



Town of Thomaston
Selectman's Office
Town Hall
158 Main Street
P.O. Box 136
Thomaston, Connecticut 06787
Phone: 860-283-4421 Fax: 860-283-1378

DRAFT

**THOMASTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN
SPECIAL MEETING
MONDAY, MARCH 29, 2010**

Roll Call:

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

First Selectman Mone, Selectman Scheppard and Selectman Barrett, Sr. were present. Deborah Bournival, Administrative Assistant, was in attendance to take the minutes.

2010-2011 Budget Discussions:

At the last meeting of the Board of Finance, it was presented to the Board of Selectmen that additional reductions need to be made in order to get to be at 3% taxation.

A request was made to look at eliminating curbside trash collection again. First Selectman Mone asked both Paul Pronovost and Sal Santa Maria to research this possibility of eliminating curbside trash collection and instead allowing residents the option of dropping their trash off at the transfer station, free of charge. The result was that the transfer station facility currently can't handle it. Therefore, at this point, it is a dead issue.

A request was made to look at the elimination of the volunteer pension plan for Fire and Ambulance and pay out pro rata. It was suggested by the town attorney to bring this question before the town residents in a separate town meeting for a vote. If approved, it would then be considered for the town budget. The potential savings in doing this would be \$84,000, with the Ambulance per shift stipend and the Fire Department call money continuing to be funded.

Another area of consideration where possible reductions could be made was within the Street Lighting budget. First Selectman Mone, working closely with CL&P, was able to determine that about 207 streetlights throughout the town could be turned off without affecting public safety, with 20 streetlights being turned on in those areas that need it to meet criteria of lighting all corners and intersections. A total of \$12,000 was cut from this budget line.

Special Board of Selectmen Meeting
Monday, March 29, 2010
Page Two

The Board of Selectmen recommends the following cuts:

Computer Information Systems	\$ 1,410
Insurance – Education & Training	\$ 1,000
Town Hall Building & Maintenance	\$ 4,473
Volunteer Pension (if approved at town meeting)	\$ 84,000
Pension – 457b Matching Contribution (First Selectman)	\$ 1,755
Police – Travel	\$ 400
Fire Marshal	\$ 350
Tree Removal	\$ 2,000
Highway – Street Signs	\$ 4,000
Street Lighting	\$ 12,000
Curbside Collection	No Change
Groundwater Remediation	\$ 25,000
Susan B. Anthony	\$ 1,000
Capital Improvements – B.O.E. School Stair Treads	\$ 18,100
Building & Land Use	<u>\$ 1,000</u>
TOTAL	\$156,488

The Board discussed additional cuts totaling \$258,278 affecting staff positions and other cuts that were deemed unwise at this time.

A motion was made by Selectman Scheppard to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 p.m.
Motion was seconded by Selectman Barrett, Sr.. With all in favor, motion carries.