

**Minutes of a gathering of a quorum of the Town Council on April 30th, AD 2015 to attend and participate in the Budget Committee Public Hearing on the FY2016 Budget. This meeting was held in the Town Council Chambers, Town Hall, 40 Commons, Little Compton, RI. Members present: Charles N. Appleton, Jr., Fred M. Bodington, III, Paul J. Golembeske and Robert L. Mushen. Absent: Gary S. Mataronas. These minutes are not to be construed as a complete reflection of the Budget Committees actions, but rather a notation of those events during the meeting where the Town Council participated in discussion. A record of the Budget Committee meeting will be found in its meeting minutes.**

**Robert Goff, Chairman of the Budget Committee called his meeting to order at 7:02 PM with three of his five members in attendance and meeting a quorum. Budget Committee members present: George Crowell, Craig Curtis and Robert Goff. Absent at this time: Jeffery Snyder and Robert Goulart. Mr. Snyder arrived at 7:40 PM.**

**The Town Council sat in the chambers and participated in discussion as questions were addressed to them. Councilor Mushen was asked to clarify why Article #16 – the Ambulance Reimbursement Fund was restricted to expenditures for the Fire Department rather than a broader ability for other departments to use the monies. Councilor Mushen explained that when this fund was created the LC Volunteer Fire Department feared they would loose donations if the public realized the town was to receive payments for the transportation of**

individuals in the ambulance from insurance companies. The fund was therefore restricted to be used solely for the use of the fire department and related expenses. Councilor Mushen noted that he was convinced to leave the language as it was initially created.

Several members of the public spoke to various budget Articles. The Committee made two further amendments to their proposed recommendations. As a result of the Committees action the Council President suggested the Town has the ability to increase the amount taken from the General Fund to offset the tax rate rather than increasing the tax rate a few more cents. Budget Committee Member Crowell suggested the Council and Budget Committee meet at a future date to determine what will be considered an appropriate general fund surplus, which comes into consideration when reviewing this type of situation.

The Budget Committee reviewed the balance to their recommended budget proposal and voted to accept as reviewed this evening. The final recommended number should be \$12,928,711.

The Budget Committee adjourned.

Motion to adjourn made by Councilor Golembeske, receiving a second by Councilor Mushen, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mushen): To adjourn at 8:40 PM.

**Carol A Wordell**

**Town Clerk**