

Finance and Budget Committee Minutes
May 7, 2008 8:15 A.M. Room 312

Councilors in attendance: Cantor, Slifka, Davidoff

Food Expenditure Report

The Town Council was sent a report on the transactions of the town that had to do with food expenditures. These could be transactions for food for a summer camp program or taking an oral panel to lunch, buying prisoner food, or food for a meeting. The specific transaction listed will not give that detail and that would have to be derived transaction by transaction. The Committee was asked to refer any questions on the report to the Town Manager.

FY09 Budget

It was reported that the adopted State budget did not include a renewal of the conveyance tax, although it was anticipated that it would be dealt with in a Special Session. Also, the additional PILOT funding was not included. This amounted to approximately \$615,000.

The Revaluation legislation was still alive and was being attached to some other piece of legislation. It would not be known until Thursday whether or not it had passed.

A report on the cost of services to the median residential property was distributed (attached). The report outlines the amount appropriated by department and program, the non-property revenue associated with the program, and the net cost supported by property taxes amount. It then broke down the cost by residential and commercial property and calculated the annual cost attributable to a median residential property. So, for example, the median residential property would pay approximately \$86.46 annually for all of Human and Leisure Services.

There was discussion about what might have to be cut if the referendum passed and the State revenue was not adopted. Councilor Davidoff suggested that management look into the following: elimination of any new positions in the FY09 budget, elimination of overtime for traffic calming, elimination of vacuum leaf collection, reducing the number of polling places, reducing the hours of facility operations to save on energy costs, Board of Education reductions, and some percentage of across-the-board non-staff departmental cuts.

Budget Referendum

The Corporation Counsel's memorandum of May 2, 2008 was discussed. The possible referendum dates are June 10, 17, or 24th.