

**Board of Selectmen
Meeting Minutes
May 24, 2012**

Attendees:

First Selectman Clay Cope
Chris Jellen, Selectman

Andrea O'Connor, Selectman

I. Call to Order

First Selectman Clay Cope called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. at Mallory Town Hall.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Approval of Minutes

First Selectman Cope notes that the minutes from the March 8th workshop just need signatures of the other Selectmen.

- a. March 22, 2012 Board of Selectmen Meeting: Selectman Jellen moves to approve, Selectman O'Connor seconds, all in favor.
- b. March 29, 2012 Special Board of Selectmen Meeting: Selectman O'Connor moves to approve, Selectman Jellen seconds, all in favor.
- c. March 29, 2012 Budget Workshop: Selectman O'Connor moves to approve, Selectman Jellen seconds, all in favor.
- d. April 5, 2012 Budget Workshop: Selectman Jellen moves to approve, Selectman O'Connor seconds, all in favor.
- e. April 12, 2012 Budget Hearing: Selectman O'Connor moves to approve, Selectman Jellen seconds, all in favor.
- f. April 12, 2012 Special Board of Selectmen: Selectman Jellen moves to approve, Selectman O'Connor seconds, all in favor.
- g. April 19, 2012 Budget Hearing: Selectman Jellen moves to approve, Selectman O'Connor seconds, all in favor.
- h. April 19, 2012 Board of Selectmen: Selectman Jellen moves to approve, Selectman O'Connor seconds, all in favor.
- i. April 25, 2012 Special Board of Selectmen: Selectman Jellen moves to approve, Selectman O'Connor seconds, but notes a clarification in the section on the park & Rec surcharge on boat moorings. She says the proposal *to use cap non-recurring* is what failed at the town meeting. First Selectman Cope says they will re-listen to this portion, and bring that back with correction.

IV. Correspondence

First Selectman Clay Cope relays the following items of correspondence:

1. An invitation to CT Main Street awards gala in June.
2. An invitation to The Sherman Senior Housing Forum on Saturday, June 9th.
3. A letter from Joseph Keneally, resigning from the Sherman Conservation Commission, due to his new role as a member of the Board of Education.
4. A notice of the CCM Annual Meeting on June 7th.
5. A letter from State of Connecticut Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, regarding pistol permits.
6. A letter from Town Attorney Jeff Sienkiewicz to John M. Horak, Esq. regarding supporting documentation for the \$1 million library grant. First Selectman Cope has forwarded this letter to Selectman O'Connor and Selectman Jellen.
7. A letter dated 5/11/12 from First Light, regarding a change of corporate headquarters from Hartford to Glastonbury.
8. A notice from Pullman & Comley regarding Electric Utilities Issue RFP for medium and large renewable energy projects.
9. Minutes of the regular meeting of the CLA dated May 9th.
10. The monthly Iroquois report.
11. Letter dated 5/24/12 to the B.O.S. from Sherman Tax Collector, Pat Werme, pointing out that the last budget was voted upon unanimously by the B.O.S. Pat notes that if the budget is not passed in a timely fashion, where tax bills can be mailed by July 1st, it will cost the town approximately \$4,000 in lost revenue. That, with the combined costs of additional referendums, could feasibly cost the townspeople close to \$10,000.
12. Selectman O'Connor mentions an item came to her regarding the school roof project. Superintendent Don Fital indicates that the state did not approve one of the change orders. First Selectman Cope says they will get this change order checked by Petrocelli.

V. Public Comment

Karen Cushnie and Joan Laucius from the Sherman Library speak regarding a letter they received from Town Attorney Jeff Sienkiewicz along with a copy of the grant agreement. The letter said they needed additional documentation – including certification by counsel or a title search, to accompany the grant on signing. This is the first time they have seen anything about additional documents. Karen is concerned, because every time they get a new correspondence from Jeff Sienkiewicz, there is something new. Their attorney doesn't believe this additional documentation is necessary, and it will cost \$2,000. She asks the B.O. S. to discuss this – the library already has approval of

their board and trustees, and they do not understand why they need these additional documents. Joan asks the Board if they can just get this agreement executed without this additional documentation, so they do not incur additional expenses. First Selectman Cope says the Selectmen will discuss this in the general discussion part of the meeting. Christine Lent, a library Trustee, wants to state for the record that it seems like the requests keep changing and it is frustrating. The citizens have approved twice now, without stipulations, and this is going beyond reasonable. She thinks the Town Attorney can be instructed that enough is enough, and get this signed – he is holding them “kind of hostage”. She would hope for an agreement on this quickly.

VI. Old Business

A. Progress report on Town Projects:

1. FY 2012/2013 Proposed Budget Discussion: First Selectman Cope submits copies of the proposed budget, with the major changes indicated in parenthesis. He says some of the changes that he made were in response to what the citizens said they wanted after the vote. Below is a list of the 13 Budget Changes Proposed by First Selectman Cope, for a grand total savings of \$54,740. These proposed changes would bring the Town budget to \$4,398,979 – 2.298%, for a combined budget with the Board of Education of \$12,885,222 – 2.620%, mil rate 16.1. First Selectman Cope says the bottom line is that the Town is now well below the school, and they are at 2.29 with his proposed suggestions:

1. Selectman’s grant clerk – line item deleted
2. 01-63 Selectman’s Business Associate – reduced hours from 18 to 15 per week
3. 13-30 CCM – delete line item
4. 14-02 Northwest Conservation District – delete line item
5. 20-20 Maintenance – Add back \$10,000 for contracted services, in lieu of facilities manager that has been deleted.
6. Facilities Manager Salary - \$25,000 – delete line item.
7. 22-22 – 911 Service Contract – decreased based on population
8. 28-27 – removed funding for the sandblaster
9. 30-02 – removed the pay increase for Social Services Clerk
10. 32-49 - Social Security Adjustments.
11. 32-51 - Life and medical insurance has been removed
12. 39-57 – Senior Van driver – increase removed, reduced hours back to 9.6/wk
13. New Senior Center Clerk – deleted.

At the end of the meeting, Business Associate Liz LaVia re-capped First Selectman Cope’s proposed changes. The ultimate conclusion on each of the 13

proposed changes above is underlined below, along with pertinent discussion points of conversation on these issues:

Selectman's grant clerk – line item to be deleted. Both Selectman Jellen and Selectman O'Connor agree with the elimination of the grant clerk.

01-63 Selectman's Business Associate– reduced hours from 18 to 15 per week. Selectman O'Connor agrees with the reduction in hours, and Selectman Jellen says he is "OK" with this.

13-30 CCM – delete line item Selectman O'Connor says that while she values CCM membership, it should be dropped in this budget year. Selectman Jellen says that although he thinks CCM has some value he is OK with eliminating that in a tight budget.

14-02 Northwest Conservation District – to be advised . Selectman Jellen says he really doesn't know much about the Conservation membership.

Ancillary maintenance will be \$8,800. Selectman O'Connor suggests cutting this. There is \$8,800 for ancillary maintenance and the building has not yet been turned over to us completely, and she proposes retaining \$4,000 there, eliminate the rest. Selectman Jellen is comfortable with this. First Selectman Cope says he would be uncomfortable cutting this, not knowing what the real costs are for everything from toilet paper to calling in a plumber. He says he would not reduce that. Liz mentions regarding the services for EFS – should leave that where it is, should not reduce that grant. Selectman O'Connor says the grant pays for replacement of hoses and gear, educational programs, those are the kinds of things the grant covers – not for contracted services in the building. The Town is responsible for system and operations, and the Fire Department is responsible for equipment and supplies. Selectman O'Connor says HVAC is the Town, and First Selectman Cope says that is under contract. Liz says the electric bill alone in the Emergency building is \$800 a month – that does not include phone, internet, heating, alarm system – that is on the operating expense line. Main line has cleaning people, supplies, oddball expenses, and given the size of building this was a safe number. First Selectman Cope says this is a great unknown – until the building is up and running. Liz says since budget is so lean to being with, the last thing they want to do is underfund this area. Selectman O'Connor now understands what is in this ancillary maintenance, and it is perfectly understandable and acceptable. Liz says this is going to be a very expensive key to turn.

Facilities Manager Salary 20-21 - \$25,000 will stay as is. Selectman Jellen says he really is a supporter of the facilities manager position. First Selectman Cope says citizens in Sherman were vocal about the facilities manager. He spoke with

Dave Raines about the possibility of a maintenance coordinator instead, to contract out at \$10,000, which would be a big savings. Selectman O'Connor points out that in the budget that they actually voted on, \$16,904 had been taken out of the maintenance line that had been on the stipend paid to the current person doing maintenance. She says the actual increase in the amount paid to the individual was not a new item of \$25,000, but the balance, so this was not presented in the most accurate fashion. She says the previous Board of Selectmen supported this position vigorously, and had the support of Glen Kiefer who thought it would be foolish not to have someone regularly tending to the facilities. She says this position is for all the Town buildings, including the Park & Rec buildings, and she feels the Town needs an expert to do that. She thinks shifting this to an outside person does not provide the onsite service all the buildings need. First Selectman Cope says he reached out to other towns like Warren and Roxbury, and both of these towns handle it through public works. First Selectman Cope thinks that for the first year this position can be handled with a contracted service line of \$10,000, this amount is an estimate. First Selectman Cope reiterates that he feels strongly about the way the argument was presented for going to a contract for the facilities for the first year. Given what he has heard from the people, this was a very unpopular item in the budget that did not pass. Selectman Jellen says he does not support taking away the facilities manager position.

First Selectman Cope says again that he and David Raines discussed this. Selectman O'Connor interrupts and says this is not just about the EMS. She thinks First Selectman Cope has to realize this covers all of the buildings in town. She doesn't think First Selectman Cope understands this. First Selectman Cope says he does understand this. He is looking at the budget now, mindful of what the people are saying. The people are telling him they do not want the facilities manager. He reiterates that cuts here for the first year is a reasonable approach, especially when so many things are under warranty for the first year. The person in the position now acts as more of a coordinator, and outside people are being called in anyway. First Selectman Cope says he is perfectly capable of picking up a phone to call a repairman himself. First Selectman Cope says he knows the facilities manager covers town hall, playhouse, and the other buildings in town. Many of the aspects in the new EFS building are contracted already. James Reilly says the fees will be paid for from the Town. The majority of the services will have quarterly or annual maintenance requirements. There will be some scheduled contract maintenance. First Selectman Cope says it would be an advantage to the taxpayer if we can save \$25,000 in the salary and \$12,000 in the benefits – if we could just do this for the first year it will help the budget pass.

Alan Haberman of Mill Pond Road asks if there is a proposal for a Facilities Manager. First Selectman Cope says the former B.O.S. created a job description.

First Selectman Cope explains that the cost is based on estimates, and this will be an advertised position.

First Selectman Cope is opposed to keeping the Facilities Manager position, Selectman O'Connor and Selectman Jellen want to keep the position.

22-22 – 911 Service Contract – decreased based on population. Selectman O'Connor says this is good news. Liz LaVia explained to Selectman Jellen that it was an estimate the first time around, and now it is a solid figure from them.

28-27 – removed funding for the sandblaster. Selectman O'Connor agrees with removing funding for the sandblaster – if they really need it, this can be funded through capital non-recurring. Selectman Jellen thinks it is a good idea to move the sand blaster to the capital non-recurring, if they really need it. First Selectman Cope notes they do actually have money to purchase that now.

30-02 – removed the pay increase for Social Services Clerk – Selectman O'Connor does not agree with this. Selectman Jellen thinks it would be a mistake to take away the Social Services Clerk. First Selectman Cope says it is not removing the clerk, just keeping the pay flat – with the hope that eventually can build that up to more equitable pay. First Selectman Cope says this is removing the pay increase, and bringing it back to \$12. He says to favor one department with an increase, when all of the rest of the non-union workers in town do not get an increase, is not fair.

32-49 - Social Security Adjustments – as per any payroll changes or adjustments.

32-51 - Life and medical insurance stays the same.

39-57 – Senior Van driver – increase removed, reduced hours back to 9.6/wk. Selectman Jellen says he would be "OK" with reducing the hours of the van driver. Selectman O'Connor says she can agree to some reduction here.

New Senior Center Clerk – will stay . Both Selectman Jellen and Selectman O'Connor want to leave this position in. Selectman O'Connor says she is adamantly opposed to any social services clerk cuts and proposed senior cuts, because people are maxed out. First Selectman Cope says he would like to see more volunteer work in the Senior Center. Selectman O'Connor says that is problematic due to confidentiality issues. First Selectman Cope is opposed to keeping this position.

Selectman O'Connor offered some additional proposed cuts, underlined below followed by discussion points:

1. Returning the Tax Clerk to the previous hours for next year – Selectman Jellen notes that this would be a small savings.

2. A reduction of 5% in the grants to both the firehouse and the library – Selectman O'Connor thinks this would bring them to more than the level that she believes would pass. First Selectman Cope says he will not go along with these cuts to the Library and Fire Department grants. Selectman Jellen would like to hear more about the fire department grant, and Jim Reilly, President of the Fire Department says it would deeply hurt them to cut the budget. Jim notes that fundraising is dropping because of economy, and cuts will affect services to the Town. Regarding the Library, Joan Laucius speaks, although she notes it would be best for Millie Loeb to discuss this. Joan says they are already running on a bare back budget. She says there will be no reduction of services. If they move to a smaller space, the amount of library materials would be compromised slightly. She says they can barely make ends meet now trying to deal with everything. They are doing their best with fundraising, and she implores the Board not to take any money away from the library.

3. A reduction by half of the contribution to the benefit plan – Selectman O'Connor says we are underfunded on an actuarial basis. First Selectman Cope says he would not go along with this.

4. Reducing the contribution to capital non-recurring – Selectman Jellen says he got the impression from Eric Holub that they have to be mindful of the capital non-recurring fund. First Selectman Cope says he would not like to reduce the contribution to capital non-recurring, as it is dangerously low. This is a safety net for things like the firehouse and Spring Lake Road. The Selectmen agree they will not take anything from capital non-recurring, and will keep that at \$200,000.

Selectman O'Connor wonders if the \$3,000 for printing is a realistic figure – it seems high. Over-printing happened in the past, and printing could be on demand instead.

First Selectman Cope summarizes the areas where the Selectmen are still not in agreement: the facilities manager, cutting the grants for the library & fire department, the social services clerk cuts, and the seniors cuts. The Board agrees to continue this discussion on Thursday, May 31st at 6:30 p.m. at a Special Meeting.

2. Emergency Services Facility Project: First Selectman Cope says they meet weekly. All systems are almost complete. Payments are coming steadily from the surety, especially to DEPCO. DEPCO will continue to complete the duct work and ceiling diffusers, relocate the condensers and continue piping the condensers (that has already begun), CT boiler will be onsite to complete the oil pipe in the boiler, exterior building letters will be here tomorrow to install. Inspections are coming up in June, building inspections, fire marshals, as well as the engineer. Some flooring has already been installed, pavers will be on site, the week of 17th finished flooring to begin, and toward end of month if MERITS schedule is on track, will be the elevator inspection & fire protection transfer switch installation.

3. Sherman Library expansion project: Mason Lord, Head of the Library Building Commission, says it is not just an expansion, it is a renovation and restoration. They are through all the Town commissions, and they had a meeting with the Construction Manager, and the schedule is to get a gross maximum price toward the end of August, maybe breaking ground Oct. 1st. They have a Certificate of Appropriateness from the Historic District.

4. Spring Lake Road paving project: First Selectman Cope reads a letter from the Land Use Enforcement Officer. Asphalt was delivered to the job (based on the preliminary results of the core samples), 3,030 tons of asphalt was required. The engineer speculated problems were caused by thin asphalt or compaction or a combination of both. The scope of the project was to core and patch. The work was conducted on the 14th and 16th, IMTL was chosen by the First Selectman to core and patch. 50 stations were cored. 110 core samples were taken over a two day period, each core was measured according to specifications. The average of core samples were recorded, and a report was generated. First Selectman Cope says there is a report of this, they will review this in the office, and Joe Wren will be available to go over this. They will review the engineer's recommendations on these results with the Town Attorney and NJR.

4. Fox Run detention basin: First Selectman Cope says Paul Symanski has been hired to review the plan calculations and design by Joe Zyrecki a few years ago, and the calculations submitted by Dudley Ashmore. Paul's office has redone the calculations using current methods. The current design can handle large storm events, but provides little retention during smaller, more frequent storm events. They are looking for a way to handle a wider range of storm events. Chuck Lee will need additional information to comply with the STEAP grant. First Selectman Cope is happy to see progress here.

B. STEAP FY 2012 application for Playhouse status: First Selectman Cope says the STEAP application forms are up online, and he will have a resolution for the

Board of Selectmen to sign to authorize the application for this STEAP grant. Selectman O'Connor asks about the other potential STEAP proposals for the ambulance and the library. First Selectman Cope says the intention is to pursue the library old buildings grant, and he will have more information on that available at the next B.O.S. meeting. He is not sure that EMS is in need of the ambulance, and he will speak with them more about this.

C. Playhouse lease follow up: This was approved at Town Meeting, and it has been signed.

D. Public Safety Communications follow up: David Hopkins gives a status report. The May 11th Town Meeting approved the cost of retaining RCC consulting for the project. The proposal from RCC has been turned over to Jeff Sienkiewicz to adapt as a contract for First Selectman Cope to sign. Litchfield County dispatch plans to conduct a coverage test for the new LCD equipment installed in the EFS, around May 30th or thereabouts. The Fire Department will participate in test, and also test communication service on local Sherman communication – the test will cover about 35 locations that LCD tested in 2006 and additional locations that the Fire Department thinks are trouble spots. This will be a voice quality test.

VII. New Business

A. Document Preservation Grant Resolution : Requested by Town Clerk Carol Havens, RESOLVED: That Clay Cope, First Selectman is empowered to execute and deliver in the name and on behalf of this municipality a contract with the Connecticut State Library for an Historic Documents Preservation Grant. Selectman O'Connor moves to approve the resolution, Selectman Jellen seconds, all approve. Rich Lenihan asks what this is. Carol Havens says that this is a grant we can get from the library every year for \$4,000 she is using it for imaging of our land records, going back to volumes back to 1975. It will also be used to repair an old burial book and an old town meeting book.

B. Approval of STEAP Resolution for Spring Lake Road: First Selectman Cope reads a resolution from Town Clerk Carol Havens: RESOLVED, that First Selectman Clay Cope be, and hereby is, authorized to accept on behalf of the Town of Sherman, a Connecticut STEAP Grant – 2012 in the amount of \$150,000 to reconstruct Spring Lake Road; and FURTHER RESOLVED, that First Selectman Clay Cope be, and is hereby authorized to enter into and execute any and all agreements, contracts and documents necessary to obtain said STEAP 2012 grant with the State of Connecticut. Selectman Jellen moves to approve this resolution, Selectman O'Connor seconds, all in favor.

C. Quarterly Review of Revenue and Expenditure: First Selectman Cope notes that the B.O.S. receives a summary from the business administrator of what is in

each account and what they have, and they have revenue estimates from the treasurer. He gives these documents to the other Selectmen. Selectman O'Connor says the whole point of this quarterly review is so that the board can look at how they are progressing with the budget, and check if revenues are on track. It is a timely picture on a quarterly basis of how the budget is faring, so that when the end of the year rolls around the B.O.S. doesn't find themselves in a hole. She notes Eric has provided a report that says revenues are essentially on track. She notes there are some overages in the Selectman's office – Selectman's Administrative Assistant is picking up some additional hours, and there have been far many more meetings for the clerk than budgeted for. Right now at 96% should be at about 92%. Selectman O'Connor also notes they overspent in the tax maps – but again, the overall budget is at budget. The building inspector is over budget, and zoning board of appeals legals are above budget. A big area of concern is counsel and court costs, and they try to make a best guess estimate based on history. The budget is 198% over budget for legal services. First Selectman Cope says quite a bit of this is with the leases, and the ongoing litigation. However, overall the budget is not in bad shape.

D. Employee Probation Review (may be moved to Executive Session): First Selectman Cope says Selectman Jellen had once asked about this, they are looking at Sept. for the actual disciplinary time to be up. Selectman Jellen wanted to know before the time was up, if there has actually been some sort of review as to what the performance has or has not been. Fran Frattini (Chairman of Park & Rec.) notes they are speaking about the director of P&R, and she oversees him now. She notes the probation was based on a number of things that came out of the audit last year. They have set up a procedure for him to report on a monthly basis. He also has files where he puts all his receipts, and they no longer disappear, he has files for each program, photocopies of checks, all will be in folders and files. Eric Holub instructed him on how he can deposit money directly into Town's Account, and not just leave it around on desks.

VIII. General Discussion: Items to be brought up by Selectmen for future agendas

First Selectman Cope notes they need to address the library situation, and he refers again to the letter mentioned earlier in the correspondence from Jeff Sienkiewicz. First Selectman Cope says he is open to meeting with the library. Selectman O'Connor says the request for certifications to ensure business is conducted properly is not a novel one. Even if the fee is exorbitant, that is not the B.O.S. concern. She notes that the State requires certifications for grants to the Town, and it is not unusual to request documentation not mentioned in a grant agreement. She finds it puzzling that the library reacts this way, when the Town is willing to provide a \$1 million grant, they have presented a negotiated

and modified grant agreement, and it is time for the library to decide whether they want that money or not.

Joan Laucius says the library feels they had an agreement back in September when they present it to their board and they voted on it as a group and presented it to their membership. The Town changed the agreement that currently sits on the table. Joan feels the agreement wasn't slightly different, it was completely different. She notes that the bond attorney commented that he had never seen such a lengthy grant agreement between a Town and one of its facilities. Joan notes that the library has been as transparent as they can possibly be. She says this is now being made very difficult for them. If they could have just had the agreement they had in September, they wouldn't be here today.

Selectman O'Connor says the agreement was changed to what the state requires. She notes her file on the library agreements is at her home, and she is not sure if she has all of it. The whole point is to make sure the library had sufficient funds available to complete the project. Selectman O'Connor says they are asking for evidence that the library owns the building with no mortgage, that the library's required procedures were followed when the Board of Trustees and the membership vote to approve entering into the agreement with the town, and that they have money to complete the project. Selectman O'Connor says she has trouble with the library having trouble over this. Karen Cushnie says when they received the letter asking for the three additional documents, she didn't think it would be a big deal. She did not realize this was so involved, and such a 'big to do'. She says the library lawyer does not feel this is necessary, it is too much. Joan notes the library can't afford to keep counsel on retainer like the Town can. Rich Lenihan asks how many documents in town are certified. Selectman O'Connor says the certification is that the library followed its own bylaws and procedures. Rich asks if the firehouse has certification. Selectman O'Connor says that anything that is filed on land records has certifications. Rich says the bone of contention is that the whole process is driving the library nuts. First Selectman Cope points out that legal fees incurred by the Town related to this grant come out of the grant, and the library pays.

First Selectman Cope says it is impossible for him to contradict or go against the advice of the Town Attorney, Jeff Sienkiewicz, even if it pains him for the library to have to pay more money. Rich says Sienkiewicz ran out at the last meeting, and Karen Cushnie describes him as "frustrating". Mr. Haberman, an attorney in the audience, says it sounds like there are two lawyers bucking heads, and it will never get resolved. He suggests that the B.O.S. get someone to intervene. Selectman O'Connor suggests the possibility of mediation. First Selectman Cope says he will get a second opinion on this, and he is thinking of Anthony Dibella. Selectman O'Connor suggests an attorney with municipal work experience.

Selectman O'Connor has two additional items for general discussion:

- i. While signing checks, she noted Glen Boski covering Ken Grant's absence, and Glen is from New Milford. She says she has requested before that they take somebody from Sherman (she is not suggesting that Glen is not a good employee). They are also paying unemployment – they are paying 3 salaries for 1 person. She suggests re-hiring Jason Wallace, so they don't have to pay unemployment benefits to him. She says this is something First Selectman Cope needs to work out with Don Borkowski, because these hirings are costing the Town money.
- ii. Selectman O'Connor heard that First Selectman Cope authorized Veterans to use a building at Allen's Camp, and that use of a town building should come to the B.O.S. for approval. First Selectman Cope says he was going to bring this up at the next meeting. Originally, the Veteran's had approached him about a new building. He did not think it was a good idea to add more buildings at Veteran's field. First Selectman Cope said there are some buildings down by the beach that might be appropriate for storage. He said items could be stored in airtight containers at some buildings down near the beach, instead of a new building. Selectman O'Connor notes a new building can't be put there. First Selectman Cope says he will definitely bring this to the B.O.S. Fran Frattini says all buildings down at Town Park are under Park & Rec, right now there is summer office, the garage with lake authority office above, and the storage cabin. There would be absolutely no reason why Veterans could not put flags and other things in there. She knows lake authority has some extra desks stored in there.

Selectman Jellen wants clarification about offering the B.O.S. a position (library), appointing a position – a member of this board who does not have voting rights. First Selectman Cope says they should think about who would like to be on that, and he will put it on the agenda for the June meeting.

IX. Public Comment

Alan Haberman applauds that budget is going to balance. If a deficit arose, he would like to know where the money would come from. Selectman O'Connor says the B.O.S. can move some from line to line on their own initiative, they have an ordinance for that. Larger amounts can be done by Town Meeting. If a really bad deficit comes up, there has to be a Town Meeting to ask to use reserve funds. If there is a surplus, that money falls into the reserve fund.

Gary Albert says that questions addressed to the Board should go to First Selectman Cope first, because he is the First Selectman. Then First Selectman Cope can ask the other two Selectmen for any additional comments or thoughts on the question.

Joe Keneally encourages the B.O.S. to maintain membership in the Northwest Conservation District, as they need some expertise.

Ann Chiaramonte says she received many calls regarding a letter she wrote to the B.O.S. She says she did not go out soliciting people, those were her sincere heartfelt thoughts. Nobody said to her they wanted the Facilities Manager removed, and anyone who called her did not say if they were for or against that position. She applauds the B.O.S. for their efforts at this meeting, and feels that while the budget is not great, it is better than it was before.

X. Adjournment

Selectman O'Connor moved to adjourn the May 24, 2012 Board of Selectman Meeting at 9:02 p.m., with Selectman Jellen seconding, all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,
Laura Pettinato, Clerk

Clay Cope

Chris Jellen

Andrea O'Connor

Minutes are not considered official until they have been approved and signed by a minimum of two Selectmen.