

**TOWN OF WEBSTER**  
*Office of Selectmen*  
945 Battle Street/Rte. 127  
**Webster, NH 03303**  
**Tel. (603) 648-2272**

Webster Board of Selectmen's Meeting – February 10, 2009

The Public Hearing for the 2009 Budget as is per RSA 32:5 I was hosted by the Daniel Webster Grange.

Grange Member Dorothy Haskins welcomed all to this Public Hearing.

Grange Member Marion Jones noted that the Grange has been hosting this Public Hearing for 55 years. She then read an excerpt from a book written by Rebecca Rule which related to Town Meetings.

Selectmen Present: Chairman George Hashem, Selectman Thomas Mullins and Selectman David Klumb, Administrative Assistant Judith Jones, Financial Administrator Wendy Pinkham and approximately 30 townspeople.

7:10 P.M. Chairman Hashem opened the Public Hearing by reading Warrant Article 1 and Selectman Klumb read Article 2.

Chairman Hashem read Articles 3-5. Article 3 is concerning the consolidation of three existing Capital Reserves into one with the funds to go to the General Fund. Should that pass, then Article 4 creates a new fund, with the funds from Article 3 being put into the newly established fund and then appropriating an additional \$1,800 to be added. Article 5 was to put a total of \$1,800 in the original three existing Capital Reserve Funds, but would be passed over if Article 3 and 4 pass as the three funds would no longer exist.

Chairman Hashem continued with the reading of Article 6 through Article 28 stopping after the reading of each to see if there were any questions or comments from the floor. There were few questions until the Police Budget was read under Public Safety. Several residents inquired as to whether or not the Police Department had sufficient funds to offer 24/7 coverage to Webster. It was acknowledged that this did not mean a Webster Police Officer in a cruiser 24/7 and that on-call time was part of the coverage. Chairman Hashem asked Lieutenant Mitchell how long a response time it was for him to go from a sleeping mode in Boscawen to on the scene with Lieutenant Mitchell advised that it took him from 6-10 minutes to respond. The Board noted that the Chief of Police had provided budget numbers in November, revised them several times, as well as the Board making minor revisions resulting in the budget as presented. The Chief, at an earlier meeting, had indicated that he could provide 24/7 if he had the manpower. The Board acknowledged that they cut \$2,600 from the part-time officer's line only because this was money saved when a guaranteed gasoline price was received and the part-time officer's line item had been increased by the Chief and then reduced by that amount by the Board.

Marion Jones once again requested that the Board have a sound system available at the business portion of the Town Meeting so that all may hear.

8:25 P.M. Chairman Hashem adjourned the meeting.

---

George K. Hashem  
BOS/jj

Thomas S. Mullins

David E. Klumb