

Municipal Council Minutes
Tuesday, May 9, 2006
Town Hall Auditorium

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Alison Lindstrom, Donna McClure, Mario Pinierio, Michelle Thone, Roger Benson, Hank Brennick, Ann Connolly King, Robert Lavoie, Christopher Lawrence

Accept Minutes: 4/24/06 and 4/11/06 Councilor Benson motions to accept, Councilor Pinierio second
– Voted Unanimous

Public Comment

Jane Snow, 44 Fern Ave. – Ms. Snow presents the Council with a timer to be used for public comment.

James Thieverge – Mr. Thieverge comments on transfers 2006-055, 2006-056 and 2006-057 and the Whittier Assessment. He feels the salaries at Whittier should be within the same range as the member communities. In regards to 40B's he hopes there is some communication to get an idea what kind of resources will be needed.

Tony LeSage, 150 Market St., Whittier Rep. – Mr. LeSage states that he did pass the proposed Whittier budget and looks forward to sitting down with the Council.

Thomas Jones, Newburyport City Councilor – Mr. Jones states the Newburyport City Council separated the Whittier appropriation from the full budget and voted unanimously as a Council to reject the Whittier budget. He is asking the Amesbury Council to do the same. He wanted to be clear that Newburyport is not opposed to vocational education however; the current proposed budget is an imposition on the community.

James Shanley, Newburyport City Councilor – Mr. Shanley echoes Mr. Jones comments and states that the current proposed Whittier budget is unsustainable for the communities. He urges the Council to reject the budget so it can be renegotiated.

Karen Sarkisian, Superintendent of Whittier School – Ms. Sarkisian states the biggest increases in the Whittier budget are from the State. The state has changed the chapter 70 funding formula and decided it would be more equitable to also look at the wealth of the region. The wealthier communities are now expected to pay more. Nationally vocational technical education is twice as expensive as regular education. She feels there needs to be a change in Chapter 70 because it is unpredictable from year to year.

Council Response to Public Comment

In response to the Whittier budget President Lawrence recommends referring 2006-001 to a joint Finance Committee/Municipal Council meeting May 24, 2006 so that the Finance Committee accepts the budget and is referred back to the Municipal Council for a public hearing and at that time split the budget. President Lawrence thanks the Newburyport Councilor's.

Licenses and Permits

2006-050 Common Victualler – “Raise the Arm” Civil War Encampment
President Lawrence reads 2006-050 into the record.

Paul Jancewicz, 19 Whittier Ave. – Mr. Jancewicz explains the event to the council and asks if the fee can be waived because it is a “not for profit” event.

Councilor Benson moves to approve and waive the fee for 2006-050, Councilor Lindstrom second – Voted Unanimous

2006-053 Common Victualler - Pied Piper Ice Cream
President Lawrence reads 2006-053 into the record.

David Kennedy, Plaistow NH – Mr. Kennedy explains he is a new owner and wants to make sure he has all the licenses and permit to operate in town.

Councilor Pinierio motions to accept 2006-053, Councilor Benson second – Voted – Unanimous

2006-052 2006 Renewals - Pool and Bowling License
President Lawrence reads 2006-052 into the record.

Councilor Benson abstained from the vote.

Councilor Brennick motions to accept, Councilor Thone second. – Voted – 8 Yes, 1 Abstain (Benson)

2006-051 Junk Dealers License

President Lawrence reads 2006-051 into the record.

Councilor Benson motions for approval of 2006-051 as submitted, Councilor King second – Voted – Unanimous

2006-061 2006 Renewal Auctioneer License – John McInnis

Councilor Benson motions to accept as a late file, Councilor Lavoie second – Voted Unanimous

President Lawrence reads 2006-061 into the record.

Councilor Benson motions for approval as submitted, Councilor Thone second – Voted Unanimous

Mayoral Appointments

2006-054 Appointment of Cynthia Roberts – Lakes & Waterways Commission term to expire 6/30/08

President Lawrence read 2006-054 into the record

Cynthia Roberts, 5 Fifth Street – Ms. Roberts would like to volunteer her time to ensure the quality of the lakes and waterways for Amesbury Citizens now and in the future.

Councilor Benson moved for approval of 2006-054 as submitted, Councilor Pinierio second - Voted Unanimous

2006-059 Appointment of Ferolyn Harris – Council on Aging term to expire 6/30/08.

President Lawrence read 2006-059 into the record.

Ferolyn Harris, 33 Heritage Vale – Ms. Harris is very interested in working with the seniors and has volunteered her time in the past working with the seniors.

Councilor Thone thanks Ms. Harris and motions to approve 2006-059, Councilor Benson second. Voted Unanimous

Second Readings

2006-037 An Ordinance to amend Rule #20 of the Municipal Council Rules and Procedure – Councilor Benson sponsor

President Lawrence read 2006-037 into the record.

Councilor Benson explains that 2006-037 is a very simple housekeeping measure. He realized the e-mail policy that was passed read that the councilors were supposed to copy the Town Clerk with every e-mail received. He inserted "that relates to business of the Town of Amesbury that is". Councilor Lavoie motions to adopt 2006-037 as submitted, Councilor Lindstrom second – Voted Unanimous

Public Hearings

2006-011 An Ordinance to Amend Article 7 – Financial Impact of Proposed Measures – Councilor McClure sponsor cont.

President Lawrence read 2006-011 into the record and opened the public hearing.

Councilor Brennick read the Finance Committee recommendation to change the 36 month projection to 60 month projection or the life of the project which ever is greater. Councilor Lavoie read the Ordinance Committee recommendation which was to adopt.

Councilor McClure states she met with Mike Basque with the 36 month projection and does not believe he will have a problem with the change to 60 month projection. He was very confident he would not need any additional help and it would not produce any undo burden. She would like to see the council accept the 60 projection.

Marc Deschenes, 1 Highland Street – Mr. Deschenes questions adding "or the life of the project which ever is greater.

Councilor Pinierio motions to accept 2006-011 as amended by the Finance Committee, Councilor Lindstrom second –

Councilor King asks that if Mr. Basque had no problem with providing financial analysis then why is there a need to mandate it? She feels that if a Municipal Councilor is putting forth an ordinance that is going to have an affect on the tax rate and if there is a need for financial analysis that it should be brought to the Mayor as a collaborative project.

Councilor McClure explains the reason for needing a mandate is because the current CFO, Council and Mayor who are very open and agreeable to provide information are not always going to be here. She feels when a Councilor brings a bill forward it is their responsibility to present financial information and the bottom line will be the CFO making sure the information is correct.

Councilor King feels the bill would take the responsibility off the presenting Councilor to gather information for a bill and place it all in the CFO's office. She does not feel it is the CFO's responsibility to collect and run down numbers. The burden will then be placed on the taxpayer because the community would be paying \$55.00 an hour for his time. Councilor McClure states she did go to Mike Basque and asked what it would cost and he did say nothing; it was part of his job. She hopes all sponsoring Councilor's would bring as much information as they could muster when they go to Mike Basque for financial analysis.

Councilor Pinierio motions to accept 2006-011 as amended by the Finance Committee, Councilor Lindstrom second – Voted – 8 Yes, 1 No (King)

2006-014 An Ordinance to Amend Article 44 – Committee Procedures, Deliberations – Councilor Thone sponsor con't.

President Lawrence reads 2006-014 into the record.

Councilor Thone explains that this ordinance is to address the open meeting law. The council adopted an e-mail policy which was ordered by the courts because of the library issue and it has been amended. This will create a bylaw which amends Article 44 Committee Procedures and adopts a policy for all committees and boards in town to follow. If the bylaw is violated they are violating the open meeting law. It establishes a consistent policy for communications and more specifically addresses the e-mail technology. The Ordinance Committee made a lot of changes which she does accept and recommends that they be incorporated into this ordinance.

Councilor Lavoie explains the changes made by the Ordinance Committee.

Councilor King asks that once a bill passes through Ordinance Committee it be re-written to reflect the changes. She would like to have a complete document that represents what is actually being voted on.

Lars Johannessen - Mr. Johannessen would like the Councilors to read in full the ordinances.

Councilor Benson would like to have a paragraph summary read every time a bill is talked about because it is confusing to the public.

Jane Snow – Fern Ave. – Ms. Snow suggests using an overhead projector so the public can read along with the councilors as they read their bills.

Chris Hyde – Kimball Rd. - Mr. Hyde has requested that every bill be in an electronic format so every citizen would be able to request it by e-mail.

President Lawrence states the way it should work is the sponsoring Councilor submits the original bill to the Town Clerk, he then holds on to it and takes the Ordinance and Finance Committee recommendations and puts them together for the final version.

Councilor Thone reads 2006-014.

Marc Deschenes – Mr. Deschenes states he did not find it difficult to find out what the changes were that the sub committee made.

Councilor Benson supports 2006-014, he feels it is good to lay out a policy for everyone to follow. He addresses Mr. Hyde's comment saying that everyone has access to public records in the form in which they are created.

*Councilor Thone motions to accept 2006-014 with the recommendations of the Ordinance Committee.
Councilor Brennick second – Voted Unanimous*

2006-009 An Act to Establish a Tourism Promotion Fund – Councilor Lawrence sponsor cont.
President Lawrence reads 2006-009 into the record and opens the public hearing.

Discussion continues on how to meld the recommendations from the Ordinance and Finance Committees.

President Lawrence gave a brief summary of 2006-009. He explains 2006-009 is to take the hotel tax receipts and appropriate them to the tourism promotion fund. Non profits in town could apply for grant money to promote tourism and economic development in Amesbury. The hotel tax money in the past was appropriated to the Alliance.

Councilor Brennick read the recommendation from the Finance Committee (attached).

Councilor Lavoie read the recommendation of the April 25th Ordinance Committee. He states the Ordinance Committee read the Finance Committee recommendations and put their intent into the Ordinance Committee recommendations.

Section 1 line 3: special fund should be revolving fund.

Section 1 line 4: there should be deposited a portion of all receipts

Section 1 line 5: insert - such portion to be at least 50% of said receipts, with the ability of the Amesbury Municipal Council to annually determine a greater amount up to 100% of said receipts.

Section 1 line 9: after the word fund insert – the auditor or accountant shall submit annually a report of said revolving funds to the Mayor and Council for their review and a copy of said report shall be submitted to the director of the Bureau of Accounts.

Section 2 line 1: strike the word three and replace with the word five. Two members will be appointed by the Mayor, two members would be appointed by the Majority vote of the Municipal Council and one member appointed by the Governor. Board members may serve no more than two consecutive three year terms. The Ordinance Committee felt people should have to sit out after six years to get some fresh blood on the board.

Section 3 line 1: after the word shall insert the word have.

Section 3 line 2: after the word vote insert: and with written approval of the Chief Financial Officer

Section 3 line 4: after the word Act insert: provided however that any funds shall not be used for the purpose of paying any wages and salaries.

Section 4 line 2: strike the word award and insert solicit applications from organizations.

There technically was no section 5 and section 6 was struck all together.

It is important to keep in mind that in order to establish such a fund it requires special legislation this bill would allow Amesbury to seek that special legislation to set up tourism fund. The other factor the Ordinance Committee had on their mind was if there was a lot of detail in the bill anytime a change was made the town would have to go back to the legislature.

Raymond Shockey, Amesbury Alliance – Mr. Shockey states he is trying to establish with local businesses and chambers a team work approach to tourism and local economic development. He feels there should be oversight by elected officials because of tax dollars. He feels it is not clear in the bill whether or not grant distribution is the only function of the board. Can they expand out to other areas?

Councilor Lindstrom asks Mr. Shockey what he meant by expanding their roll. Mr. Shockey explains that it states the new board can seek applicants and award grants but does not say it is the only thing they can do. He hopes that everyone is going to work in the same direction. He is finding out that it is already hard enough getting all the organizations together with the same purpose. Adding one more set of voices setting the direction of economic development will make it more difficult.

Mayor Thatcher Kezer – Mayor Kezer is favor of tourism, bringing in foot traffic to the downtown to help the local businesses. He has an overall concern for this ordinance. Despite having two

appointees by the Mayor and the other three appointees on the board we are setting up a separate body separate from the Mayor and Council that will control upwards of \$81,000 of revenue collected by the town. He states the evolution of municipal government over the 25-30 years was to get away from separate boards with separate financial powers and to consolidate it to the form we have today with a Mayor and Municipal Council. It is very clear to the public who is in charge of the money and who is responsible. Having just gone through putting together a budget, \$81,000 is a lot of money. Any money that is diverted from the budget and dedicated to a single cause is significant because that means something else in the budget will have to be cut. There is a budget process used in order to prioritize the allocation of all the funds in town. Tourism would be sorted amount all the other requirements of municipal government. Diverting the money automatically each year means more cuts will have to be made somewhere else. Secondly, specifically under section 1 the line that states "such portion to be at least 50% of said receipts with the ability of the Amesbury Municipal Council to annually determine a greater amount up to 100% of said receipts". That phrase is in conflict with MGL Ch.44 section 32 and Charter 5-3 subsection b. The Mayor submits the budget and the Council only has the power to accept the appropriation or to lower it. This language gives the council the authority to raise the appropriation which is in conflict with MGL and the Charter. Mayor Kezer also feels the town already has the mechanisms in place to promote tourism and economic development. One use for the funds that would not be allowed under the Tourism Promotion Funds is to complete the river walk downtown. Eighty thousand dollars would pay for the engineering needed to complete that project. He feels that would be the biggest benefit for tourism in the downtown.

Marc Deschenes, 1 Highland St. – Mr. Deschenes states he does not remember as much concern being raised when money was given to the Alliance. He believes in concept this bill is good.

President Lawrence states the Alliance received money for several years without any accounting. He states he has been approached by several members of the Alliance asking how they could apply for grants from the fund. The fund would grant money to special events such as the Raise the Arm event, fireworks and Amesbury Day's festivities as well as the museums and cultural events. All would bring in foot traffic to town. Historically the hotel room tax ordinance is money that is specified to go to tourism and economic development.

James Thieverge, Sanborn Ter. – Mr. Thieverge feels the Tourism Promotion Fund is a good idea however; he feels it should only be 25% of the hotel tax.

Lars Johannessen, Kendricks Ct. – Mr. Johannessen is in favor of a tourism bill. He feels the one before the council was made as vague as possible to push through the legislature. He would like to see the specific uses for the grant money more detailed.

President Lawrence states the grantee comes up with a cost estimate to apply for a grant which will be reviewed by the board and then either a portion or all of it will be granted. After they complete what they applied for they can come back with receipts and are reimbursed at that time.

Mr. Johannessen asks how often the board will meet. President Lawrence responds it would be up to the board.

Councilor Lavoie states in section 4 it says not less than annually. Grants have to be made at least once a year. He feels a provision that would address some concerns would be the inclusion of a new section 5 that would run something along the way of "the Town of Amesbury shall have the right to

enact local ordinances consistent with this act". That would allow the Municipal Council to set up criteria that wouldn't be in the ordinance so it wouldn't be dependant upon the legislature to change details that five years into the fund the town might collectively find don't work. Councilor Lavoie states the Mayor is correct in regards to the Charter. He feels an easy fix for that would be in section 1 at the end where it notes "such portion shall be at least 50% of the receipts with the ability of the Amesbury Municipal Council" if after the Amesbury Municipal Council we track the language of the Charter which would be "with the recommendation of the Mayor". The Mayor would include the percentage of the hotel tax to be used for the fund in his budget. He feels it should be 50% or less of the hotel tax.

Councilor Benson states in terms of the appropriations to the Alliance; there was no formal mechanism for oversight in place. He remembers when they were making the appropriations Dennis Welcome would come before the Council and they would nickel and dime him to death. He remembers having an extreme knowledge of the day to day cost of the Alliance. They went over his entire budget and what sort of things he spent money on. He believes 2006-009 is a good idea in theory and has supported it in the past. Since then he has had to recommend laying off firefighters and police officers. He supports spending money on economic development. He agrees with Councilor Lavoie that this forces the town to spend what ever 50% of the hotel tax is in any particular year and takes away any flexibility at budget time. Any of these groups when times are good can go to the Mayor and get funding for something. He can't see ear marking money at this time and loose control of it to the State.

Councilor King does not support 2006-009. She has several concerns one of which is the financial situation of the cities and towns. She does not feel the council would be considered good watch dogs of the finances if they pull this money out and put it into tourism. Her other concern is oversight, handing over \$50,000 plus to five people with no idea what is going to happen to that money although a bit of oversight was built in at the Ordinance requiring the CFO to oversee receipts. Her concern is giving \$50,000 with no elected official oversight to a group. We have no application, no written guidelines, no contracts and no documents in place for these groups to give back to us to ensure that these groups have not diverted the funds from the reasons that they have been given to them. She is not comfortable releasing the money with total lack of oversight. The other groups that were used as examples all have oversight from their Municipal Council. She could not find any tourism organizations that acted independently as the one proposed. All were approved by either the Mayor or Municipal Council. She would like to see President Lawrence resubmit with all documentation in place and stringent oversight.

Councilor McClure finds it interesting that there were more questions on the tourism bill than there were on the 3.5 million dollar Library project. She finds it pretty amazing talking about \$40,000 to encourage tourism in Amesbury and there have been more questions on that issue yet prior councils have passed million and millions of dollars. She feels this is leaning forward and would help the businesses in town. She feels it is as important as the engineering for the riverwalk. She will support 2006-009 at a 50% level. She feels \$81,000 is a lot of money but \$40,000 will do some good for the town.

Councilor Thone states \$50,000 has been given to the Alliance over and over again with little or no oversight and no questioning about where the funds would go. She finds it interesting that the Mayor thinks the \$80,000 for the Riverwalk is more beneficial. She finds it conflicting that \$80,000 towards the riverwalk versus the small amount of investment that would be made with the tourism fund is any

less important. She thinks there will be a return on investment; it is a commitment to the businesses, downtown and to the community as a whole. She believes there is oversight. The Council determines the amount of funding; there is an annual report and an annual audit that is part of 2006-009. She suggests in addition to the recommendations of the Ordinance Committee it should be 30% of said receipts no 50% and add to section 4 that said board shall provide the Municipal Council with a copy of all approved grant applications as funding is awarded. She would like to see who the money is going to and what its purpose is once the award are funded.

Councilor Benson responding to what Councilor McClure said regarding the Library states, the Council has been debating 2006-009 for about 20 or 30 minutes and he feels it is insulting to the process that went into the Library debate that was months long before initial approval. It floors him that she would say that because the council has a few questions, talking about 20 minutes and that no questions were asked about a 3.6 million dollar project. That is not at all true. It was months and months and it is insulting to everyone that sat on the Council and everyone that walked up to the microphone and spoke.

Councilor McClure responds that 2006-009 has been before the council for months and months. It was before the last council for months and months. This has been discussed over and over. She states she is not trying to hurt anyone's feelings about the discussion that took place about the library she is trying to say we are talking about a \$40,000 opportunity to help the businesses to bring more people into town. She feels it is a very reasonable request with enough oversight.

Councilor Lindstrom speaking as a former member of the Cultural Council, and realizing the paltry amount of money they had to work with, less than \$9,600, to be used to promote the arts and humanities in town, they created an arts community. They created the Studio Tour and because of that the Provident Bank started a charitable foundation for arts, humanity and kids a quarterly grant award. She sees a big benefit in supporting 2006-009 and agrees with 30% of the hotel tax and having the council seeing the approved grants. She will be supporting 2006-009.

Councilor King states even at the lesser amount of \$24,000 the money will still be coming out of the 15% of the budget that can be cut, salaries and benefits make up about 85% of the budget. She feels it is likely the money will be cut from the DPW. As an example of what \$40,000 would buy in Amesbury it would pave a mile of road, build concrete sidewalks that would extend from R Street up to Congress Street and provide tree work that is currently contracted out. She agrees with the concept of a tourism board. She can not support taking \$24 - \$40,000 from a budget when there could possibly be cuts. She reminds the council that they budget was presented to them and asks where they would take the money from.

Councilor Thone asks if anyone anticipated, last year when they voted on the library project, where the \$350,000 a year was going to come from and the 4 additional employees. Where would they be getting it today? The Mayor said he would get more bang for his buck if he spent \$88,000 on the riverwalk that is four years of this tourism fund if it is a 30% level.

President Lawrence moves the question to a vote.

Councilor Benson objects to that vote. He would like to see the council vote after the budget and after the councilors understand the limitations that are going to be dealt with.

President Lawrence moves to schedule a council meeting in 48 hours.
Councilor Benson withdraws his objection.

President Lawrence states they have the Ordinance Recommendations and the additional comments which Councilor Lavoie discussed regarding the ability of the Municipal Council to determine to have that changed to the recommendation of the Mayor. Also add a section 5 "shall have the right to enact local ordinances consistent with the act". To help move this forward I would also agree with Councilor Thone to start with 30% as well as adding to section 4 "said board to submit to the Municipal Council the grant applications that would be my motion.

Councilor Lavoie reads the motion for the record.

The Ordinance Committee recommendation to be adopted with the following changes:

Section 1 line 6 – that the term 50% be changed to 30%

Section 1 line 7 – after the word Municipal Council insert the words "with the recommendation of the Mayor"

Section 4 at the end a sentence that would read "A copy of approved grants shall be submitted to the Amesbury Municipal Council within 14 days of such approval by the board."

A new Section 5 that would read "The Town of Amesbury shall have the right to enact local ordinances governing the administration and regulation of said Tourism Promotion Fund Administrative Board consistent with this act."

President Lawrence makes that as a motion. Councilor Brennick second.

Roll Call: 7 Yes, 2 No (King, Benson)

Recess

2006-043 - An Order that the Municipal Council accept a donation from the Amesbury Healthcare Charitable Trust in the amount of \$5,500.00

President Lawrence reads 2006-043 into the record.

Mike Cronin, Amesbury Police Chief – Mr. Cronin gave a brief explanation of Project Life Saver which is designed to track the most vulnerable members of the community who get lost from their caregivers. The Amesbury Healthcare Charitable Trust will donate the money it would cost for the two tracking devices the police would need and the individuals would buy their own wrist bands either through their insurance company or the with the assistance Charitable Trust funds, there would be no cost to the town for wrist bands. The only cost to the town would be buying new batteries for the tracking devise which would be about \$50.00 per year.

Councilor Thone asks how many search and rescues the Amesbury Police Dept. has done. Chief Cronin explains that they do them routinely especially with Alzheimer patients. Councilor Thone asks if there would be training involved and if so how extensive. Chief Cronin responds there would be training and it would be minimal.

Councilor Lindstrom asks what the actual lifespan of the units would be. Chief Cronin understands they would last 10-12 years.

Councilor Lindstrom moves to accept 2006-043. Councilor Benson second. Voted Unanimous

New Business

2006-049 An Ordinance to request that the Municipal Council accepts a gift of a park bench in memory of Marie Kudym from her family – Mayor Kezer sponsor

President Lawrence reads 2006-049 into the record.

Councilor Benson moves to continue to the June 9th Municipal Council meeting for a public hearing.

Councilor Pinierio second – Voted Unanimous

2006-055 Transfer to Snow and Ice Removal – Mayor Kezer sponsor

President reads 2006-055 into the record.

Councilor Benson moves to refer 2005-055 to the Finance Committee and schedule a public hearing at the June Municipal Council meeting. Councilor Lindstrom second Voted Unanimous

2006-056 Transfer between General Departments Funds – Mayor Kezer sponsor

President Lawrence reads 2006-056 into the record.

Councilor Brennick motion to refer 2006-056 to the Finance Committee, Councilor McClure second – Voted Unanimous

2006-057 Transfer within the Landry Stadium Fund – Mayor Kezer sponsor

President Lawrence reads 2006-057 into the record.

Councilor McClure moves to refer 2006-057 to the Finance Committee, Councilor Benson second – Voted Unanimous

2006-058 Appropriation to the Stabilization Fund – Mayor Kezer sponsor

President Lawrence reads 2006-058 into the record.

Councilor Benson moves to refer 2006-058 to the Finance Committee and schedule a public hearing at the June Municipal Council meeting, Councilor Lindstrom second – Voted Unanimous

Late File

2006-060 Administrative Order #06-01 Master Plan Implementation change of membership – Mayor Kezer sponsor

Councilor Lindstrom moves to accept late file, Councilor Lavoie second – Voted Unanimous

President Lawrence reads 2006-060 into the record.

Councilor Lindstrom moves to accept 2006-060, Councilor Lavoie second – Voted Unanimous

Late File

2006-062 Lakes & Waterways Commission – Rearrange memberships

Councilor Benson moves to accept the late file, Councilor Lindstrom second Voted Unanimous

President Lawrence reads 2006-060 into the record.

Councilor Benson motions for approve of 2006-062, Councilor Pinierio second – Voted Unanimous

2006-001 FY007 Budget

President Lawrence reads 2006-001 into the record

Councilor Benson moves to refer 2006-001 to the Finance Committee and schedule a joint meeting on Wednesday the 24th between the Finance and Municipal Council to discuss the Other Assessments line. Councilor Pinierio second – Voted Unanimous

Correspondence:

Communications from Elected Officials, Boards and Commissions

Councilor McClure reports that the Library Long Range Committee has finalized their survey and debate is on going on how it will be going out.

President Lawrence says he has a request to have a committee report regarding the Town Clerk position at the next Municipal Council meeting.

Councilor King asks if the report that Jack Luz read at the Education Sub committee was reviewed before it was read. Councilor Lindstrom responds it was reviewed at the meeting, how he presented it was not reviewed by her as a script. She realizes he is not supposed to represent the committee with his own view point. Councilor King states she was disappointed that an elected official of the Education Sub committee didn't go to any of the School Committee budget hearings. Councilor Lindstrom responds that an elected member does not have to attend however she did go to two meetings and it was stated at the first meeting that there would be no question and answer from the audience.

President Lawrence moves on to accept the resignation of Pam Gilday from Policy Committee on Education. Councilor Benson motions to accept, Councilor McClure second – Voted Unanimous

Councilor Benson motions to adjourn, Councilor McClure second – Voted Unanimous

Respectfully Submitted,
Assistant Town Clerk