

**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE  
NORTH BRANFORD TOWN COUNCIL**

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**Tuesday, April 9, 2002**

**7:10 p.m.  
Town Hall Council Chambers**

**SALUTE TO THE FLAG**

1. **ROLL CALL:** Present were Mayor Joanne Wentworth, Council Members Mary Bigelow, Michael Downes, Andrew Esposito, Jack Krasko and Paul Proto. Also present was Town Manager Karl Kilduff.

Deputy Mayor George Guertin was absent.  
Council Members Vincent Candelora and Joan Fitch arrived at  
7:15 p.m. due to a Land Preservation Committee meeting.

2. **DISCUSSION AND ACTION RE: PROPOSED BUDGET FOR FY2002-2003**

Town Manager Kilduff advised the Council that the budget remains a work in progress. Administrators have worked internally to make additional cuts while still maintaining the level of service for residents.

Town Manager Kilduff began by reviewing Department 4705 Property and Liability Insurance. He indicated that under Account 319 Professional Development three risk management seminars can be eliminated and that under Account 320 Other Contractual \$500 can be removed for zero funding in that account.

**MOTION:** Councilor Downes moved, seconded by Councilor Krasko, to reduce Department 4705 Property & Liability Insurance, Account #319 Professional Development by \$150 to eliminate three risk management seminars.

**VOTE:** Passed 6 to 0 in a roll call vote.

**MOTION:** Councilor Krasko moved, seconded by Councilor Esposito, to reduce Department 4705 Property & Liability Insurance, Account #320 Other Contractual by \$500.

**VOTE:** Passed 6 to 0 in a roll call vote.

Town Manager Kilduff reviewed the increase in Account 751 Insurance and the one-time expenditure for a possible settlement. The Town Attorney has advised that a minimum of \$225,000 remain budgeted for this settlement. Town Manager Kilduff indicated that this account could be reduced by \$5,000 for other deductibles.

MOTION: Councilor Krasko moved, seconded by Councilor Downes, to reduce Department 4705 Property & Liability Insurance, Account #751 Insurance by \$5,000.

VOTE: Passed 6 to 0 in a roll call vote.

Councilors Candelora and Fitch are now seated.

Under Department 4734 Employee Benefits, Town Manager Kilduff reported that the Workers' Compensation figure has been confirmed. He noted that health insurance is still under collective bargaining at this time, and he requested that the Council hold off making any cuts to these accounts until issues under the collective bargaining agreements are resolved.

Town Manager Kilduff next reviewed the General Government portion of the budget. Under Department 4110 Mayor & Council, he noted that the line item budgeted for food by the Mayor & Council is not used.

MOTION: Councilor Candelora moved, seconded by Councilor Proto, to reduce Department 4110 Mayor & Council, Account #207 Food by \$100.

VOTE: Passed 8 to 0 in a roll call vote.

Councilor Fitch questioned the dues which the Town pays under the Mayor & Council Department. There was a brief review and discussion on this.

Town Manager Kilduff spoke on the increase in Account 303 Printing & Binding due to the Islander East Pipeline costs. He indicated that currently all copying costs have been taken from contingency. There was some discussion on the status of the Islander East Pipeline by the Council. The Town Manager confirmed that when anything is filed with FERC additional costs are incurred.

MOTION: Councilor Downes, moved, seconded by Councilor Krasko, to reduce Department 4110 Mayor & Council, Account #303 Printing & Binding by \$3,500.

VOTE: Passed 8 to 0 in a roll call vote.

Town Manager Kilduff questioned if Account 319 Professional Development could be reduced by the number of attendees to the CCM conference. The Council took no action on this.

Town Manager Kilduff reviewed Department 4111 Water Pollution Control Authority which consists strictly of advertising costs.

Under Department 4125 Town Manager, Town Manager Kilduff stated that Account 211 Books & Publications could be reduced to zero. The Council took no action on this.

Under Account 320 Other Contractual, there was discussion on the elimination under the Manager's Proposed budget of a national citizen survey. Town Manager Kilduff spoke on other ways he is looking into to accomplish a survey of the citizens of the Town. He stated that this item was cut due to fiscal concerns and the large cost of the survey.

Town Manager Kilduff noted that the ICMA conference could be eliminated for a cost savings of \$500 in Account 319 Professional Development.

MOTION: Councilor Fitch moved, seconded by Councilor Downes, to reduce Department 4125, Town Manager, Account #319 Professional Development by \$500.

VOTE: Passed 8 to 0 in a roll call vote.

Town Manager Kilduff had several suggested cuts under Department 4130 Finance. He noted that \$300 could be eliminated from Account 211 Books & Publications with no negative impact, \$150 could be eliminated from Account 317 Data Processing for additional PC software, \$350 could be eliminated from Account 319 Professional Development for two computer training classes, \$380 could be eliminated from Account 320 Other Contractual by deferring microfilming for one year, and \$2500 could be eliminated from Account 401 Office Equipment by reconfiguring the computers and eliminating the laser printer.

MOTION: Councilor Downes moved, seconded by Councilor Bigelow, to reduce Department 4130 Finance, Account #211 Books & Publications by \$300.

VOTE: Passed 8 to 0 in a roll call vote.

MOTION: Councilor Proto moved, seconded by Councilor Downes, to reduce Department 4130 Finance, Account #317 Data Processing by \$150.

VOTE: Passed 8 to 0 in a roll call vote.

MOTION: Councilor Fitch moved, seconded by Councilor Downes, to reduce Department 4130 Finance, Account #319 Professional Development by \$350.

VOTE: Passed 8 to 0 in a roll call vote.

MOTION: Councilor Downes moved, seconded by Councilor Proto, to reduce Department 4130 Finance, Account #320 Other Contractual by \$380.

VOTE: Passed 8 to 0 in a roll call vote.

MOTION: Councilor Downes moved, seconded by Councilor Fitch, to reduce Department 4130 Finance, Account #401 Office Equipment by \$2,500.

VOTE: Passed 8 to 0 in a roll call vote.

There was a brief discussion between the Council, the Town Manager and the Treasurer/Finance Director on the use of cell phones and long distance telephone calls. Several options are being looked into with respect to this issue.

Under Department 4131 Tax Collector, Town Manager Kilduff advised the Council that due to a turnover in the Account Clerk II position in this office, there is a \$2,000 savings in Account 101 Full Time and a \$3,200 savings in Account 120 Pension & Social Security.

MOTION: Councilor Downes moved, seconded by Councilor Fitch, to reduce Department 4131 Tax Collector, Account #101 Full Time by \$2,000.

VOTE: Passed 8 to 0 in a roll call vote.

MOTION: Councilor Fitch moved, seconded by Councilor Downes, to reduce Department 4131 Tax Collector, Account #120 Pension & Social Security by \$3,200.

VOTE: Passed 8 to 0 in a roll call vote.

Town Manager Kilduff indicated that a computer training class under Account 319 Professional Development could be eliminated from the Tax Collector Department.

MOTION: Councilor Krasko moved, seconded by Councilor Proto, to reduce Department 4131 Tax Collector, Account #319 Professional Development by \$175.

VOTE: Passed 8 to 0 in a roll call vote.

Town Manager Kilduff also noted that under Account 320 Other Contractual \$452 could be eliminated for the Independent Contractor Suspense Collections. Tax Collector Suzanne Kleinkauf was present and reported that the independent contractor that they were using for suspense collections has sold the business. At this time, they are using the Department of Motor Vehicles system and are having some success with this.

MOTION: Councilor Downes moved, seconded by Councilor Candelora to reduce Department 4131 Tax Collector, Account #320 Other Contractual by \$452.

VOTE: Passed 8 to 0 in a roll call vote.

Town Manager Kilduff had several suggested cuts under Department 4132 Assessor. He noted that \$240 could be eliminated from Account 301 Telephone, \$2,000 could be eliminated from Account 320 Other Contractual for Personal Property Audits, and \$450 could be eliminated from Account 317 Data Processing for PC support.

MOTION: Councilor Downes moved, seconded by Councilor Proto, to reduce Department 4132 Assessor, Account #301 Telephone by \$240.

VOTE: Passed 8 to 0 in a roll call vote.

MOTION: Councilor Proto moved, seconded by Councilor Downes, to reduce Department 4132 Assessor, Account #320 Other Contractual by \$2,000.

VOTE: Passed 8 to 0 in a roll call vote.

MOTION: Councilor Downes moved, seconded by Councilor Fitch, to reduce Department 4132 Assessor, Account #317 Data Processing by \$450.

VOTE: Passed 8 to 0 in a roll call vote.

Town Manager Kilduff had no suggested cuts to Department 4133 Board of Assessment Appeals.

Under Department 4136 Central Services, Town Manager Kilduff indicated that Account 203 Cleaning Supplies could be reduced by \$250 and that \$1000 can be eliminated from Account 211 Books & Publications.

MOTION: Councilor Fitch moved, seconded by Councilor Esposito, to reduce Department 4136 Central Services, Account #203 Cleaning Supplies by \$250.

VOTE: Passed 8 to 0 in a roll call vote.

MOTION: Councilor Candelora moved, seconded by Councilor Proto, to reduce Department 4136 Central Services, Account #211 Books & Publications by \$100.

VOTE: Passed 8 to 0 in a roll call vote.

Town Manager Kilduff reviewed Account 302 with respect to Utilities and the relocation to the new Town Hall. He indicated that this anticipates that Social Services will relocate to the new Town Hall and that the current Town Hall will remain vacant for a period of time. He noted that Account 311 Facilities Maintenance could be reduced by \$1,300.

MOTION: Councilor Fitch moved, seconded by Councilor Downes, to reduce Department 4136 Central Services, Account #311 Facilities Maintenance by \$1,300.

VOTE: Passed 8 to 0 in a roll call vote.

Town Manager Kilduff also indicated that under Account 319 Professional Development a computer training class could be eliminated.

**MOTION:** Councilor Proto, moved, seconded by Councilor Candelora, to reduce Department 4136 Central Services, Account #319 Professional Development by \$375.

**VOTE:** Passed 8 to 0 in a roll call vote.

The Town Manager next reviewed Department 4140 Town Clerk. He noted that Account 202 Technical Support could be reduced by \$100 and Account 319 Professional Development could be reduced by \$285 by eliminating a computer training course and the New England Town Clerk's conference.

**MOTION:** Councilor Proto moved, seconded by Councilor Bigelow, to reduce Department 4140 Town Clerk, Account #202 Technical Support by \$100.

**VOTE:** Passed 8 to 0 in a roll call vote.

**MOTION:** Councilor Fitch moved, seconded by Councilor Candelora, to reduce Department 4140 Town Clerk, Account #319 Professional Development by \$285.

**VOTE:** Passed 8 to 0 in a roll call vote.

The Council reviewed Department 4141 Elections with respect to the increases in Food and Part Time salaries. There was considerable discussion on the increase in salary. The Council indicated that they would like to see only a 3% increase in Account 102 Part Time.

Town Clerk Lisa Valenti spoke on the different types of election years and how this affects this budget.

The Council requested a breakdown of the salaries and the number of hours worked for an election.

Due to a typographical error, Town Manager Kilduff indicated that Department 4150 Town Attorney Account 320 Other Contractual should be \$37,400 and the Council agreed to make this mathematical error correction in the amount of \$600 in order to correct this account. He also noted that Account 316 Litigation can be reduced by \$1,000.

**MOTION:** Councilor Krasko moved, seconded by Councilor Bigelow, to reduce Department 4150 Town Attorney, Account #316 Litigation by \$1,000.

**VOTE:** Passed 8 to 0 in a roll call vote.

Under Department 4151 Permanent Project Building Committee, Town Manager Kilduff stated that Account 202 Technical Supplies can be reduced to zero by eliminating \$100.

MOTION: Councilor Krasko moved, seconded by Councilor Downes, to reduce Department 4151 Permanent Project Building Committee, Account #202 Technical Supplies by \$100.

VOTE: Passed 8 to 0 in a roll call vote.

Town Manager Kilduff reviewed two cuts which could be made in Department 4152 Technology. He indicated that Account 202 Technical Supplies could be reduced by \$100 and Account 211 Books & Publications could be reduced by \$125.

MOTION: Councilor Krasko moved, seconded by Councilor Fitch, to reduce Department 4152 Technology, Account #202 Technical Supplies by \$100.

VOTE: Passed 8 to 0 in a roll call vote.

MOTION: Councilor Krasko moved, seconded by Councilor Downes, to reduce Department 4152 Technology, Account #211 Books & Publications by \$125.

VOTE: Passed 8 to 0 in a roll call vote.

The Council next reviewed the Public Safety portion of the budget. Under Department 4210 Police, Town Manager Kilduff confirmed that the patrolman has been eliminated and all applicable accounts have been adjusted. With respect to Account 312 Equipment Rental, Police Chief Matt Canelli confirmed that this is for a leased copier which will include maintenance costs.

Under Department 4220 Fire Department, the Council reviewed the costs of the pension plan. Treasurer/Finance Director Esposito confirmed that this figure is based on the actual members who qualified for the pension plan last year.

Councilor Krasko questioned the increase in Account 320 Other Contractual. Fire Chief Ralph Thomas indicated that this is a year for major physicals.

Upon questioning, it was noted that the increase in salaries is a 3% increase over last year for the Fire Chief, Fire Marshal and Board Clerk.

Under Department 4230 Fire Hydrants, Town Manager Kilduff noted that this assumes only three new hydrants in the upcoming fiscal year.

The Council reviewed Department 4240 Communications. There was some review and discussion by the Council on the sick pay included in the budget as well as the DVD disks.

The Council reviewed Departments 4250 Civil Preparedness and 4260 Animal Control and took no action.

The Council next reviewed the Public Works portion of the budget. Under Department

4302 Refuse Removal, Town Manager Kilduff indicated that until the tipping fee has been confirmed by CRRA this account is still uncertain.

MOTION: Councilor Krasko, moved, seconded by Councilor Downes, to reduce Department 4302 Refuse Removal, Account #320 Other Contractual by \$17,900.

VOTE: Passed 8 to 0 in a roll call vote.

Town Manager Kilduff reviewed several cuts which could be made to Department 4305 Public Works. Under Account 201 Office Supplies should be reduced by \$50 in order to reflect the original cut made by the Town Manager which was not reflected in the budget book, under Account 205 Agricultural Supplies can be reduced by \$2,000, under Account 206 Construction Materials can be reduced by \$6,600, under Account 301 Telephone can be reduced by \$492, under Account 319 Professional Development by \$40, under Account 320 Other Contractual can be reduced by \$5,800, and under Account 404 Construction Equipment can be reduced by \$500 to eliminate one weed whacker.

MOTION: Councilor Fitch moved, seconded by Councilor Proto, to reduce Department 4305 Public Works, Account #201 Office Supplies by \$50.

VOTE: Passed 8 to 0 in a roll call vote.

MOTION: Councilor Fitch moved, seconded by Councilor Downes, to reduce Department 4305 Public Works, Account #205 Agricultural Supplies by \$2,000.

VOTE: Passed 8 to 0 in a roll call vote.

MOTION: Councilor Proto moved, seconded by Councilor Downes, to reduce Department 4305 Public Works, Account #206 Construction Materials by \$6,600.

VOTE: Passed 8 to 0 in a roll call vote.

MOTION: Councilor Proto moved, seconded by Councilor Fitch, to reduce Department 4305 Public Works, Account #301 Telephone by \$492.

VOTE: Passed 8 to 0 in a roll call vote.

MOTION: Councilor Downes moved, seconded by Councilor Proto, to reduce Department 4305 Public Works, Account #320 Other Contractual by \$5,800.

VOTE: Passed 8 to 0 in a roll call vote.

MOTION: Councilor Downes moved, seconded by Councilor Fitch, to reduce Department 4305 Public Works, Account #404 Construction Equipment by \$500.

VOTE: Passed 8 to 0 in a roll call vote.

Town Manager Kilduff reviewed Department 4309 Street Lighting and no action was taken by the Council.

The Council next reviewed the Culture and Recreation portion of the budget. Town Manager Kilduff reviewed the following reductions which can be taken from Department 4400 Recreation: \$438 from Account 101 Full Time, \$360 from Account 307 Travel & Transportation, \$1214 from Account 312 Equipment Rental be eliminating one of the two handicap portable restrooms, and Account 319 by \$160 by eliminating the National Park and Recreation Commission dues for the recreation supervisor.

MOTION: Councilor Downes moved, seconded by Councilor Bigelow, to reduce Department 4400 Recreation, Account #101 Full Time by \$438.

VOTE: Passed 8 to 0 in a roll call vote.

MOTION: Councilor Fitch moved, seconded by Councilor Krasko, to reduce Department 4400 Recreation, Account #307 Travel & Transportation by \$360.

VOTE: Passed 8 to 0 in a roll call vote.

MOTION: Councilor Krasko moved, seconded by Councilor Downes, to reduce Department 4400 Recreation, Account #312 Equipment Rental by \$1214.

VOTE: Passed 8 to 0 in a roll call vote.

MOTION: Councilor Downes moved, seconded by Councilor Esposito, to reduce Department 4400 Recreation, Account #319 Professional Development by \$160.

VOTE: Passed 8 to 0 in a roll call vote.

There was a brief discussion between Council members and Recreation Director Pamela Gery on the summer program and whether or not it is self-sustaining. Ms. Gery also reviewed the \$40,000 contained in Other Contractual which supports recreation programs throughout the town.

Town Manager Kilduff stated that he is not recommending any further cuts in Department 4400 Public Celebrations. Recreation Director Pamela Gery confirmed that nine summer concerts have been scheduled and that she is obtaining sponsorship from area businesses for several of these concerts.

Town Manager Kilduff indicated that Department 4405 Senior Services, Account 202 Technical Supplies could be reduced by \$250 under miscellaneous supplies.

**MOTION:** Councilor Fitch moved, seconded by Councilor Downes, to reduce Department 4405 Senior Services, Account #202 Technical Supplies by \$250.

**VOTE:** Passed 8 to 0 in a roll call vote.

The Council also reviewed Department 4406 Elderly Housing and Department 4407 Reynolds/Beers House. There was a brief discussion on the roof replacement for the Reynolds/Beers House.

Under Department 4416 Library, Town Manager Kilduff indicated that \$2,000 could be eliminated from Account 102 Part Time by the use of Library Pages. He briefly spoke on the quality of service previously experienced with the use of pages.

**MOTION:** Councilor Krasko moved, seconded by Councilor Proto, to reduce Department 4416 Library, Account #102 Part Time by \$2,000.

**VOTE:** Failed 3 to 5 in a roll call vote.

**FOR:** Mayor Wentworth, Councilors Mary Bigelow and Andrew Esposito

**OPPOSED:** Councilors Vincent Candelora, Michael Downes, Joan Fitch, Jack Krasko and Paul Proto

Town Manager Kilduff also reviewed cuts which could be taken from Department 4416 Library under Account 307 Travel & Transportation and Account 319 Professional Development.

**MOTION:** Councilor Fitch moved, seconded by Councilor Downes, to reduce Department 4416 Library, Account #307 Travel & Transportation by \$100.

**VOTE:** Passed 8 to 0 in a roll call vote.

**MOTION:** Councilor Candelora moved, seconded by Councilor Downes, to reduce Department 4416 Library, Account #319 Professional Development by \$400.

**VOTE:** Passed 8 to 0 in a roll call vote.

Town Manager Kilduff advised the Council that the Library Board is discussing increasing the fines to provide additional income to the Town.

The Council next reviewed the Health and Welfare portion of the budget. Town Manager Kilduff distributed to Council members copies of newspaper articles regarding the closing of the Greater New Haven Family Counseling Service, which the Town is currently using. He indicated that the town is in the process of finding an alternate service provider. He noted that as the \$2,500 increase in Account 320 Other Contractual was requested by the Greater New Haven Family Counseling Service, he felt that this could be eliminated from the budget at this time. There was some discussion on this by the Council. The Town Manager confirmed that approximately 400 to 600 residents are serviced by this agency each year.

**MOTION:** Councilor Downes moved, seconded by Councilor Fitch, to reduce Department 4501 Health & Human Relations, Account #320 Other Contractual by \$2,500.

Councilor Krasko questioned the interrelationship between this Agency and the school district. Dr. Wolfe indicated that counseling services within the school system are only related to educational needs and no family counseling is provided for.

**VOTE:** Passed 8 to 0 in a roll call vote.

Town Manager Kilduff also noted that Sage Services of Connecticut is included in this year's budget and had been previously eliminated last year.

**MOTION:** Councilor Fitch moved, seconded by Councilor Downes, to reduce Department 4501 Health & Human Relations, Account #320 Other Contractual by \$2,000 eliminating Sage Services of Connecticut.

**VOTE:** Passed 8 to 0 in a roll call vote.

Town Manager Kilduff briefly spoke on the increases for the East Shore District Health Department which are included in the budget.

The Council reviewed Department 4504 Social Services, Department 4506 Probate Court and Department 4507 Haz Waste/Recycling and no action was taken.

The Council reviewed the Development and Conservation portion of the budget. Town Manager Kilduff reviewed several accounts in Department 4670 Planning Department. He suggested that Account 201 Office Supplies can be reduced by \$50, Account 202 Technical Supplies can be reduced by \$100, Account 211 Books & Publications can be reduced by \$100, and Account 319 Professional Development can be reduced by \$100.

**MOTION:** Councilor Candelora moved, seconded by Councilor Downes, to reduce Department 4670 Planning Department, Account #202 Technical Supplies by

\$100.

VOTE: Passed 7 to 1 in a roll call vote.

FOR: Mayor Wentworth, Councilors Mary Bigelow, Vincent Candelora, Michael Downes, Andrew Esposito, Jack Krasko and Paul Proto

OPPOSED: Councilor Joan Fitch

MOTION: Councilor Fitch moved, seconded by Councilor Krasko, to reduce Department 4670 Planning Department, Account #319 Professional Development by \$100.

VOTE: Passed 8 to 0 in a roll call vote.

Town Manager Kilduff reviewed Department 4671 Planning & Zoning Commission, particularly with respect to the special hearings relating to the Connecticut Siting Council. There was some discussion on this issue by the Council. The Town Manager also reviewed Department 4672 Zoning Board of Appeals and noted that a large amount of the increase is due to advertising costs.

The Council reviewed Department 4673 Economic Development Commission and no action was taken.

Under Department 4674 Engineering, Town Manager Kilduff indicated that Account 204 Uniforms and Clothing can be reduced by \$100.

MOTION: Councilor Krasko moved, seconded by Councilor Candelora, to reduce Department 4674 Engineering, Account #204 Uniforms and Clothing by \$100.

VOTE: Passed 6 to 2 in a roll call vote.

FOR: Mayor Wentworth, Councilors Mary Bigelow, Vincent Candelora, Andrew Esposito, Jack Krasko and Paul Proto

OPPOSED: Councilors Michael Downes and Joan Fitch

MOTION: Councilor Candelora moved, seconded by Councilor Fitch, to reduce Department 4674 Engineering, Account #319 Professional Development by \$200.

VOTE: Passed 8 to 0 in a roll call vote.

MOTION: Councilor Fitch moved, seconded by Councilor Candelora, to reduce Department 4676 Conservation & Inland Wetlands Agency, Account #303 Printing & Binding by \$175.

VOTE: Passed 8 to 0 in a roll call vote.

MOTION: Councilor Candelora moved, seconded by Councilor Fitch, to reduce Department 4676 Conservation & Inland Wetlands Agency, Account #202 Technical Supplies by \$100.

VOTE: Passed 8 to 0 in a roll call vote.

Town Manager Kilduff offered a reduction in Department 4677 Beautification Account 202 in the amount of \$1,500.

MOTION: Councilor Fitch moved, seconded by Councilor Bigelow, to reduce Department 467 Beautification, Account #202 Technical Supplies by \$1,500.

VOTE: Passed 8 to 0 in a roll call vote.

Town Manager Kilduff reviewed Department 4678 Land Preservation and indicated that Account 211 Books and Publications could be reduced. No action was taken by the Council.

Under Department 4681 Building Department, Town Manager Kilduff reviewed several accounts to be reduced: Account 102 Part Time can be reduced by \$543 reducing the number of hours for the Assistant Building Official and Account 204 Uniforms can be reduced by \$200.

MOTION: Councilor Proto moved, seconded by Councilor Downes, to reduce Department 4681 Building Department, Account #102 Part Time by \$543.

VOTE: Passed 8 to 0 in a roll call vote.

MOTION: Councilor Fitch moved, seconded by Councilor Proto, to reduce Department 4681 Building Department, Account #204 Uniforms by \$200.

VOTE: Passed 8 to 0 in a roll call vote.

Town Manager Kilduff reviewed Department 4800 Debt Service, which is a must pay. Under Department 4703 Contingency, the Town Manager requested that the Council hold off taking any action on this until issues with the collective bargaining units and employee benefit issues are resolved.

The Council then reviewed the Capital Improvements Plan with the Town Manager. Town Manager Kilduff suggested that the Equipment Reserve-Fire could be reduced at this time. He indicated that the Town must fund \$375,000 for the replacement of Engine No. 2 within the next three years. There was considerable discussion on this by the Council.

MOTION: Councilor Downes moved, seconded by Councilor Candelora, to reduce the Capital Improvements Plan, Fire-Equipment Reserve by \$50,000 under Budget Funds.

VOTE: Passed 8 to 0 in a roll call vote.

There was also review and discussion between the Council, the Town Manager and the Public Works Director on the funding for Equipment Reserve for the Public Works Department for the replacement of the street sweeper.

Town Manager Kilduff distributed to Council members a letter dated April 7, 2002 from Paul Dodson, President of the North Branford Little League requesting that the \$20,000 funding in the Capital Improvements Plan for the Jerome Harrison School field improvements be reinstated in the budget. Councilor Candelora requested that the Little League's needs be assessed as to how often the other fields are used. Public Works Director Fran Merola spoke on the condition of the ballfield at the Jerome Harrison School. He confirmed that the \$80,000 irrigation system for this field is installed and operating properly.

The Council also reviewed and discussed with the Town Manager the \$7,500 in the Capital Improvements Plan under Anthem Proceeds for the field expansion study. The Town Manager indicated that the recent report received is not sufficient to support a grant application which may be made.

Town Manager Kilduff outlined the action taken by the Council at this meeting. The Council reduced the budget by \$119,411 resulting in a 7.79% increase and a proposed mill rate of 27.81.

### 3. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Councilor Proto moved, seconded by Councilor Krasko, to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 p.m.

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

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Rosanne Krajewski  
Clerk to the Council