

Thomaston Board of Finance

April 7, 2010

Public Hearing FY2011 Proposed Budget

Present: D. Colavecchio (Chairman), G. Seabourne, F. Treglia, M. Galbraith, S. Turner, K. Mosimann O'Sullivan.

Also present: Selectmen: E. Mone, J. Sheppard, B. Barrett.

Also: S. Smith, Finance Director; members of the public, press.

1. Call to Order

D. Colavecchio called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Those present rose to recite the Pledge of Allegiance

3. Presentation of the 2010 Budget

Finance Director Sue Smith presented an over view of the proposed FY2011 Budget.

Total proposed budget: \$24,054,559

Increase in spending over FY2010: \$390,009

Mill Rate increase: 26.28FY2010 to 27.59FY2011

Use of fund balance to offset increase: \$200,000

Increase in taxes on home with assessed value of \$200,000:\$262.

Cuts made by the Board of Finance to budgets submitted by Town departments:

General Government \$120,494

Public Safety and Canine \$116,057

Public Works \$64,483

Health and Welfare \$14,256

Library and Recreation \$40,725

Housing and Land Use \$13,400

Education \$348,497

Capital Improvements \$312,090

Total cuts: \$1,012,002.

D. Colavecchio called on First Selectman Ed Mone to make opening remarks.

First Selectman Ed Mone rose to speak to the audience. He acknowledged that people in town are "hurting" financially, but asked the public to support the proposed budget. He said the proposed increase represented \$5 per week in additional taxes. He reported that the teachers had given up a their scheduled wage increase; the police have taken a wage freeze, and the White Collar Union employees will take an unpaid week long furlough all in an effort to reduce spending.

D. Colavecchio opened the meeting for public comment.

Forty six adult residents rose to support the budget. Four residents asked that \$138,000 be restored to the Education budget. Six rose to speak against budget. A letter was read in support of the budget.

Chairman Colavecchio thanked those in attendance for coming out to the public hearing and declared the public hearing closed.

4. Approval of Proposed 2011 Budget.

On a motion by M. Galbraith, seconded by F. Treglia, the Board of Finance approved a budget of \$24,054,559 and a mill rate of 27.59 for Fiscal Year 2011, subject to approval at a Town Meeting.

Vote: Unanimous

On a motion by K. Mosimann O'Sullivan, seconded by S. Turner, the meeting was adjourned at 9:30pm.

Marie Galbraith, Secretary

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