Present: Thomas P. O'Toole, Nicholas A. Hay, John F. Fairbanks

# CALL TO ORDER

Mr. O'Toole called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall.

### PUBLIC NOTICE – DEBRIS REMOVAL

Mr. O'Toole read the following Public Notice: The Town of Westminster Department of Public Works will be conducting a spring clean-up of all trees and branches that were generated during the ice storm on December 11 & 12, 2008. The Town will be hiring a Contractor that will travel every road in Westminster to pick up fallen debris and brush piles that are left on the side of the road by private citizens. This clean up will be conducted in April and May 2009. Citizens are asked to collect and stack their brush by the side of the road for removal. The Contractor is not allowed to enter private property to pick up tree debris.

# **BUDGET REVIEW**

Mr. O'Toole reminded everyone in attendance that the Board of Selectmen and Advisory Board's goal was to have no real estate tax increase and no loss of manpower in preparing the FY 2010 budgets.

DPW Director Joshua Hall said he had some articles which could be turned in totaling approximately \$37,346. Police Chief Sam Albert said he could turn in a two year old article for \$1,800. Fire Chief Brent MacAloney stated he could turn back in an article for \$24,000 for the Public Safety Facility Storage and rehab. Board of Health Agent Elizabeth Swedberg said her department could reduce her budget by \$700 if the Board agreed to close down the Public Beach at Wyman's Pond thus eliminating the need for testing.

Selectmen Fairbanks suggested that the nine elected officials on stipends should have their stipends lowered to \$50 per month thus a savings totaling \$6105. (\$2700 for the Board of Selectmen, \$1260 for the Board of Health, and \$2145 for the Assessors.)

Selectmen Fairbanks also suggested that the \$60,000 article for the Senior Center be pulled. He also suggested that the Town Planner position remain as a full time position.

## ARTICLE REVIEWS

The Board reviewed the upcoming articles and agreed not to bring the following articles to the Annual Town Meeting; Senior Center Project Manager/Schematic Design for \$50,000; Public Safety Building Needs Committee acquisition of 135 Main Street for \$220.000.

# REAL ESTATE APPRAISAL PROPOSAL

Mr. Hay moved that the Board authorize the Chairman to sign two proposals for an appraisal of the Jarvenpaa property with O'Connor Real Estate Associates, Inc. and EWH Anderson Valuation. Mr. Fairbanks seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

# CHAPTER 43D TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GRANT APPLICATION

Mr. Fairbanks moved that the Board authorize the Chairman to sign Westminster's Priority Development Sites and Chapter 43D Technical Assistance Grant Application in the amount of \$44,400. Mr. Hay seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### 8:48 PM ~ ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Fairbanks moved that the Board adjourn. Mr. Hay seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

Respectfully submitted,

John F. Fairbanks, Clerk (Prepared by B. Kazan)