why he would not make a motion if he felt so strongly.

Ald. Ditchkus responded to Ald. Veccharelli he is part of the majority and that he had the power to do so. He stated the majority made the cut so they should not look to him for an amendment.

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

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Nunno 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: line item 4112 0000 Overtime, Regular reduce to \$385,000, line item 4112 9941 Overtime, Rescue truck reduce to \$120,000, line item 4112 9944 Overtime, Special Operations reduce to \$20,000, line item 4114 0000 Holiday reduce to \$492,000, line item 4117 0000 Seasonal/Temporary reduce to \$47,000, line item 4120 0000 Fire Trainees reduce to \$39,000, line item 4133 0000 Other Medical Fees & Svcs reduce to \$47,000, line item 4189 0000 Professional Fees & Svcs reduce to \$20,000 for a new sub-total in Personal Services of \$9,320,882; and line item 4206 0000 Terminal Leave Pay reduce to \$45,000 for a new sub-total in *Employee Fringe Benefits* of \$206,000; and line item 4325 0000 Fire Equipment Upkeep reduce to \$13,500, line item 4325 0002 Air Pack Upkeep reduce to \$8,500, line item 4331 0000 Gas & Other Propellants reduce to \$80,000, line item 4333 0000 Auto Supply & Upkeep reduce to \$55,975, line item 4336 0000 Tires, Chains & Tubes reduce to \$9,000 for a new sub-total in Vehicle & Equipment Upkeep of \$187,425; and reduce line item 4411 0000 building materials reduce to \$11,000, line item 4413 0000 Janitorial Supplies reduce to \$12,000, line item 4442 0000 Electricity reduce to \$100,000 for a new sub-total in *Property Upkeep* of \$227,460; and line item 4712 0000 reduce to \$25,000, line item 4718 0000 Travel & Conferences reduce to \$3,000, line item 4728 0000 Scuba Supplies & Costs reduce to \$4,000, line item 4749 0000 Special Equipment Servicing reduce to \$62,500, line item 4772 0000 Publications reduce to \$2,000, line item 4783 0000 Office Supplies & Expenses reduce to \$7,500, line item 4791 0000 Tests & Evaluations reduce to \$7,000 for a new sub-total in *Operational Expenses* of \$332,300; and line item 4923 0350 Fire Station Improvements reduce to \$35,000, line item 4942 000 Fire Safety Equipment reduce to \$27,000, line item 4971 0420 Vehicle Equipment Repair reduce to \$25,000, line item 4977 0152 Tables and Chairs reduce to \$250 for a new sub-total in *Capital Outlays* of \$179,850 and a new department total of \$10,453,917.

Chairman Blake pointed out the four (4) lieutenant positions should reflect salaries approved by the Board of Finance.

Ald. Veccharelli asked about line item 4112 9941 Overtime, Rescue Truck and the reduction by the Board of Finance and then this Board to \$120,000 and what impact that would have on the rescue truck.

Chief LaVecchia responded it would have a high impact. He stated they have not added manpower since 1968. He also stated they have over 800 back-to-back calls every year, 400 are for the second rescue truck. He also pointed out this year's budget is in trouble with two months to go in the budget and they will fall short. He stated they will have to cut a night on rescue.

Ald. Veccharelli asked if the \$10,000 cut would reflect one less night.

Chief LaVecchia stated a full night on rescue costs \$25,000-30,000. He stated with this cut they will have to cut a full night to half or eliminate it.

Chairman Blake pointed out the amount allocated is the same as the current fiscal year.

Ald. Patterson stated that during the budget hearings he asked for an explanation concerning the increase for dispatchers but no one got back to him.

Chief LaVecchia explained the dispatchers went to a 12 hr shift, which is unlike the firefighters or police. He stated they need to be paid for their full work schedule.

Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Vetro made and seconded a motion to amend the motion with regard to line item 4112 9941 Overtime, Rescue Truck and increase that line item by \$10,000.

Ald. Veccharelli stated this would have the department continue with the same level of manning. He stated it is a small price and also noted they are not hiring personnel.

Ald. Vetro requested a 5-minute recess. The Board recessed at 9:41 p.m.

Chairman Blake reconvened the Board in public session at 9:49 p.m.

Chief LaVecchia stated he wished to address the general cuts made to his budget this evening. He called the cuts irresponsible and stated they would affect public safety as well as firefighter safety and that there are contractual responsibilities here. He also expressed concern over the reductions to vehicle repairs and building repairs. He spoke of growing up in a firehouse that was not well kept. He reiterated the cuts made this evening are irresponsible and have an impact on safety for the residents and firefighters.

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

Ms. Doneiko pointed out in the handout line item 4776 0001 appeared to be reduced but was not included in the motion and asked for clarification.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Veccharelli made and seconded a motion to amend the main motion to include the following: reduce line item 4776 0001 Cell Phones reduce to \$12,000.

Ms. Doneiko stated the new department total would be \$10,463,917.

By roll call vote, the main motion carried 12 yes (Bier, Blacketter, Blake, Giannattasio, Hardiman, Manning, Nunno, Patterson, Rosen, 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 4331 Civil Preparedness as recommended by the Board of Finance with the following changes: line item 4713 0000 Travel & Conferences reduce to \$1,000 for a new sub-total in *Operational Expenses* of \$31,850; and line item 4944 0216 Early Warning System reduce to \$20,000 for a new sub-total in *Capital Outlays* of \$38,250 and a new department total of \$80,000.

Mayor Richetelli explained the City purchased the Code Red System last year which has been used several times already this year. He stated the \$20,000 is enough for 80,000 minutes. He explained the number of phone numbers dialed as well as how it works. He stated potentially with a severe storm the minutes could be

used up with just one storm. He stated for the \$30,000 requested in the budget it would give the City unlimited minutes. He stated it makes sense dollar wise to purchase the unlimited minutes. He added the system has worked well and well received by the citizens. He also noted this is far less than what the Board of Education pays for their system.

Chairman Blake asked how many minutes the City currently has.

Chief LaVecchia responded in just 9 months they had used 60,000 minutes and that was with no significant storms. He stated a simple Nor'easter could take up the 80,000 minutes. He stated this is use for their department and also public works. He stated the police department had not used the system. Chief LaVecchia stated if they run out of minutes they would then pay for each additional minute they go over. He stated with about 3 months left in the budget they could run over.

Ald. Toohey commented it was her understanding the Health Department used the system just today for their event. She stated that City residents were called as well as medical responders, etc for today's drill. He asked with the police and health departments coming on board they would use this system and it would mean more minutes. She stated she has also spoken with residents who have stated they like this system better than the sirens.

Chief LaVecchia responded yes, they would definitely see an increase. He stated the police department is now trained, so there definitely will be an increase in the minutes. He stated the big numbers come in with the big storms. Chief LaVecchia stated they recently used the system to get the truth out regarding the swine flu here in Milford as there had been a lot of incorrect information. He stated people just want to know, adding this system has worked well.

Ald. Bier asked if in a full 12 month period the Chief felt they would go over the 80,000 minutes.

Chief LaVecchia stated with one storm they could go over the number of minutes. He explained as an example during a storm they have to watch the tides. He stated for people who live on the water they know that it is actually after when they get the full impact of the storm.

Ald. Manning asked if the calls could be limited.

Chief LaVecchia stated 90% of our residents live on the coast. He also spoke as to the amount of inland flooding.

Ald. Manning asked about text messaging which most people have.

Chief LaVecchia explained the residents get the call on a cell or home number.

Ald. Ditchkus commented not everyone has a cell phone. He also stated storms are not limited to the coast lines.

Chief LaVecchia stated with unlimited minutes it would allow them to go above what they normally do, i.e. drills, etc. He stated should not have to pick and chose what information they send out.

Ald. Blacketter commented further to the text messaging. She expressed concern they try to make this system people friendly. She stated for an example if a person is at work in a meeting and sees on their cell phone an incoming call from the City you would want to stop and pick it up. She stated with the text messaging you could actually see the message.

Chief LaVecchia agreed it important it be people friendly. He also spoke as to the sirens put in place along the coast at a cost of \$30,000 each. He stated he could see them looking at a program in the future. He agreed there is a big population that does text, but not all.

Ald. Toohey commented she thought it was a good idea they continue to look into other programs. She stated there is that population that doesn't have texting and also with regard to our senior citizens they may not be able to use it.

Chief LaVecchia stated he wished to clarify this is the department's third system and that they still will be using the sirens as well.

Ald. Veccharelli asked how much the minutes cost after the 80,000 is used up.

Chief LaVecchia deferred to Dan Worroll, E.O.C. Coordinator.

Mr. Worroll explained the minutes are then sold in blocks of 15,000 at a cost of \$5,000. He also pointed out you cannot carry over minutes.

Ald. Veccharelli asked who would keep track of the minutes if they went to unlimited. He also stated he would like to see a break down.

Chief LaVecchia stated it is all computerized as to how many calls, how many times it was used, etc. Chief LaVecchia recognized Fire Commissioner Howard Stein.

Commissioner Stein stated he is on the Board of Fire Commissioners and also serves as the Assistant State's Attorney in Bridgeport. He spoke of a recent incident that occurred in Bridgeport near Kolbe Cathedral High School.

Ald. Vitali commented time after time this Board brings in the experts to advise them and it falls on deaf ears. He stated this Board needed to think about the safety of the community.

Ald. Vitali and Ald. Veccharelli made and seconded a motion to amend the main motion to reinstated the \$10,000 for the Code Red System.

Ald. Hardiman requested a 5-minute recess. The Board recessed at 10:17 p.m.

Chairman Blake reconvened the Board at 10:23 p.m.

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

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

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: line item 4112 0000 Overtime reduce to \$30,000 for a new sub-total in *Personal Services* of \$280,227; and line item 4228 0000 Uniforms & Weather Gear reduce to \$2,000 for a new sub-total in *Employee Fringe Benefits* of \$2,000; and line item 4471 0000 Building & Grounds Supplies reduce to \$6,500 for a new sub-total in *Property Upkeep* of \$27,750 and a new department total of \$352,227.

Ms. Doneiko pointed out line item 4772 0000 Publications was not read.

Chairman Blake asked for clarification.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to include in the main motion the following: line item 4772 0000 Publications reduce to \$400 for a new sub-total in *Operational Expenses* of \$33,250. 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 4350 Building Inspection as recommended by the Board of Finance with the following changes: line item 4112 0000 Overtime reduce to \$2,500 for a new sub-total in *Personal Services* of \$389,421; and line item 4331 0000 Gas & Other Propellants reduce to \$4,000 for a new sub-total in *Vehicle & Equipment Upkeep* of \$4,000; and line item 4476 0000 Dangerous Building Costs reduce to \$1,000 for a new sub-total in *Property Upkeep* of \$1,000; and line item 4713 0000 Membership reduce to \$500, line item 4718 0000 Travel & Conferences reduce to \$100, line item 4723 0000 Uniforms & Weather Gear reduce to \$500, line item 4772 0000 Publications reduce to \$2,500, line item 4776 0001 Cell Phones reduce to \$3,000, line item 4776 0002 Wireless Service reduce to \$0, line item 4782 0000 Film & Photographs reduce to \$100, line item 4783 0000 Office Supplies & Expenses reduce to \$1,000, line item 4784 0000 Printing & Binding reduce to \$5,000, line item 4798 0000 Other Supplies & charges reduce to \$675 for a new sub-total in *Operational Expenses* of \$17,675; and line item 4977 0110 File Cabinet reduce to \$300 for a new sub-total in *Capital Outlays* of \$2,365 and a new department total of \$414,461.

Ald. Ditchkus stated he wished to clarify the Wireless Service was for laptops for use by the inspectors when out in the field and that it would be a timesaving.

Chairman Blake stated he did not believe they had generated those studies. He stated this is something that does not currently exist,

Motion carried unanimously.

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 \$1,579,000. 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: line item 4783 0000 Office Supplies & Expenses reduce to \$1,000, line item 4796 0000 Software & Maintenance reduce to \$1,000 for a new sub-total in *Operational Expenses* of \$6,275 and a new department total of \$241,866.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to amend the motion to include line item 4111 0000 Regular Wages reduce to \$231,005 for a new sub-total in *Personal Services* of \$235,406. 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 4421 Highway/Parks as recommended by the Board of Finance with the following changes: line item 4111 0000 Regular Wages reduce to \$1,939,596, line item 4112 0000 Overtime reduce to \$105,000, line item 4189 0000 Misc. Professional Fees/Svc reduce to \$6,000 for a new sub-total in *Personal Services* of \$2,145,413; and line item 4518 0000 Sidewalk Maintenance reduce to \$10,000, line item 4521 0000 Asphalt reduce to \$35,000 for a new sub-total in *Street & Highway Upkeep* of \$185,000 and a new department total of \$2,479,313.

Ald. Ditchkus asked about the reduction in Regular Wages and if a maintainer had been eliminated.

Chairman Blake responded yes.

Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson 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: line item 4112 0000 Overtime reduce to \$40,000, line item 4117 0000 Seasonal/Temporary reduce to \$8,000 for a new sub-total in *Personal Services* of \$1,397,953; and line item 4414 0000 Laundry reduce to \$33,000, line item 4442 0000 electricity reduce to \$725,000, line item 4444 0000 Heating Fuel reduce to \$390,000, line item 4447 0000 Water Service reduce to \$50,000, line item 4470 0001 Natatorium Operations reduce to \$23,500, line item 4471 0000 Buildings & Grounds Supplies reduce to \$55,000 for a new sub-total in *Property Upkeep* of \$1,434,361; and line item 4776 0001 Cell Phones reduce to \$6,000 for a new sub-total in *Operational Expenses* of \$81,425; and line item 4923 0000 Building Improvements reduce to \$30,000 for a new sub-total in *Capital Outlays* of \$43,000 and a new department total of \$2,960,239. Motion carried unanimously.

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: line item 4111 0000 Regular Wages reduce to \$337,784, line item 4112 0000 Overtime reduce to \$35,000 for a new sub-total in *Personal Services* of \$394,751; and line item 4713 0000 Membership reduce to \$250, line item 4775 0000 Office Equipment Upkeep reduce to \$4,500, line item 4783 0000 Office Supplies & Expenses reduce to \$650, line item 4784 0000 Printing & Binding reduce to \$500, line item 4798 0000 Other Supplies & charges reduce to \$1,000 for a new sub-total in *Operational Expenses* of \$9,850 and a new department total of \$408,401. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson 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: line item 4112 0000 Overtime

reduce to \$25,000 for a new sub-total in *Personal Services* of \$514,167; and line item 4228 0000 Uniforms & Weather Gear reduce to \$4,000 for a new sub-total in *Employee Fringe Benefits* of \$4,000; and line item 4331 0000 Gas & Other Propellants reduce to \$275,000, line item 4335 0000 Equipment Supply & Upkeep reduce to \$225,000 for a new sub-total in *Vehicle & Equipment Upkeep* of \$650,500 and a new department total of \$1,169,667. 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: line item 4112 0000 Overtime reduce to \$520,000 for a new sub-total in *Personal Services* of \$1,951,983; and line item 4784 0000 Printing & Binding reduce to \$1,000, line item 4790 9950 City Waste Removal Costs reduce to \$2,100,000 for a new sub-total in *Operational Expenses* of \$2,583,377 and a new department total of \$4,547,060.

Ald. Blacketter and Ald. Manning made and seconded a motion to amend the motion by reducing line item 4790 9950 to \$1,990,000 which reduction reflects negotiations and the lower rate for solid waste.

Ald. Toohey asked if this is bulk pick-up.

Mayor Richetelli responded yes.

Ald. Toohey commented this would eliminate bulk pick-up.

Ald. Blacketter explained this reduction reflects the amount the City pays per tonnage and that all garbage disposal goes through this account. She stated she arrived at this figure by doubling the figure to date for this year which would not reflect the reduction and reduce by 10%.

Chairman Blake asked if this amendment was made in response to the information received in December.

Ald. Blacketter responded yes.

Ms. Doneiko pointed out the budget book reflects 5 months worth of charges and that December was not paid until January. She explained this is during the fiscal year and paid in January after the December charges. She stated doubling the numbers would only give you 10 months of changes.

Ald. Blacketter stated there was some allowance in the figures already.

Mayor Richetelli stated he wished to clarify the issue regarding bulk pickup. He stated the collection overtime to pick up the bulk trash comes out of the overtime account, but the amount of weight is in City Waste removal. He also explained the weight can go up drastically with a wet pickup. He stated to the Board it was important to understand the many variables concerning pickups. Mayor Richetelli stated everyone wants to reduce the budget but this amendment cuts it way too short. He also stated this would put the bulk pickup in jeopardy.

Ald. Ditchkus questioned the \$1,990,000 being proposed. He stated the Board still needed to be prudent.

Ald. Blacketter stated she would withdraw her amendment. Ald. Manning withdrew her second.

Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson 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. Toohey requested a 5-minute recess. The Board recessed at 10:52 p.m.

Chairman Blake reconvened the Board in public session at 10:58 p.m.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4503 Public Debt Service as recommended by the Board of Finance with the following changes: line item 4612 9909 Bond Interest, General reduce to \$1,282,378, line item 4612 9937 Bond Interest, Sewer reduce to \$804,559 for a new sub-total in *Debt Service Charges* of \$6,364,761 and a new department total of \$6,364,761.

Chairman Blake stated the reductions reflect the revised figures provided by the Finance Director.

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: line item 4111 0000 Regular Wages reduce to \$737,788, line item 4112 0000 Overtime reduce to \$7,000, line item 4117 0000 Seasonal/Temporary reduce to \$14,000, line item 4189 0000 Misc. Professional Fees reduce to \$20,000 for a new sub-total in *Personal Services* of \$782,962; and line item 4331 0000 Gas & other Propellants reduce to \$3,000 for a new sub-total in *Vehicle & Equipment Upkeep* of \$3,000; and line item 4712 0000 Training Expenses reduce to \$1,200, line item 4713 0000 membership reduce to \$2,500, line item 4718 0000 Travel & Conferences reduce to \$1,000, line item 4738 0000 Medical Lab Testing reduce to \$800, line item 4772 0000 Publications reduce to \$500, line item 4774 0000 Postage reduce to \$3,250, line item 4776 0001 Cell Phones reduce to \$4,000 line item 4783 0000 Office Supplies & Expense reduce to \$1,750 for a new sub-total in *Operational Expenses* of \$26,100 and a new department total of \$876,112. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson 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: line item 4111 0000 Regular Wages reduce to \$382,809 for a new sub-total in *Personal Services* of \$743,965; and line item 4708 9670 Natatorium Reserve reduce to \$4,000, line item 4714 0000 Mileage/Parking reduce to \$3,000, line item 4718 0000 Travel & Conferences reduce to \$1,000, line item 4754 0000 Awards reduce to \$1,500, line item 4776 0001 Cell Phones reduce to \$3,250, line item 4783 0000 Office Supplies & Expenses reduce to \$1,600, line item 4784 0000 Printing & Binding reduce to \$3,000 for a new sub-total in *Operational Expenses* of \$58,600 and a new department total of \$830,065. Motion carried unanimously.

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: line item 4221 9919 Self Insurance Contribution reduce to \$9,383,707 for a new sub-total in Employee Benefits of \$13,650,619 and a new department total of \$13,665,619. Motion carried unanimously.

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 \$2,698,283. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Hardiman 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 \$420,000. 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 \$7,672. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Hardiman 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 changes: line item 4899 0000 Contingency Account reduce to \$25,000 for a new sub-total in General Charges of \$25,000 and a new department total of \$25,000. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Hardiman 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: line item 4708 0000 Grant reduce to \$1,320,000 for a new sub-total in Operational Expenses of \$1,326,250 and a new department total of \$1,347,750.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson 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: line item 4708 0000 Grant reduce to \$67,500 for a new sub-total in Operational Expenses of \$67,500 and a new department total of \$67,500.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4805 CMED as recommended by the Board of Finance in the amount of \$93,360. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Nunno 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. Patterson 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: line item 4708 0000 Grant reduce to \$166,250 for a new sub-total in Operational Expenses of \$166,250 and a new department total of \$166,250. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Hardiman 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: line item 4708 0000 Grant reduce to \$327,980 for a new sub-total in Operational Expenses of \$327,980 and a new department total of \$327,980. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Nunno 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: line item 4708 0000 Grant reduce to \$363,188 for a new sub-total of \$363,188 and a new department total of \$363,188.

Ald. Vitali stated he found it disturbing in these times when people are out of work and with the economy that this Board would chose to cut especially when Bridges is seeing more and more people. He stated he just could not support a cut.

By roll call vote, motion carried 14 yes (Bier, Blacketter, Blake, Ditchkus, Giannattasio, Hardiman, Manning, Nunno, Patterson, Rosen, Toohey, Veccharelli, Vetro, Willey) and 1 no (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. Nunno made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4816 Milford Flotilla 73 as recommended by the Board of Finance with the following changes: line item 4708 0000 Grant reduce to \$7,313 for a new sub-total in Operational Expenses of \$7,313 and a new department total of \$7,313. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson 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: line item 4708 0000 Grant, Human Services reduce to \$197,500 and line item 4710 0001 Youth Network Grant reduce to \$0 for a new subtotal in Operational Expenses of \$425,000 and a new department total of \$425,000.

Mayor Richetelli asked if it was the intent of the Board by this motion to reduce the Youth Network Coordinator. He explained that grant is a stipend to the YMCA.

Chairman Blake responded the request came from Lisa Diamond Graham.

Ald. Vetro stated it was his understanding they are the fiduciary for this grant.

Mayor Richetelli stated that money is the City's share to the YMCA to share their Youth Coordinator. He stated that individual devotes a certain number of hours a week and essentially with this cut it would cancel the program and cancel the youth program.

Ald. Hardiman and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to amend line item 4710 0001 Youth Network Grant reinstate the \$8,000 as recommended by the Board of Finance.

Ald. Nunno stated it was his understanding the department head made these changes and this was what she wanted for her department.

Chairman Blake added the department's liaison brought this forward.

Ald. Vetro stated he may have taken the changes out of context.

The amendment carried unanimously.

On the main motion, motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Nunno made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4818 Historic District as recommended by the Board of Finance with the following changes: line item 4708 0000 Grant reduce to \$659 for a new sub-total in Operational Expenses of \$650 and a new department total of \$650.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Hardiman 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: line item 4708 0000 Grant reduce to \$10,000 for a new sub-total in Operational Expenses of \$10,000 and a new department total of \$10,000.

Ald. Rosen and Ald. Nunno made and seconded a motion to amend to reduce line item 4708 0000 Grant to \$0.

Ald. Rosen stated while it is a positive mission, in these economic times they owe it to the citizens to save money.

Ald. Ditchkus asked if the majority recognizes this group's work. He stated there are many members of this Board that have sat in on the work they have done. He stated Mr. Vetro sat in on a meeting regarding signage throughout the City. Ald. Ditchkus apologized for not recognizing Ald. Manning who has also attended meetings. He stated to reduce this grant to \$0 sounds personal and reiterated they are doing a great job. He stated he recognizes the economic times but was at a loss to understand why the majority would chose to single out one group.

Ald. Blacketter stated they revisited the discussion from the budget sessions and the group stated they did not spend this grant. She also stated they would continue to work with volunteers. He reiterated they did not use the grant last year and have banked it.

Ald. Toohey stated she too recalled the conversation that they did bank the money, but that they stated they did it to use for the signage program and that with the additional money they would be able to move forward this year. Ald. Toohey stated they have been through the various agencies to get that work approved and are ready to move forward. She stated she agreed any reduction is prudent in these economic times, but they did lay out their plans so to zero them out give an appearance of this being personal. She stated while she applauded the idea of reducing the budget, this budget was already reduced and she would like to see it go back to the \$10,000.

Mayor Richetelli stated because they saved the money is not a reason for such a drastic cut. He added the reason they did not spend the money is because they were saving for a major project, which is the signage throughout the City. He also addressed the comment concerning volunteers and stated they should be applauding them. He also pointed out they are the official economic development agency for downtown Milford. He explained their recommendations come from a study done 20 years ago by Dean Platus (sp). He also stated this is a group that has leveraged very little City money and has many professionals in the group that have dedicated their time and efforts. He stated the money that comes back to the City is far greater than the \$10,000 and the success of downtown Milford is due to this group.

Ald. Rosen stated he does applaud their work and success. He stated they are being fiscally responsible and pointed out this group has banked nearly \$50,000 and that he takes offense to the comments this cut is personal.

Ald. Ditchkus requested a 5-minute recess. The Board recessed at 11:30 p.m.

Chairman Blake reconvened the Board in public session at 11:35 p.m.

Ald. Ditchkus stated the money is there and it has been built up. He stated (pointing to his file) that the monies are for signage that will go around the City. He stated they still have a long way to go, but that this signage will serve as a guide for people who come into the City to get around. Ald. Ditchkus commented saying this group is only banking the money is an attack not to get the work done. He stated they have saved the City a lot of money. He stated this was outright horrendous and reiterated it was personal.

Ald. Manning agreed the money is in the account. She stated this is a “check and balance” and that they are doing what is right in the City. She also pointed out they are looking for additional grant opportunities.

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

On the main motion, motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4820 Historic District II as recommended by the Board of Finance with the following changes: line item 4708 0000 Grant reduce to \$650 for a new sub-total in Operational Expenses of \$650 and a new department total of \$650. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson 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. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4822 Cemetery Association as recommended by the Board of Finance with the following changes: line item 4708 0000 Grant reduce to \$9,250 for a new sub-total in Operational Expenses of \$9,250 and a new department total of \$9,250. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4823 Patriotic Organization Association as recommended by the Board of Finance with the following changes: line item 4708 0000 Grant reduce to \$3,852 for a new sub-total in Operational Expenses of \$3,852 and a new department total of \$3,852. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4825 Beth El Center as recommended by the Board of Finance with the following changes: line item 4708 0000 Grant reduce to \$62,500 for a new sub-total in Operational Expenses of \$62,500 and a new department total of \$64,500. Motion carried unanimously.

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: line item 4708 0000 Grant reduce to 21,270 for a new sub-total in Operational Expenses of \$21,270 and a new department total of \$21,270. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Veccharelli 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 \$21,911. 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 with the following changes: line item 4611 9928 Bond Principal, Schools reduce to \$1,255,190 for a new sub-total in Debt Services Charges of \$3,916,731 and a new department total of \$3,916,731.

Chairman Blake noted the new number reflects the revised figures received from the Finance Director.

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 \$1,052,639.

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: line item 4221 0000 Contribution, Self Insurance Fund reduce to \$15,179,725 for a new sub-total in employee Fringe Benefits of \$15,179,725 and a new department total of \$15,179,725. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Veccharelli 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: line item 4112 0000 Overtime reduce to \$2,500, line item 4117 0000 Seasonal/Temporary reduce to \$23,000 for a new sub-total in personal Services of \$1,253,595; and line item 4714 0000 Mileage/Parking reduce to \$1,500, line item 4718 0000 Travel & Conferences reduce to \$650, line item 4732 0000 Medical Supplies/Expenses reduce to \$9,178 for a new sub-total in Operational Expenses of \$38,928 and a new department sub-total of \$1,297,293. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4154 Sewer Commission as recommended by the Board of Finance with the following changes: line item 4112 0000 Overtime reduce to \$800 for a new sub-total in Personal Services of \$40,084; and line item 4771 0000 Advertising reduce to \$1,250, line item 4774 0000 Postage reduce to \$450, line item 4783 0000 Office Supplies & Expenses reduce to \$400 for a new sub-total in Operational Expenses of \$4,200 and a new department total of \$787,106. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0010 4426 Wastewater as recommended by the Board of Finance with the following changes: line item 4111 0000 Regular Wages reduce to \$1,470,346, line item 4112 0000 Overtime reduce to \$165,000, line item 4114 0000 Holiday reduce to \$7,000 for a new sub-total in Personal Services of \$1,649,914; and line item 4331 0000 Gas & Other Propellants reduce to \$24,000 for a new sub-total in Vehicle & Equipment Upkeep of \$40,250; and line item

4411 0000 Building Materials reduce to \$2,300, line item 4444 0000 Heating Fuel reduce to \$140,000, line item 4447 0000 Water Service reduce to \$27,500 for a new sub-total in Property Upkeep of \$1,720,150; and line item 4741 0000 Chemicals, Non-Medical reduce to \$413,778, line item 4775 0000 Office Equipment Upkeep reduce to \$2,000, line item 4776 0001 Cell Phones reduce to \$8,000 for a new sub-total in Operational Expenses of \$1,053,878; and line item 4989 0000 Miscellaneous Equipment reduce to \$15,000 for a new sub-total in Capital Outlays of \$246,080 and a new department total of \$5,878,060.

Chairman Blake stated he received a request to add an additional \$63,778.

Ms. Doneiko stated they received a request from the Wastewater Superintendent for actual nitrogen credits which represents this amount.

Ald. Blacketter and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to amend line item 4741 0000 Nitrogen Credits to read \$63,778 for a total in Operational Expenses of \$413,778.

Ms. Doneiko stated they received further information which was not available when the Board of Finance voted on the budget.

Ald. Bier asked about the new plant and why they are paying more.

Ms. Doneiko explained the new plant has not started operating as yet and continued with an explanation as to the fiscal year and what they would expect by fiscal year 2011 when that number would reduce.

The motion to amend carried unanimously.

Ald. Ditchkus asked for clarification as to the change in regular wages.

Ms. Doneiko stated it starts on p. 107. She stated one process operator had been deleted.

Ald. Blacketter requested a 5-minute recess. The Board recessed at 12:03 a.m.

Chairman Blake reconvened the Board in public session at 12:06 a.m.

Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0012 0000 Sewer Fund as recommended by the Board of Finance in the amount of \$6,674,667.

Ald. Blacketter asked for clarification. She stated she was confused as to the handouts and questioned why the numbers were not the same as the numbers requested and recommended by the Mayor.

Ms. Doneiko explained they are technical changes and that traditionally the City goes back and makes these changes. She stated this is information that has just come to light.

Ald. Patterson commented every line reflects that \$63,000.

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 with the following changes: line item 4111 0000 Regular Wages reduce to \$92,967 for a new sub-total in Personal Services of \$132,472 and a new department total of \$305,945. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0036 4157 Marina Enterprise Revenue as recommended by the Board of Finance with the following changes: line item 3208 0000 Marina Fees reduce to 88,359 for a new sub-total in Permits and Fees of \$206,609; and line item 3566 0000 State PILOT: Boats should read \$74,336 for a new sub-total in Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) \$64,336 and a new department total of \$306,945.

Ald. Manning asked about the State PILOT: Boats, she stated she thought Mr. Swift had stated an amount of \$74,336 and explained traditionally it is \$74,336.

Ms. Doneiko stated this was figure she received from Mr. Swift in writing.

Mayor Richetelli stated there was a change.

Ald. Manning and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to make a technical correction to line item 3655 0000 to read \$74,336 as it has been in the past. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Ditchkus and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to amend line item 3209 0000 to read \$88,359. Motion carried unanimously.

On the main motion, motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Blacketter pointed out a technical correction pointed out during the budget sessions; p. 115 under Debt Service should read 4620 0000 "*Appreciation*" Expense, not "Depreciation".

Ms. Doneiko stated that change would be reflected in the final approved budget.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve the budget for Acct. 0018 4121 Golf Course (Expenditures) Marina Enterprise Revenue as recommended by the Board of Finance in the amount of \$70,000.

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

Ald. Toohey requested a 5-minute recess. The Board recessed at 12:28 a.m.

Chairman Blake reconvened the Board in public session at 12:38 a.m.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to recess at 12:39 a.m. until May 27, 2009 at 7:30 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen K. Huber
Recording Secretary