

**Minutes**  
**Town of Lexington Appropriation Committee**  
**January 7, 2009**

Place and time: Room G-15, Town Office Building, 7:30 PM

Members present: Alan Levine (Chair), John Bartenstein (Vice-Chair), Susan McLeish (Secretary), Richard Eurich, Pam Hoffman, Mollie Garberg, Glenn Parker, Eric Michelson, Rob Addelson (*ex officio*, non-voting)

This meeting was called to order at 7:35 P.M.

1. **Minutes.** Approved minutes of 8-7-2008. The vote was 7-0 in favor with 1 abstention.
2. **Mission.** Discussion of the mission of the Appropriations Committee.
3. **Report to 2009 Annual Town Meeting.** It was agreed that for the AC report to TM, individual contributors would send their items to an editing sub-committee composed of Susan and Pam.
4. **Conduct of Meetings.** Discussion of how meeting guests are accommodated. We encourage guests with a specific area of interest to contact the committee in advance in order to arrange a slot on our agenda. It was suggested that we send a memo to the TMMA mailing list about this.
5. **Committee Assignments.** Liaisons to other town committees, and other possible areas of interest and/or specialization for committee members were discussed:  
Pam – Schools  
Eric – Three-year projections, CPC, Minuteman  
Glenn – Liaison to Capital Expenditures Committee  
Alan – Health Insurance  
Mike – Health Insurance  
Susan – Municipal Budget (?)  
Rick – CPC, Shared Expenses  
Mollie – Planning Board (?), Schools  
John – Enterprise Funds, Tax Relief
6. **FY10 Budget Status.** Rob Addelson discussed the upcoming publication of the preliminary budget (aka the “white book”). Budget summit #3 (to be held on 1/15) will include a discussion of the allocation of new revenue between the school system and the municipal side, as well as the possible use of stabilization funds.
7. **Executive Session.** Entered executive session for the purpose of discussion of possible criminal misconduct (Exemption 5) of the Open Meeting Law at 9:00 p.m. by a unanimous roll call vote and concluded at 9:04 p.m.
8. **Shire Expansion.** Rob Addelson will provide the committee with a copy of the Tax Increment Financing (TIF) agreement for Shire, so that we may understand the possible tax revenue implications of their latest expansion request.

9. **Stimulus Financing.** Rob Addelson will provide a list of “shovel-ready” projects in the town that will be presented to the state for potential state or federal stimulus financing.
10. **Munroe School Building Appraisal.** Susan discussed the issue of an appraisal for the Munroe School building.
  - Charles Lamb of the Capital Expenditures Committee has urged that the Town obtain a valuation for the building.
  - A statement of the Appropriation Committee was proposed supporting the need for an appraisal of the building’s value.
  - Voted 8-0 to approve the following statement:

“As financial advisory committees to Town Meeting, we believe it is important that the town understand the financial consequences of a decision to sell the Munroe School and that this necessarily requires a real estate appraisal of the building's fair market value as currently zoned, the appraisal to include, among other things, consideration of the building's highest and best use, of other possible uses, and of its capital needs.”
11. **School Budget.** Pam circulated a hand-out from Paul Ash regarding the school budget and his plans to close the budget gap. We agreed to ask Mary Ellen Dun to address the committee at an upcoming meeting.

12. **Member Reports.** Susan reported on the Selectman’s Meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Glenn P. Parker

*Approved July 6, 2009*