

**Minutes**  
**Town of Lexington Appropriation Committee**  
**December 1, 2005**

Members Present: A. Levine (Chair), D. Brown (Vice Chair), R. Cole, J. Bartenstein, D. Kanter, R. Eurich

Also present: Helen Cohen, Michael Young

The meeting was called to order at 7:40 PM by Al Levine in room G-15, Town Office Building.

1. Rod C. agreed to take minutes.
2. Photo for the Town Report December 15.
3. Al L. will attend a meeting of various town finance committee chairs in Needham, at 10 am, January 7.
4. Discussion of meetings:

Capital Expenditures Committee (CEC): D.K. reported on the CEC meeting. The primary topic was the municipal electric company effort. The home-rule petition is out of committee, and the parallel effort for a state-wide bill is moving along. If either one passes, the proponents will ask Town Meeting for \$150K for a feasibility study. The next step after that would be to ask for \$250K for litigation with NSTAR. There would be no need for a referendum vote as the bonds to set up the muni would be repaid out of receipts, not town funds. The \$150K and \$250K would be reimbursable if the project goes forward. Concerns were raised about how extreme problems would be handled, such as if out-of-state crews had to be brought in to help.

Senior Tax Relief: The Home Rule petition to lower interest rates from a fixed 8% to anything lower by vote of Town Meeting was signed into law, as was the bill providing for changes in circuit breaker limits.

Selectmen meeting of November 21: Discussion of reducing PILOTs by 25% each year.

Selectmen meeting of November 28: Tax classification hearing to be next Monday. CIP factor could go to 1.89.

5. Question: Is Carl V. thinking of increasing the AC reserve fund to cover more issues, such as fire and police injuries? Michael Y.: Yes, but no amount has been settled on.
6. The snow and ice budget was discussed. It was felt that the amount budgeted, plus new growth and reversions may not be enough to cover the snow and ice budget in a bad snow year.

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7. It was decided we should invite Carl V. to our next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Rod Cole

*Approved May 18, 2006*