

**Approved Minutes of the Budget Advisory Committee (BAC)  
Temple Municipal Offices  
Wed. November 10, 2004**

**Members present**

Steve Andersen  
Rae Barnhisel  
Mike Darnell  
Brian Kullgren  
Allan Oxman

**Others present**

Tedd Petro (Select Board)      Mike Connolly (Fire Chief)  
Charlene Eddy (Select Board)      Sherry Fiske (Select Board)  
Rich Beringer (Fire Engineer)  
Debra Harling (Fire Engineer)  
Will Wildes (Fire Engineer)

**Meeting called to order at 7:05 pm.**

1. Minutes from October 27, 2004 (Mtg. 11) approved as amended. Received Select Board (SB) minutes dated 10-12-04, 2004 Wilton Recycling Center Budget (copy attached), and Debt Service-Interest TANS history from 1995 to 2004 (copy attached). No discussion of items.
2. Members reviewed the Fire Department (FD) budget as outlined by R. Beringer. The following line items were changed to reflect a \$2600 net increase:
  - a. Telephone decrease from \$1000 to \$700.
  - b. Hose Replacement decrease from \$1250 to \$1200.
  - c. Equipment Maintenance (Firefighting Equipment) increase from \$1000 to \$1350.
  - d. Training decrease from \$2000 to \$1600.
  - e. The following line item Rescue Squad was created and \$3000 was proposed to support medical tests and vaccinations, personal protection equipment (PPE), postage, radios, supplies, and training. R. Beringer pointed out that many of the members of the Rescue Squad were currently FD members and so would not require tests, equipment, etc. Beringer estimated that 10 to 20% of the FD's budget was not likely to be spent.
3. D. Harling presented her estimates of the 2003 unreserved fund balance, total apportionments, total revenue, and total expenses in order to estimate the 2004 unreserved fund balance (copies attached):
  - a. She showed various scenarios of what the town tax rate might be with overlay at \$50,000 or \$75,000, or \$100,000 and the Lukas Community (LC) valuation at 75% or 100% at \$75,000 and \$100,000. With overlay affecting the town tax rate and the LC valuation affecting the school rate, a lower total town tax rate resulted with the lowest overlay and 100% LC valuation. With an overlay of \$75,000, the total town tax rate was estimated to be \$19.23.
  - b. She then used property tax rate data for members of the BAC, Select Board, and 2 other residents that showed increases in valuation from 56% to 372% (avg. 109%) to determine what the difference in amount of property tax would be paid at various new tax rates. Darnell's property tax was tracked as a median indicator due to the fact that his increase in valuation was similar to the average resident's increase in valuation (83%). His property tax roughly held stable a tax rate of \$19.23.
  - c. BAC and SB members discussed using approximately \$150,000 of the fund balance to reduce the tax rate by \$1 on 11-17-04. BAC members voted to unanimously recommend to the SB to use the fund balance to reduce the tax rate by \$1 based on the \$19.23 tax rate scenario.

**Meeting adjourned at 9:05 pm.**

Respectfully submitted, Rae Barnhisel, December 8, 2004