

**BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE
AUGUST 4, 2003**

1. ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order by Chair Dr. Kerry Waldee at 5:41 p.m. Committee members present were Robert Kellner and Scott Spages. Also present was Budget & Finance Director Bill Underwood. Bob Preziosi arrived at 5:55 p.m.

2. NEW BUSINESS

2.1 FY 2004 Operating Budget.

Bill Underwood stated there was an increase in expenditures of about \$500,000. He stated that the major change was in salaries and fringe benefits. He explained that this represented a 12% overall increase from last year. He stated that personal services increased by 15%, health insurance increased by 16%, police retirement increased by 7%, and the fire department contract increased by 11%. Bill Underwood requested that all members review the operating budget and prepare any questions for the next scheduled meeting to be held on August 18th.

Scott Spages spoke about his meeting with Fire Chief DePetrillo. He stated he was concerned about staffing, in that the Town was grossly undercharging (Fire Rescue Fee) in proportion to other cities. He stated that the fire department was moving forward with the capital dollars that were provided by the bond, and that the chief is trying to look ahead in projecting the numbers for the BAC and Council as to the cost to operate the two new projected fire stations.

Scott Spages also voiced his concern regarding space requirements for the different Town departments for the future and how those needs are going to be addressed.

It was suggested by Scott Spages that at one of the first meetings of the next fiscal year, discussions should be held regarding population build out.

3. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, a motion was made by Scott Spages and seconded by Bob Kellner to adjourn the meeting. **(Motion passed 4-0)**. The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Date Approved

Chair/Committee Member