

**Minutes of the
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Thursday, February 6, 2014 @6:00 p.m.
TOWN OFFICE BUILDING**

A Special Meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 6:05 p.m. by First Selectwoman Catherine Iino. In attendance were Selectman Fred Dudek and Finance Director Regina Regolo. Selectman Lou Annino Jr. joined the meeting at approximately 6:10 p.m. Visitors: John Samperi

The Board of Selectmen proceeded to conduct a general discussion and overview of 14/15 budget with a particular focus on the Multi-Year Capital Improvement plan. The Board unanimously agreed to share a draft of the plan with the Board of Finance at their joint meeting to be held this coming Monday, February 10th at 7 p.m.

The Board expressed concerns regarding a recent trend on the part of the town to continue reducing the "set aside" of annual transfers of capital funding and to continue deferring the maintenance of capital assets. Lou Annino was particularly concerned about the roads and infrastructures of the aging subdivisions, some of which are over 25 years old and which will begin to require the town's attention and investment. The town has to recognize that we should be making substantial and recurring capital investment each year. This multi-year capital plan is an important tool to help us to identify, clarify, and prioritize the needs and wants of the town. Gina Regolo reminded the board not to confuse the capital plan with actual approved capital projects or current funding. She also reiterated that in order to receive LoCIP funding the town must have current multi-year capital improvement plan approved at a town meeting.

While the Board agreed that the financing of these needs is the purview of the Board of Finance, they discussed various methods including short term notes or BANS; bonds, direct loans, and lease purchase arrangements.

Cathy Iino had recently met the town's financial advisor, Webster Bank, and shared some illustrations of bonding options. The cost to issue a bond is between \$80k to \$100k regardless of the size of the bond. Therefore it makes financial sense to bundle several larger projects together. Short term notes (bond anticipation notes) can be issued at lower cost than bonds and rolled over several times before they are converted to bonds. Interest rates are higher than they were last year but continue to be at or close to historical lows.

The next Regular meeting is scheduled for Monday, Feb 10, 2014 at 7 p.m. The Board of Finance will be in attendance to discuss priorities for the Town in the coming fiscal year. The next Special meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, Feb 11, 2014 at 6 p.m.

Motion by First Selectwoman Iino, seconded by Selectman Dudek to adjourn at 7:40 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Regina Regolo
Acting Recording Secretary