

Town of Lincoln

Budget Board Meeting

March 9, 2006

Members Present:

**Ken Booth Greg Leonard Jack Newman Cheryl Ethier Bob Ericson
Roberta Gosselin Carl Brunetti Claudette Lussier Joe Dziobek Linda
Noble**

Members Absent:

Mary Varr

The meeting began at 7:35 with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The minutes of March 8th were distributed for review.

**Jack Newman made a motion to accept the minutes, seconded by
Carl Brunetti.**

**It was noted that Joe Dziobek, not Ken Booth, had spoken with the
Town Council President regarding the Special Financial Town
Meeting, and that Ed O'Neil in public comment had not said that he
did not feel that he should have to pay for a copy of the budget.**

**The minutes were approved by a vote of 8-0 with Roberta Gosselin
and Joe Dziobek abstaining because they were not present.**

**Ken Booth stated that he had spoken with the Town Council
President Liz Robinson, and stated that the Budget Board was going**

to take a position on the Special Town Meeting and whether or not it should be held.

Ken distributed a draft of a letter to be submitted by the Budget Board regarding the Special Financial Town Meeting.

The Football Association is concerned that if the Special Financial Town Meeting is not held, then the moving of the practice field, which is the purpose of the Special Financial Town Meeting, may be rejected at the regular Financial Town Meeting.

The Town Moderator, Joe Dziobek, stated that although he is not available to attend the proposed meeting on April 6th, he would be able to attend if it were on April 12th or 14th.

Ken Booth distributed a draft of the press release that will announce the public hearing of the budget on March 15th.

Roberta Gosselin stated that she has not heard anything from the Office of Municipal Affairs regarding whether or not the new middle school will qualify as an emergency that would make the town eligible for a waiver to exceed the 5.5% cap law.

Joe Dziobek noted that the schools may try to decentralize their system so that each Principal is responsible for the budget of their school.

The Budget Board welcomed public comment and questions. At the time there was none.

The Budget Board broke into School and Municipal Subcommittees. Notes from the School Subcommittee can be found as an addendum.

The Budget Board rejoined.

Linda Noble noted that the School Subcommittee wanted to meet with the School Department and Administration to discuss the issue of bonding versus capital expenditures.

Jack Newman noted that currently, there is no member of the Budget Board sitting on the commission who decide what should be paid for by bond and what should be paid for through capital expenses.

The School Subcommittee will set up a meeting at 6:30 before the public hearing of the budget on March 15th to discuss bonding issues.

Linda Noble noted that it may be best to pass out the list of highlights, or things that the Budget Board is questioning, at the end of public hearing of the budget, and not at the beginning so that people will concentrate more on the reading of the budget.

Roberta Gosselin suggested also doing an overview of what the Budget Board is all about.

The Budget Board welcomed public comment and questions.

Ed O'Neil thanked the Budget Board for their hard work and noted that most taxpayers probably don't realize how much time and effort

goes into the budget process by the Budget Board.

Joe Dziobek made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Greg Leonard.

The meeting adjourned at 10:00.