

**TOWN OF EAST HADDAM**  
Financial Needs Roundtable  
Tuesday, August 2, 2011  
Grange Hall  
6:30 pm  
Special Meeting

Members present:

Mark Walter, First Selectman  
Bruce Dutch, Board of Finance  
Paul Maxwell, Board of Finance  
Nancy Haslam, Board of Education

Others:

Deb Denette, Recording Secretary  
Cindy Varricchio, Finance Administrator

**Call to Order**

Mark Walter called the meeting to order at 6:38 pm.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Review of 10-Year Capital Plan**

A draft of a ten-year capital improvement plan, identifying potential projects and purchases including cost estimates for each was distributed. The total of the identified items over the next ten years was estimated at \$39,376,844.

The next step will be to expand the table to identify those mandated projects vs. those of wish or want.

It was also suggested that more detailed discussion be held with emergency groups such as ambulance, fire, emergency management, etc. It was suggested that the groups be brought in separately.

Mr. Walter stated that he asked the East Haddam Free Public Library to identify what it needed to remain relevant in the new media age. \$755,000 was incorporated over the ten year period.

Several school projects were discussed, including a feasibility study for conversion and/or expansion of the elementary school library to a media center, conversion of the court yard, and creation of a computer lab, reworking of the traffic pattern, parking lot improvements, addressing the pump at the high school which runs continuously, and sidewalks. True costs for items such as a track are also going to be pursued. If a track is created, there will be maintenance costs, coaches, buses, uniforms, etc.

Mr. Dutch emphasized the need to make a determination on the disposition of the old middle school. He stated that either renovation or demolition costs must be included in

this plan. Mr. Walter stated that the renovation costs were \$13,000,000 and included living within most existing walls to avoid additional costs. He stated that demolition costs could range from \$90,000 to \$2,000,000.

Mrs. Haslam stated that she was doubtful there would be enough interest in conversion of the school to a magnet school. Although there does exist some interest in expansion of a vo-tech program in East Haddam.

### **Approval of Minutes**

**Motion was made by Paul Maxwell to approve the April 18, 2011 Special Meeting Minutes. Nancy Haslam seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved. Motion carried.**

The Committee was in agreement that the fire department should be invited in for additional discussion on its future capital needs.

**Motion was made by Bruce Dutch to adjourn at 7:55 pm. Paul Maxwell seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved. Motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted,

Deb Denette