

TOWN OF SEABROOK

BUDGET MEETING

JUNE 9, 2008

Present: Paula Wood  
Peg Weare  
Richard Maguire  
Ivan Eaton  
Don Hawkins  
Jason Janvrin  
Robert S. Moore

6:00PM

Mrs. Wood opened the meeting at 6:00PM.

**EMERGENCY FUNDING**

The committee requested the town manager and water superintendent to attend the meeting and asked if there was a reason why they chose not to. Mr. Moore said he would explain the situation and would have very much liked the support himself.

Mr. Moore explained the break in an area near the welcome center and the main that runs across Route 95. He said they found that the off-ramp into MA welcome center had paved over one end of our main where the sleeve sits. He said they would not allow us to dig up their pavement to repair. With the break we are lacking 40% of our water capacity. After speaking with a hydrologist he said with no major disasters we would be okay. They originally thought the town crew could fix the break.

Mr. Hawkins asked if there was another step we could take with the state to correct the problem for the \$60K versus \$250K.

Mrs. Wood read a quote from the newspaper that quoted Mr. Mike Jeffers as saying it is not an emergency. Mr. Moore said as long as the water tap provides water there is no emergency.

Mr. Moore said the unreserved fund balance is over \$6 million. Mrs. Wood said the word from the finance office is the figure is not accurate.

Mr. Moore said they have a major problem and we can either address it now when we have the funds or leave alone and do nothing. The last option would be to go out to the median and cut the pipe and take out the bad and put in the new to correct the problem this way would be a band-aid fix.

Mrs. Wood asked if the rest area pays for water. She doesn't think it is fair they take our water but would not allow us to fix our main.

Mr. Moore advised he would go back to the town manager to pursue the option of the state and would try to get something in writing as to why we cannot use the less costly route.

Mr. Janvrin said he would like the emergency management director and fire department to pursue on their end.

Mr. Maguire said the selectmen should look into another plan in case we do have some sort of disaster. He would like them to check with surrounding communities to ensure we would be able to get water.

Mr. Hawkins said the decision is to decide what to do once all avenues are exhausted. Mrs. Wood explained if they do not go along with the recommendation does not mean they don't want to fix the problem they are just saying they want more information and ask them to come back to the committee.

Mr. Maguire suggested they table the item until June 26 which is the next meeting and look into the surrounding communities for mutual aid and if a written opinion could be provided from the state to the budget committee.

MOTION: Paula Wood To table item until  
Second: Jason Janvrin June 26.  
Unanimous

Mrs. Wood asked if the department head and/or the 2<sup>nd</sup> in command could attend the meeting as well as the town manager. She would hope while they are still on the payroll they would be able to answer questions.

Mrs. Wood informed the committee a letter was distributed to department heads for their comments and/or thoughts on the default budget.

MOTION: Richard Maguire To adjourn the meeting  
Second: Jason Janvrin at 6:53PM.  
Unanimous

Minutes taken by Kelly J. O'Connor

Approved and endorsed:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Paula Wood, Chairman

Date: \_\_\_\_\_