

**MINUTES**

**FINANCIAL PLANNING COMMITTEE**

January 5, 2006

Present: Chair Jim Casella  
Vice-Chair Jason Perreault  
David DeVries  
James Halpin  
Roger Leland

Also Present: Town Administrator Barry M. Brenner  
School Superintendent Robert Couture  
Northborough School Committee Chair Nancy Berglund  
Northborough School Committee Members Shirley Lundberg, Susan Sartori,  
Karen Richardson  
Selectman Chair Kathleen Polanowicz  
Selectman Leslie Rutan

Meeting convened at 7:00 p.m. in the Selectmen's Meeting Room.

Approval of Minutes of December 19, 2005

Motion to approve made and seconded; and approved unanimously.

The School Superintendent provided a review of the Northborough K-8 Schools' Capital Improvement Projects.

In discussing the Renovation/Addition Projects for the Lincoln, Peaslee and Melican Middle Schools, Committee Member Jason Perreault noted that, in addition to cost estimates for the Projects needing to be revised, the percentage for State reimbursement also needed to be revised based on new State Regulations.

The Committee inquired as to the Central Office Space Project.

The Chair inquired as to the allocation of interest earnings on debt issued for the Regional High School Project. The School Superintendent responded that the requested information has not yet been received.

Regional School Committee Building Committee Chair Shirley Lundberg provided a presentation on the status of the Regional High School Addition/Renovation Project.

The Chair inquired as to the potential need for additional funding for the Regional High School Addition/Renovation Project, due to the recent termination of the Project Construction

Contractor. Ms. Lundberg indicated that no additional funding will be needed in order to complete the Project.

The Chair inquired about arbitrage rebate to the IRS on interest earned relative to the Regional High School Addition/Renovation Project.

Committee further discussed Debt Policy. Committee previously reviewed information prepared by the Town Treasurer with a 10-year history as requested by the Committee on alternative guidelines for Capital Improvement Funding.

- ❑ Percentage of Budget
- ❑ Allocation of a Dollar Amount on the Tax Rate
- ❑ Percentage of Assessed Valuation

Chair suggested using \$1.20 on the Tax Rate dedicated to Debt Service. This amount represented the average of debt service for the past 10 years.

David DeVries suggested eliminating the high year and the low year from the calculation of the average.

Jim Halpin suggested a Range for the tax rate which would provide flexibility.

David DeVries suggested a rolling average using the 10-year time frame.

The Committee discussed these suggestions and decided to review further at the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

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