

BOARD OF FINANCE BUDGET DELIBERATIONS  
MAYOR'S RECOMMENDED BUDGET 2008-2009  
FEBRUARY 25, 2008

The Milford Board of Finance reconvened their budget deliberation sessions on Monday, February 25, 2008 in Conference Room B of the Parsons Complex. Acting Chairman Lema reconvened the session at 7:00 p.m.

Board Members Present

J. Agro  
J. Fitzpatrick  
B. Lema

Also Present

J. Doneiko, Finance Director

Not Present

S. Bergami  
S. Skudlarek (due to illness)

**Department 4803 – Fine Arts Council** – Bill Meddick, Director, and Donna Corey, were present. Mr. Meddick spoke about a showing of plans for the Stowe Barn property that will take place on March 6 at the Arts Center. Ms. Corey added that they had recently hired a gallery manager for the Firehouse Gallery. She said they're growing by leaps and bounds.

Mr. Fitzpatrick asked if they received grants from anyone besides the City. Mr. Meddick said that they receive a grant of approximately \$10,000 for staffing from the State of Connecticut, Commission on Culture and Tourism. He added that they run a local arts partnership with them. They also receive small foundation grants.

Ms. Corey said they are in the process of doing a cultural assessment to find out what people are looking for in the City.

Mr. Agro asked what their total budget is so that he could determine what percentage the City's grant is to them. Mr. Meddick replied that their budget is a little over \$200,000.

There were no further questions/comments.

**Department 4805 – C-Med** – Chief Louis LaVecchia spoke on behalf of this budget. He explained that C-Med is a regional FEMA dispatch center that coordinates the ambulances with the hospitals for routine emergencies. He said C-Med is governed by a regional board of directors and added that the City's Fire Department sits on that board. That board determines the operating budget.

There were no questions/comments.

**Department 4807 – Regional Mental Health** – Claire Phelan, Director, was not present. Acting Chairman Lema noted that the Board of Finance members had received a letter from Claire Phelan sending her regrets that she would not be able to attend tonight's meeting.

Ms. Doneiko pointed out that their grant is a calculated number and that it had not changed in 10 years.

There were no questions/comments.

**Department 4801 – Council on Aging** – Janice Jackson, Director, and Mary Allen Herema, Bookkeeper, were present. Ms. Jackson handed out The Milford Senior Center News for March 2008 to all Board of Finance members.

Ms. Jackson noted that she had requested a 2% increase in the grant this year.

Mr. Fitzpatrick asked what the total membership fees were. Ms. Herema replied \$19,128. Mr. Fitzpatrick then asked if the dues had gone up. Ms. Herema replied that last year they were increased from \$7 to \$8 a year. She added that they had many new members.

Mr. Fitzpatrick asked if they received any other grants. Ms. Jackson responded that they received a United Way grant and a block grant from Community Development (which helps pay for drivers). Mr. Fitzpatrick then asked how many people worked for the Senior Center. Ms. Jackson replied 50-55 people, and then another 17-18 people who teach classes. She added that the teachers are paid through a grant. Ms. Herema noted that most of their employees are part time.

Mr. Agro asked what their total operating budget is. Ms. Herema replied \$1,508,099. He then asked about the usage of the center. Since there were no numbers immediately available, Mr. Agro asked if they could provide the members of the Board of Finance something in writing.

There were no further questions/comments.

**Department 4133 – Probate Court** – There were no representatives present. No questions/comments.

**Department 4131 – Law Department** – Marilyn Lipton, City Attorney, was present. She spoke about the two budget items that she needs this year – Carpeting, account number 4990 0562 and Law Books, account number 4977 0115. She said her book budget was decimated last year by the Board of Alderman and that if she couldn't replace those volumes this year, the law library would be just junk. She said that no law office could operate without updated books. She added that for some kinds of questions that come up, she might need to farm them out since she doesn't have the resources she needs. She said that this is very expensive. Ms. Lipton is hoping that the library will be restored.

Ms. Lipton then spoke about the twenty-year old carpeting in her office. She said that every seam is duct taped and that there had already been one fall in there. She said the carpeting was in the budget last year and all the measurements had been taken and then the carpeting was taken out of the budget. She said that for \$5,000 it would be foolish not to replace it.

Mr. Fitzpatrick then asked what amount she needs for the law books. Ms. Lipton responded that she needs the \$8,000 that she asked for in that account and also the \$5,500 she requested in the Publications account number 4772 0000. She noted that she had already cancelled some of the publications subscribed to in the past to get the spending down.

Ms. Lipton ended by saying that she feels her budget should be what she asked for.

There were no further questions/comments.

**Department 4132 – Ethics Commission** – no representatives were present. Mr. Fitzpatrick asked about the Miscellaneous Professional Fees & Services account number 4189 0000. Mr. Lema responded that he thought it was the same as last year and that the amount is just an estimate. He explained that if there are no hearings, no money is spent in this account. If there are hearings, the amount in the account might need to be supplemented.

There were no further questions/comments.

**Department 4193 – Library** – Jean Tsang, Head Librarian, was present. Mr. Fitzpatrick asked why the budget for the DVD's, account number 4980 0176, had increased from last year's \$2,000 to this budget's \$5,000. Ms. Tsang replied that they are a very popular item and that the library no longer purchases videotapes. She said that in the month of January 2007 they had 1,834 DVD's circulate and for January 2008 1,926. She added that this is just the adult DVD's. She noted that the library does not just purchase entertainment DVD's, but also non-fiction, how-to DVD's and historical DVD's. Mr. Fitzpatrick then asked why we buy any entertainment DVD's when people can go to Stop & Shop or somewhere else to rent them for \$1. He added that he doesn't think these belong in a library budget. Ms. Tsang said that some of them are classic movies. She added that many senior citizens and parents with little children take out many DVD's at one time and that is where their biggest demand is. Mr. Fitzpatrick then asked what the life span of a DVD is. Ms. Tsang replied that it depends on the number of times a particular DVD is used. Many have been taken out over 300 times. She then reiterated that many people on a fixed income come into the library on a regular basis to take out DVD's as their "treat".

There were no further questions/comments.

**Department 4123 – Community Development** – Robert Gregory, Director, was present. Mr. Agro asked if the salaries for the Block Grant Coordinator and his part-time

administrative assistant are part of the Community Development budget. Mr. Gregory replied that their salaries are paid out of a block grant and do not show up in his budget.

Mr. Agro then asked what was going on in town and what Mr. Gregory was hearing. Mr. Gregory replied that many of the major projects that are reflected in the current Grand List that came out a few weeks ago are complete. These include the mall expansion, Milford Crossing, Milford Marketplace, Lowe's and the hotel that is under construction. He said he thinks that right now, especially for our tax base, the things we are looking at are in the energy area. He then spoke about NRG, the fuel cell power plant that has been proposed as a joint venture with Southern Connecticut Gas Company and a transformer station that is being built that is a \$20 million item. He added that we still have potential sites such as the old 10 acre Cinema site.

There were no further questions/comments.

**Department 4155 – Economic Development** – Robert Gregory was present. He said that this is an account that used to have \$100 in it for secretarial fees, but that it was never used. He arranged for his secretary to cover the Economic Development meetings out of the Community Development budget so that there are no fees in account 4168 000 anymore. There is now \$1 in that account just to keep it open. In case there is ever a need for secretarial fees, then money would have to be transferred into that account.

There were no further questions/comments.

**Department 4812 – Transit Authority** – Henry Jadach, Executive Director, was present. Mr. Agro asked what his total budget is. Mr. Jadach replied that it is a little under \$2.8 million. Mr. Agro then asked what impact there has been on commuters and users due to the fuel increases. Mr. Jadach said that there has been an increase in ridership, but that it does not offset their fuel costs. Mr. Fitzpatrick asked if the bus routes have been altered for the new shopping centers. Mr. Jadach replied that they had not. He said that Connecticut Transit has two lines that service that area. A short discussion then ensued about the bus routes.

There were no further questions/comments.

Dennis McBride, Health Director, spoke on the following three departments.

**Department 4610 – Health Department** – Mr. Fitzpatrick asked for an explanation of the Seasonal/Temporary account 4117 000 and why the amount increased from \$4,403 in FY06/07 to \$17,500 in FY07/08. Dr. McBride explained that it is for community nursing. Mr. Fitzgerald then asked why nothing had been spent as of December 31, 2007. Dr. McBride said that they just now have some new people in the program.

Mr. Fitzpatrick asked how many cell phones the Health Department has. Dr. McBride replied that they have six City cell phones.

**Department 4998 – Education Health Services: School Nurses** – Mr. Agro asked if the school nurses were under Dr. McBride's jurisdiction. Dr. McBride replied yes. He added that they do have one nurse in each school, but that they'd like to add a part-time (19 hour) school nurse. He said this is because it's difficult to keep all the school nurses covered. He added that right now there are nurses on call to fill in when someone is sick, but that they want a reliable part-timer who would go from school to school and avoid the juggling around of the nurses. He said that now they're down to two substitute nurses that are on call. He added that this part-time nurse would lower the medical and dental account 4131 0000 since it is a part-time position. The account would go from \$44,000 to \$29,000. Mr. Lema said that he is concerned with the part-time position for next year becoming a full-time position the following year. Dr. McBride responded by saying that this position would help stabilize the nursing team. Mr. Lema asked if this would be a floating position. Dr. McBride replied yes. Mr. Agro asked if the new position would have fixed hours or hours by schedule adopted by the nurse administrator where necessary. Dr. McBride replied that it would be by schedule. Mr. Fitzpatrick asked if they would then need fewer substitutes. Dr. McBride replied yes.

**Department 4821 – Visiting Nurse Association** – Mr. Agro asked Dr. McBride what the VNA does that is not under his supervision. Dr. McBride said that they do nothing that is not under his supervision. He said they run a lot of clinics, give immunizations, perform many physicals for children to be able to get into school and perform a lot of well-baby care physicals. He noted that business has picked up and that they fill a gap for people who need these services but who do not have health coverage.

There were no further questions/comments.

**Department 4340 – Animal Control** – Pat Liptak, Animal Warden, was present. She spoke about her Rabies Control account number 4720 0001 and said that part of that is their feral cat money. She added that \$5,000 of that money goes towards spaying and neutering the feral cats. She commented that she used to get \$20,000. She said when the Board of Aldermen cut that a few years ago, the agreement was that she would get more money in account 4798 0000 Other Supplies & Charges. She said that instead of an increase, however, the money has been going down each year. She noted that they ran out of feral cat money in the first three months and that they are now using donations.

There were no further questions/comments.

**Department 4310 – Police Department** – Keith Mello, Chief of Police, was present. Acting Chairman Lema asked Chief Mello if he was adding a new position this year. Chief Mello explained that a study was done last year comparing the Milford Police Department to other police departments of similar demographics. He said we're still lagging behind compared to communities of similar size such as West Haven. He noted that West Haven had 121 officers last year, while Milford had 109. He said that they want to add another police officer since they have had an increase in demand for calls for services, an increase in the number of mandated training hours and additional reporting requirements. He commented that just to maintain the same standard that Milford has had since 1981, they would need an additional seven officers. He added

that the Mayor and the Board of Aldermen made a commitment last year to add one officer per year for a five-year period.

Mr. Fitzpatrick asked if West Haven has the same number of calls that Milford has. Chief Mello replied that Milford is slightly higher since they handle 26 square miles while West Haven handles 13 square miles. Mr. Fitzpatrick asked about the types of calls the Police Department receives. Chief Mello spoke about the time it takes to handle a call. He said that many calls are generated from the Post Road retail side of town due to the considerable expansion of the mall. He added the moderate residential growth doesn't really impact calls for services. He said there are 18 million visitors in the Connecticut Post Mall each year and when shoplifter calls are handled, they take up a considerable amount of time. He added that when the legislature changes drunk driving laws, even though it's a positive step, it takes much longer to process arrestees.

Acting Chairman Lema asked if the City receives any financial support from the mall. Chief Mello said that the mall funded the police substation and that the mall pays recurring costs. He added that the mall also hires four officers on a Friday night and six officers on a Saturday night and pays them through private duty.

Chief Mello noted that the Milford Center area also takes up a considerable amount of police resources on the weekends due to thousands of people patronizing establishments downtown.

Mr. Agro asked about account 4971 0214 Police Cruisers and the requested amount of \$250,000 being lowered to \$225,000 by the Mayor. He wanted to know if the cruisers are in a rotation and if Chief Mello was comfortable with the \$225,000. Chief Mello said that he's trying to get outside vendors to change over the police cars. He added that right now it's done in-house and takes about 30 days to change over one car. He said the \$225,000 gives them enough money to send most of the cars out, and they will absorb the remainder. He added that when this happens, they have to take a police officer off the road.

Acting Chairman Lema asked Chief Mello if he was comfortable with the \$185,000 budgeted in the Gas & Other Propellants account 4331 0000, especially since they spent \$200,484 in FY06. Chief Mello said that the amount is light, but that it was light in the past year as well. He added that they have a program in place to rent the police cars. When there is a police car at a construction site, they actually charge the vendors and put that money in a fund to try and offset some of the gasoline costs. He added that the \$185,000 will be a difficult target to make and he anticipates needing more money. He added that he has a number of accounts in his budget this year that are already under funded and that have needed transfers made into them. He gave examples of the overtime, training, training overtime and vet fees accounts. Ms. Doneiko added that a reason for the larger expense in the gasoline account in FY06 was due to the use of premium gas. It has since been switched to regular gas, which has resulted in a savings. She added that their bid prices going out in the spring would be higher even for regular gasoline due to what's happening in the oil market.

Chief Mello had one addition to the budget. He said that this fiscal year the contract calls for an additional \$250 stipend to go out to each police officer that is certified in AED's (the automatic external defibrillators). Mr. Agro asked if this was an annual stipend. Chief Mello replied that it is annual as long as the officer maintains their certification. He said this would add an additional \$27,500 to his budget. He would like to add this onto the Educational Supplement account number 4203 9938. Mr. Fitzpatrick asked how the \$250 stipend was decided. Chief Mello said the amount was negotiated between the City and Local 899 during the last contract. A short discussion took place about the certification and training.

*Acting Chairman Lema asked Ms. Doneiko to make the technical correction and to remind the Board members at the technical discussion meeting.*

Mr. Fitzpatrick asked about the Software & Maintenance account number 4796 0000. He wanted to know why there was an increase from \$44,000 to \$61,816. Chief Mello responded that those are fixed costs for the different software that run the Police Department, the virus protection and maintenance agreements. He added that these costs are continually going up. Mr. Fitzpatrick then asked about the Marine Patrol account 4792 0000 and why there was a decrease. Chief Mello said that they have operated on a very lean budget the last couple of years and have not had a main boat in the water for quite awhile since it requires about \$50,000 in repairs. Marine Patrol Expenses will pay for the increase in the dock fees and some safety equipment.

There were no further questions/comments.

**Department 4350 – Building Inspection** – Thomas Raucci, Chief Building Inspector, was not present due to illness. *It was decided to reschedule him to Tuesday, March 4, before the Board of Education presentation.*

Bruce Kolwicz, Director, and Kelly Hammill, Assistant Public Works Administrator, were present for the following seven budgets.

**Department 4420 – Public Works** – Mr. Kolwicz noted that for the past 15 years he has brought tight, hard budgets to the Boards. He said that last year he brought in a tight budget with no fluff and once it went to the Board of Aldermen, two jobs were lost and considerable money in overtime. He noted that this budget is actually lower than last year's budget. He said it's tougher and tougher to maintain the same level of services and makes it hard to operate.

**Department 4421 – Highway-Parks Division** – There were no questions/comments.

**Department 4423 – Building Maintenance Division** – Mr. Fitzpatrick asked about the Natatorium Operations account number 4470 0001 and what it entails. Ms. Hammill replied that the utilities and any repairs are taken from that account. Mr. Kolwicz said that they are in the ninth year of a ten-year contract with the McCann Family for the McCann's to run the natatorium. He added that it needs a lot of work. A short discussion then took place about the pool.

Acting Chairman Lema asked Mr. Kolwicz if he wanted to comment on the Electricity account number 4442 0000. Mr. Kolwicz said that they've done a number of things with NextGen and that they have been able to see some savings.

**Department 4424 – Engineering** – The new City Engineer, Robert Brinton, was introduced to the Board of Finance members. Mr. Brinton spoke about how he's trying to maintain the budget.

Mr. Kolwicz said they're trying to readjust the positions to bring the Engineering Department into the 20<sup>th</sup> century. He spoke about the field books, maps and files and how Mr. Brinton would make changes to bring the department up to date.

Mr. Agro commented about the elimination of an Engineering Technician and asked if this then gets pushed back to the Professional Fees and Overtime accounts. He asked Mr. Brinton if he was comfortable with the technical expertise of his staff. Mr. Brinton replied that he was. He spoke about training for the staff.

A short discussion ensued about the technical aspects of the department and how business is now conducted versus the old ways that things were done.

**Department 4426 – Wastewater Treatment** – James Cooper, Acting Superintendent, was present. Mr. Fitzpatrick asked for an explanation of the Waste Removal Service account number 4795 0000. Mr. Cooper said that the biggest part is the water sludge from the treatment plants that gets hauled to Waterbury to be incinerated. Mr. Fitzpatrick asked if these were all contracts. Mr. Cooper replied that they were.

Mr. Fitzpatrick then asked about Chemicals, Non-Medical, account number 4741 0000 and why the increase. Mr. Cooper spoke about the renovations to the treatment plants and how the chemicals help to alleviate odors.

A discussion then ensued about the Sewer Fund, the sewer user fee and the Nitrogen Credits account number 4741 0001. *It was noted that there would be a technical correction to the Nitrogen Credits account from \$150,000 to \$312,500.*

**Department 4429 – General Garage** – Ms. Hammill spoke about the Lubricant account number 4332 0000 and how that account is always under funded. She noted that she had already needed to make a transfer into that account for this year. She added that when this happens, then that leaves another account short.

**Department 4431 – Solid Waste Operations** – Mr. Fitzpatrick asked about positions and grading. Ms. Hammill said that when a person is hired, they then have step increases. Ms. Doneiko added that it is all negotiated.

There were no further questions/comments.

**Department 4154 – Sewer Commission** – no representatives were present.

*There was a five-minute break. The session reconvened at 8:45 p.m.*

**Department 4320 – Fire Department** – Chief Louis LaVecchia was present. Mr. Fitzpatrick asked about account number 4971 0420 Vehicle Equipment Repair and why the budgeted amount was \$25,000 in FY07/08 and the projected amount is \$50,000. Chief LaVecchia explained that there are two vehicle repair accounts, the one just mentioned, which is a Capital Outlay account, and an account in the Vehicle & Equipment Upkeep section of the budget. He said the above account is used for capital repairs of equipment and that approximately half of the budget was used during the first half of the fiscal year. He noted that he is anticipating that there will be some major breakdowns during the second half of the year even though they don't have any right now. He said that the Fire Department has an aging fleet and that the \$50,000 figure is based on past experience. He added that the Fire Department does their own repairs at the station on Wheeler's Farms Road.

Mr. Fitzpatrick asked what is covered in account 4923 0350 Fire Station Improvements. Chief LaVecchia said that is for the repairs that the fire personnel do at six stations. He added that these would be the capital improvements to the stations, which include replacing a bathroom, updating a kitchen or putting on new garage doors.

Mr. Lema asked Chief LaVecchia to speak about the requests for additional employees. Chief LaVecchia said he would like to hire a part-time (19 hour) Maintenance Person. He said that he currently has one person doing the maintenance in the six stations. He said this person does everything from air conditioning to heating systems to electrical repair to plumbing. He added this leaves very little room for general upkeep such as painting.

Chief LaVecchia said they are also asking for two additional firefighters so that they can add a second rescue truck. He said they've been maintaining one rescue truck since the 1940's. He noted that in 1975 they received about 2,000 a year as compared to over 7,000 calls in 2007, the majority of them EMS calls. He said that currently they are putting on a second rescue truck four nights a week. He said that this costs about \$30,000 a night to fund. He noted that this amount is covered in account 4112 9941 Overtime, Rescue Truck. Mr. Lema asked if he would see significant savings in the overtime account by adding the two full-time positions. Chief LaVecchia replied no. Chief LaVecchia said they're looking to put the rescue truck on full time; currently it's only the four nights a week. These additional personnel would allow them to put it on a few days during the week.

Chief LaVecchia spoke about Milford being a Class I Fire Department. He said that ISO is a private company that rates fire departments and then uses that rating to sell to insurance companies. There are 45,000 fire departments in the country and only 45 ISO Class I rated. There are only three in New England – Milford, Hartford and Cambridge. He said this is significant. He added that Milford is one of the few departments in the State that has a full EMS complement with paramedics, a full dive team and a HAZMAT team. He added that along with all of this there is a cost, which is represented in the budget. He said that Milford's budget is less when compared to the fire department budgets of comparable size towns such as West Haven, Stratford, Hamden, Meriden, East Hartford and West Hartford.

*Chief LaVecchia said that he has a technical correction in account 4203 9941 Educational Supplement in the amount of \$28,750. This is for \$250 per person for EMT and paramedic bonuses at the end of the current contract. Mr. Fitzpatrick asked how many people this would be. Chief LaVecchia said 115 and added that everyone in the department is required to be an EMT or paramedic. Mr. Agro then asked if the budget number would change for just the Department Budget or the Mayor's Budget too. Ms. Doneiko replied that it would change for both budgets – the Department Head being \$158,750 and the Mayor's \$156,750.*

Mr. Lema then asked Chief LaVecchia to talk about the state of the fire stations and asked if he foresees any significant capital improvements or building renovations. Chief LaVecchia said that there is a strong need for stations in the Red Bush area due to the expansion of the Mall and the new retail shopping areas. He said the City currently has land on Red Bush Lane designated for a fire station and also has land in the northwest section of the City. He added that we would need manpower for these stations. He spoke of the two older stations – Station 5 Woodmont and Station 6 Point Beach. He said both were built in the 1940's and are in tough shape. He said the funds in the budget do not meet the needs of those stations. He noted the bathrooms are 60 years old and added that they do not have female accommodations at most of the stations. He said that other than that the general repairs to the stations are in good shape.

There were no further questions/comments.

**Department 4331 – Civil Preparedness** – Chief Louis LaVecchia was present. Mr. Fitzpatrick asked for an explanation of account 4994 0216 Early Warning System. Chief LaVecchia said that we currently have an early warning system along the shoreline consisting of loudspeakers that are controlled by the emergency operating center. This early warning system is a stand-alone telephone system similar to Reverse 911 where you buy the phone numbers and a contract. The system is called Code Red and you buy minutes. Chief LaVecchia said that along with their GIS Mapping they would be able to target a particular area of the City or particular types of businesses. He added that the cost is \$20,000 for 75,000 minutes. He said it's something that really needs to be plugged into our system.

Chief LaVecchia said he is currently sitting on a committee that is directed through HRD regarding a no-freeze shelter. He said that Beth-El has stepped forward and has begun a pilot program to see the need for this. He said there have been several nights where homeless people have come to the fire stations or police station or HRD requesting emergency shelter. Beth-El was able to step up and turn their kitchen into a no-freeze shelter with six cots. He said that currently there are no funds for this. He was elected to bring this program before the Board of Finance since both Beth-El and HRD had already come before the Board with their budgets. He noted he is bringing it to them under Civil Preparedness and Emergency Shelters and said he would need \$15,000 for this program. It would be handled by Beth-El, not the Fire Department. Mr. Lema asked where the program would be located. Chief LaVecchia said that he did not know since this is just a pilot program and they do not know the need for this. He added that Beth-El has room for six cots, but there might be a need for more. He said they really

need \$30,000 to supply all the needs and do a full program. He said they would be looking for other funds from United Way or from church groups to fund the remainder. Most of the funding would go toward staff members supervising it. He said there's a much greater need for this right now. A short discussion then took place on other options for these homeless people.

Ms. Doneiko noted that there would need to be a new line item set up under the Civil Preparedness budget.

Mr. Agro and Mr. Fitzpatrick made and seconded a motion to add Department 4811 Borough of Woodmont and Department 4121 (Fund 18) Golf Course to the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

**Department 4121 – Golf Course** – Dick Austin was present. He apologized for not making his scheduled meeting date of February 13. Mr. Austin said that they had a much better year this year than last year. He said the course is in great shape and the inside of the building had just been repainted.

Mr. Fitzpatrick asked about the Maintenance / Replacement Fund. Mr. Austin said that after they pay all the expenses, the amount left is the amount in that account.

Mr. Agro asked what they brought in after gross revenues. Mr. Austin replied 9.x% of every ticket. He didn't know the number of tickets. Mr. Agro asked about the contract with the vendor who does all the maintenance and what they get for what they're providing us. A short discussion then ensued.

There were no further questions/comments.

**Department 4811 – Borough of Woodmont** – Dick Austin, Borough Warden, and Christopher Smyser, Chairman of the Borough of Woodmont, were present. Mr. Agro asked what their whole budget is. Mr. Smyser said they have their separate Woodmont budget, which is based on money that is raised by Woodmont taxpayers. He said that right now there's \$450,000 in that. He said there is also a surplus in reserve for beach restoration, in case of hurricane or natural disasters. He added that in the last 2-3 years Woodmont is on a "pay as you go" plan and that brings in an additional \$70,000 that primarily goes to additional police services, some library services and some additional insurance that goes to Borough related things. He said that is their reserve fund. Every year they raise an additional \$70,000-75,000 as part of Woodmont taxes that are not a part of Milford taxes.

He explained that the City gives a grant that covers base contracts such as sanding, snow removal, right-of-way mowing, street repair and estimated lighting expense which is approximately \$90,000-\$95,000. Then there's additional basic street repair, maintenance of storm drains and groins. They tend to build up some of the City funds for a certain period of time and then spend it down.

Mr. Smyser said that the grants have been decreasing the past couple of years and that last year they took a 25% cut. He said it would be difficult to do that again this year

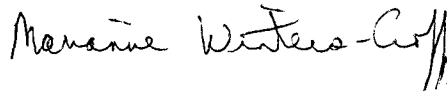
since they have many capital repairs coming up. A discussion then took place about the reserve fund and how it could be used for emergencies.

Acting Chairman Lema asked how they raise the revenue internally. Mr. Austin replied through taxes. He said the Borough sets a mill rate and everyone in the Borough pays that mill rate. Mr. Agro asked what their budget is this year. Mr. Smyser replied it's around \$80,000-\$90,000. Acting Chairman Lema asked how many households the Borough has. Mr. Austin replied roughly 982.

There were no further questions/comments.

The session recessed at 9:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Marianne Winters-Croffy". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Marianne Winters-Croffy  
Recording Secretary