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TOWN HALL 238 Danbury Road Wilton, CT 06897

BOARD OF SELECTMEN SPECIAL BUDGET WORKSHOP MEETING THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2011 MEETING ROOM B, WILTON TOWN HALL

PRESENT: First Selectman William Brennan, Selectman Susan Bruschi, Selectman

Richard Creeth, Selectman Ted Hoffstatter ABSENT: Harold Clark

GUESTS: Sandy Dennies, Sarah Taffel

First Selectmen Brennan called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

FY 12 PROPOSED MUNICIPAL BUDGET

OPERATING EXPENSES

Mr. Brennan advised that he believes this proposed budget needs to be reduced in order to get approval from the Board of Finance and the voters. He proceeded to outline decreases that he would recommend at this time.

<u>Human Resources/Administration</u> – Ms. Taffel has requested a new part-time employee, as she had done last year. Mr. Brennan believes she could be assisted by delegating some of her work load to others so that she can concentrate on upcoming union contract negotiations.

<u>Employee Benefits</u> – Discussions are not completed yet with Anthem BC/BS. Unfortunately the town employee claims experience was higher than had been anticipated. Numbers being used are calculated "guesstimates" while we wait for a more definite answer from Anthem.

Workers Comp Insurance – It is felt that the \$50,000 could be removed from this account.

<u>Transfer Station</u> – Mr. Thurkettle has been asked to look for a \$25,000 reduction in the \$300,000 subsidy to operate the station, which would bring this account funding to a lower level than last year.

<u>Police Department</u> – The request is for funding the full complement of 44 officers, however this amount can be reduced to reflect the current 43 officers.

These recommendations reflect a \$563,000 (2%) reduction in Operating Expenses.

CAPITAL

<u>Debt Service</u> – This includes debt service for \$2.5 million for the purchase of open space. This bonded capital request, which is not imminent, can be pushed out to FY 13.

<u>Fire Headquarters Training Room</u> – The \$10,000 requested can be put on hold right now while grants are being sought for the full cost of this project.

<u>Public Works</u> – The sweeper can be put off for one more year – FY 13, however the dump trucks and plows are critical. The paving request can be reduced by \$50,000.

These recommendations reduce Operating Capital by \$200,000. In addition, the Ambler Farm white house renovations request for \$500,000 (bonded capital) could be moved out and split between FY 2013 and FY 2014.

No action needs to be taken tonight. The Selectmen will have time to look for any additional savings possibilities to be discussed at the next meeting.

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Jan Andras Recording Secretary