

**Town of New Haven Selectboard Budget Meeting**  
**7:00 pm**  
**Town Offices**  
**Thursday, January 8, 2009**

Present: Pam Marsh, Pat Paquette, Roger Boise, Keith Hall, Pam Kingman

Absent: Lowell Nottingham

Visitors: Barb Torian, Claire Van Buren & Polly Darnell

**Agenda Results:**

- 1. Library Trustee, Polly Darnell** – Here on behalf of the Library to ask for level funding for 2009. The Library is hoping to offer more hours in the new building, including using volunteers. The New Haven Library is certified by the state, qualifying it to get help with cataloging as well as offering inter-library loans. Polly Darnell said the library patronage has increased this fall; this has been common across the state and may be related to present economic conditions. She reviewed all of the services the library has to offer from teen group to book group to Arm Chair Traveler. Deborah Lundbech also visits four child care homes in New Haven every other week, and goes with books to the New Haven Playgroup monthly. There is also a very active Friends of the Library Group in town. When a new baby is born in Town a label is placed inside a new book with the child's name on it; and the family is also given a card directing them to the child's book. The Friends give each child who participates in the summer reading program a book. Roger Boise said the Board had budgeted \$40,000 for the library, and felt that's what it should be. Keith Hall agreed.
- 2. Town Clerk, Claire Van Buren** – Ongoing discussion regarding the Town Clerk's wages and benefits. Issue not resolved; Town Clerk invited to make specific proposal at next Selectboard meeting. Several Selectboard members feel that placing the compensation of the Town Clerk and Treasurer on the ballot for voters to approve would be the way to go. However, that would be a 2 year process; first the town would have to vote this year that in the future, their compensation would be voted on by the town, and next year, the warning would include separate articles for their compensation.
- 3. Discussion about General Fund Budget included:**
  - Put on the Warning for Town Meeting – no law enforcement for the constable; replacing the gym floor
  - New Haven First Response - Currently have 2 active members; Barb Torian said she will ask the Auditors to ask First Response for a detailed report.
  - Otter Creek Natural Resources – Put them on the ballot with outside agencies again for this year, notify them that they will have

to petition for future monies. No longer to be included as a "Regular Item".

- Events Coordinator – Hourly wage \$15.45 for a maximum of 12 hours a week.
- Parks & Rec's – keep level funded
- Town Hall building – Beeman Elementary School would like to take over the general maintenance of the building, they're looking for that to take effect probably in July 2009.
- New Town Office – Budget for increased electrical use, vault shelving. Discussion on if the vault shelving money should come out of the bond money or the Reserve Fund.
- Pam Marsh made a motion to pre-pay Cindy Hill, Esq. \$6,873 for 2009. Seconded by Keith Hall. 4 yes / 0 no

#### **OTHER BUSINESS:**

1. Town Hall Application for Michele Chester, she would like to hold Girl Scouts / Brownie meetings on the first and third Sundays in the Cafeteria from 10 am –noon. Fee waived. Pam marsh made a motion to approve the application, seconded by Roger Boise. 4 yes / 0 no

Adjourn: 10:20 pm  
 Respectfully submitted:  
 Pam Kingman  
 Approved:

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Keith Hall, Chair

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Roger Boise

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Pam Marsh

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Pat Paquette