

GREENFIELD TOWN COUNCIL
Regular Meeting Minutes
November 16, 2011

GCTV-15

7:00 pm

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m. by President Singer.

President Singer stated this meeting was being recorded. If any other person present was doing the same, they must notify the chairperson at this time. It was noted the Town Council was audio recording and GCTV-15 was video recording the meeting for future broadcast.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS: Roll Call was taken. Councilor McLellan was absent.

ALSO PRESENT: Mayor William Martin; Director of Municipal Finance and Administration Marjorie L. Kelly; Town Clerk Maureen Winseck; Town Accountant Elizabeth Braccia; DPW Superintendent Sandra Shields; School Committee Chairman John Lunt; School Business Manager Elizabeth Gilman; Director of Student Services Kathleen Titus; Events Coordinator for the Franklin County Chamber of Commerce Becky George; Recreation Director Christy Moore; Chief Assessor Audrey Murphy; Board of Assessors Chairman Scott Cote and member Michael Ruggeri; Acting Chief of Police Gary Magnan; President of the Franklin County Chamber of Commerce Ann Hamilton; Advocates for the Homeless; GCTV-15 staff; Anita Phillips, *the Recorder*; and members of the public.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES: On a motion by Councilor Allis, second by Councilor Devlin, it was unanimously, **VOTED:** TO ACCEPT THE TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES OF OCTOBER 19, 2011 AND NOVEMBER 2, 2011.

PUBLIC HEARINGS: President Singer opened the Public Hearing at 7:12 pm. Councilor Sutphin read the Public Hearing notice: In accordance with Home Rule Charter the Greenfield Town Council will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, November 16, 2011, beginning at 7:00 p.m. at GCTV-15, 393 Main Street to receive public input on the following:

- o Transfer \$18,600 from bond proceeds for repairs to the Youth Center, originally approved by the Town Council on 5/27/07 and bonded on 12/15/09, for payment to upgrade fire alarm systems at the Federal Street School and Academy of Early Learning.
- o Appropriate \$90,000 from Fund 1610, Sale of Town Owned Land, to the following:
 - o \$25,000 for the reclamation of soil at the Town "Poor Farm"
 - o \$65,000 for the second year option on the Lunt property
- o Increase the FY12 Operating Budget by \$562,050 as follows: Assessor, \$19,250; Town Clerk, \$3,800; Police Department, \$50,000; Dispatch, \$40,000; Parking, \$31,500; Plumbing & Wiring Inspections, \$ 1,500; Greenfield Public Schools, \$228,000; Veterans Services, \$105,000; Recreation Department, \$10,000; Medicare Match, \$48,000; Other Post Employment Benefits, \$25,000.
- o Decrease the FY12 Operating Budget by \$54,550 as follows: Treasurer-Collector, \$30,000; Central Maintenance, \$23,050; DPW Operating, \$1,500.
- o Appropriate \$330,000 from Free Cash to reduce the tax rate.
- o Appropriate \$250,000 from Free Cash to the Stabilization Fund.
- o Appropriate \$250,000 from Free Cash to the Capital Project Stabilization Fund.
- o Appropriate \$250,000 from Free Cash to the Contractual Agreement Stabilization Fund.
- o Appropriate up to \$50,000 from Free Cash for remediation of hazardous materials at Town Hall Annex prior to demolition.
- o To adopt a residential factor in accordance with the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 58, Section 1A, which shall be used by the Board of Assessors to determine the percentages of the local tax levy to be borne by each class of real and personal property for Fiscal 2012. The Assessors shall provide all information and data relevant to making such determination and the fiscal effect of the available alternatives. The hearing is required under Section 56 of Chapter 40, Massachusetts General Laws.

The Town Council will consider the same at their meeting on Wednesday, November 16, 2011 which begins at 7:00 p.m. at the GCTV-15 Studio, 393 Main Street. Materials in alternative format can be obtained from the Town Clerk's Office with advance notice at 413-772-1555. Copy is available in the Greenfield Town Clerk's Office, from 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Mon. - Fri.

President Singer asked if anyone from the public wished to speak. No one spoke. President Singer stated the Public Hearing would be left open.

Councilor Sutphin held second readings: In accordance with Home Rule Charter the Greenfield Town Council will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, November 16, 2011, beginning at 7:00 p.m. at GCTV-15, 393 Main Street to receive public input on the following:

- o Transfer \$18,600 from bond proceeds for repairs to the Youth Center, originally approved by the Town Council on 5/27/07 and bonded on 12/15/09, for payment to upgrade fire alarm systems at the Federal Street School and Academy of Early Learning.

- Appropriate \$90,000 from Fund 1610, Sale of Town Owned Land, to the following:
 - \$25,000 for the reclamation of soil at the Town "Poor Farm"
 - \$65,000 for the second year option on the Lunt property
- Increase the FY12 Operating Budget by \$562,050 as follows: Assessor, \$19,250; Town Clerk, \$3,800; Police Department, \$50,000; Dispatch, \$40,000; Parking, \$31,500; Plumbing & Wiring Inspections, \$ 1,500; Greenfield Public Schools, \$228,000; Veterans Services, \$105,000; Recreation Department, \$10,000; Medicare Match, \$48,000; Other Post Employment Benefits, \$25,000.
- Decrease the FY12 Operating Budget by \$54,550 as follows: Treasurer-Collector, \$30,000; Central Maintenance, \$23,050; DPW Operating, \$1,500.
- Appropriate \$330,000 from Free Cash to reduce the tax rate.
- Appropriate \$250,000 from Free Cash to the Stabilization Fund.
- Appropriate \$250,000 from Free Cash to the Capital Project Stabilization Fund.
- Appropriate \$250,000 from Free Cash to the Contractual Agreement Stabilization Fund.
- Appropriate up to \$50,000 from Free Cash for remediation of hazardous materials at Town Hall Annex prior to demolition.
- To adopt a residential factor in accordance with the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 58, Section 1A, which shall be used by the Board of Assessors to determine the percentages of the local tax levy to be borne by each class of real and personal property for Fiscal 2012. The Assessors shall provide all information and data relevant to making such determination and the fiscal effect of the available alternatives. The hearing is required under Section 56 of Chapter 40, Massachusetts General Laws.

President Singer read the attached three (3) letters into the record from Concerned Citizens of Greenfield, Franklin County Chamber of Commerce, and the Greenfield Business Association.

COMMUNICATIONS:

MAYOR: Mayor Martin reviewed the following:

- The financial requests before the Town Council this evening.
- Renovate and/or new construction of the Greenfield High School.
- The Solar Farm was expected to be "on the grid" on April 1, 2011.
- Mass. Works did not authorize funding for Greenfield for the construction of a parking garage. Funding options would be researched.

Ms. Kelly reviewed the attached Fiscal Year 2011 Town of Greenfield General Fund Revenue sheet dated October 12, 2011. The revenue from Fiscal Year 2011 allows the Fiscal Year 2012 to be conservatively balanced to fit the needs of departments and citizens. Ms. Kelly also distributed two documents showing the ten (10) year history of Free Cash and New Growth. She noted the Town and Unions continue to meet and negotiate Health Insurance. A firm proposal would be presented to the Unions in mid-December for their consideration.

Ms. Kelly responded to Councilors questions by reporting School Choice-out was down in Fiscal Year 2012 by \$338,000.

SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT: Superintendent Hollins introduced Ms. Gilman, School Business Manager and Ms. Titus, Director of Student Services. Dr. Hollins stated the schools were growing and reviewed information relative to the Greenfield School system (see attached). Chairman Lunt spoke of the increase in students which directly affects the increase in budget and funding request. Stability in all aspects of the schools was the direct goal.

President Singer asked if anyone from the public wished to speak to the Public Hearing items. Seeing none, he closed the Public Hearing at 7:46 pm.

TOWN OFFICERS: None.

MOTIONS, ORDERS, AND RESOLUTIONS

Order no. FY 12-052

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Allis, second by Councilor Sutphin, it was,

MOVED: THAT IT BE ORDERED THAT THE GREENFIELD TOWN COUNCIL PURSUANT TO CHARTER SECTION 2-10 ACCEPTS THE FOLLOWING APPOINTMENT BY THE MAYOR TO THE COUNCIL ON AGING: MILDRED H. GRANT – TWO YEAR TERM –EXPIRING JUNE 30, 2013 (REPLACING THE VACANCY LEFT BY THE RESIGNATION OF DEBBIE FORTIN)

DISCUSSION: Chairman Allis stated the Appointments and Ordinance Committee forwarded a unanimous positive recommendation.

It was unanimously,

VOTED: TO APPROVE MOTION ORDER NO. FY 12 -052.

Order no. FY 12-051

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Allis, second by Councilor Sutphin, it was,

Moved: THAT IT BE ORDERED THAT THE GREENFIELD TOWN COUNCIL PURSUANT TO CHARTER SECTION 2-10 ACCEPTS THE FOLLOWING APPOINTMENT BY THE MAYOR TO THE BOARD OF LICENSE COMMISSIONERS: RUTH HENRY – THREE YEAR TERM –EXPIRING JUNE 30, 2014 (REPLACING THE SEAT LEFT VACANT BY THE RESIGNATION OF ISAAC MASS)

DISCUSSION: Chairman Allis stated the Appointments and Ordinance Committee forwarded a unanimous positive recommendation.

It was unanimously,

VOTED: TO APPROVE MOTION ORDER NO. FY 12 -029.

Order no. FY 12-053

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Allis, second by Councilor Sutphin, it was,

Moved: THAT IT BE ORDERED THAT THE GREENFIELD TOWN COUNCIL RENAME “WEDGEWOOD GARDENS” TO “MILLER MEADOW” AS REQUESTED BY THE HISTORICAL COMMISSION AND RECOMMENDED BY THE MAYOR.

DISCUSSION: Chairman Allis stated the Appointments and Ordinance Committee and the Planning and Construction Committee forwarded unanimous positive recommendations as long as the renaming did not conflict with any of the agreements made when the Town purchased the property. He reviewed the history of the property and discussion held regarding the renaming.

It was unanimously,

VOTED: TO APPROVE MOTION ORDER NO. FY 12 -053.

Order no. FY 12-040

Financial Order 12-012

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Sutphin, second by Councilor Allis, it was,

Moved: THAT IT BE ORDERED THAT THE GREENFIELD TOWN COUNCIL, WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE MAYOR, VOTE TO TRANSFER \$18,600 FROM BOND PROCEEDS FOR REPAIRS TO THE YOUTH CENTER, ORIGINALLY APPROVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL ON MAY 27, 2007 AND BONDED ON DECEMBER 15, 2009, TO PAYMENT TO UPGRADE FIRE ALARM SYSTEMS AT THE FEDERAL STREET SCHOOL AND ACADEMY OF EARLY LEARNING.

DISCUSSION: Chairman Sutphin noted the Ways and Means Committee forwarded a unanimous positive recommendation.

It was unanimously, 12 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain,

VOTED: TO APPROVE MOTION ORDER NO. FY 12 -040, Financial Order 12-012.

Order no. FY12-041

Financial Order 12-013

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Sutphin, second by Councilor Allis, it was,

Moved: THAT IT BE ORDERED THAT THE GREENFIELD TOWN COUNCIL, UPON RECOMMENDATION OF THE MAYOR AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH MGL CH.44 §63, ORDER, THAT \$90,000 BE APPROPRIATED FROM FUND 1610, SALE OF TOWN OWNED LAND, TO THE FOLLOWING PURPOSES:

- FOR THE RECLAMATION OF SOIL AT THE TOWN “POOR FARM” UNDER THE CONTRACT WITH JUST ROOTS \$25,000
- FOR THE SECOND YEAR OPTION ON THE LUNT PROPERTY \$65,000

DISCUSSION: Chairman Sutphin noted the Ways and Means Committee forwarded a unanimous positive recommendation. President Singer reviewed the history of the lease for the Poor Farm and the option to purchase the Lunt Property. Councilor Allis stated seventy-thousand pounds of rock had been reclaimed to be used as aggregate.

It was unanimously, 12 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain,

VOTED: TO APPROVE MOTION ORDER NO. FY 12 -041, Financial Order 12-013.

Order no. FY 12-042

Financial Order 12-004

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Sutphin, second by Councilor Farrell, it was,

Moved: THAT IT BE ORDERED THAT THE GREENFIELD TOWN COUNCIL, UPON RECOMMENDATION OF THE MAYOR AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH MGL CH.44 §33B ORDER, THE FISCAL YEAR 2012 OPERATING BUDGET BE AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:

Increase:

▪ Assessor	\$19,250
▪ Town Clerk	\$ 3,800
▪ Police Department	\$50,000
▪ Dispatch	\$40,000
▪ Parking	\$31,500
▪ Plumbing & Wiring Inspections	\$ 1,500
▪ Greenfield Public Schools	\$228,000
▪ Veterans Services	\$105,000
▪ Recreation Department	\$10,000
▪ Medicare Match	\$48,000
▪ Other Post Employment Benefits	\$25,000
Total Increase:	\$562,050

Decrease:

▪ Treasurer-Collector	\$30,000
▪ Central Maintenance	\$23,050
▪ DPW Operating	\$1,500
Total Decrease:	\$54,550

NET CHANGE TO FY2012 OPERATING BUDGET: +\$508,500

DISCUSSION: Chairman Sutphin noted the Ways and Means Committee forwarded a positive recommendation. Ms. Kelly reviewed the Supplemental Budget process and the proposed recommendations. She reviewed the request relative to the Assessor's office for the "floater position" salary. There would not be a savings in the Assessor's line items this year because of the "buybacks and the unemployment" for the Assistant Assessor. It cost the town \$38,000 to eliminate the position. Ms. Kelly reviewed the cost of hiring an outside firm to provide assessing for the town and noted there was an increase in new growth for Fiscal Year 2011. Financially, this was the right move for the Town of Greenfield. Ms. Kelly spoke of the reduction in the Treasurer/Collector budget and increase in the Police Department budget. Mayor Martin spoke of a regional approach to Animal Control which Greenfield would be a part of.

It was unanimously, 12 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain,

VOTED: TO APPROVE MOTION ORDER NO. FY 12 -042, Financial Order 12-004.

Order no. FY 12-043

Financial Order 12-005

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Sutphin, second by Councilor Allis, it was,

Moved: THAT IT BE ORDERED THAT THE GREENFIELD TOWN COUNCIL, ON THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE MAYOR, ESTABLISHES A STABILIZATION FUND FOR THE PURPOSE OF FUNDING FUTURE CAPITAL PROJECTS AND EQUIPMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH MGL CH.40 §5B.

DISCUSSION: Chairman Sutphin noted the Ways and Means Committee forwarded a unanimous positive recommendation. President Singer stated there were two requests before the Council to create new stabilization funds for specific purposes.

It was unanimously, 12 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain,

VOTED: TO APPROVE MOTION ORDER NO. FY 12 -043, Financial Order 12-005.

Order no. FY 12-044

Financial Order 12-006

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Sutphin, second by Councilor Allis, it was,

MOVED: THAT IT BE ORDERED THAT THE GREENFIELD TOWN COUNCIL, UPON THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE MAYOR, ESTABLISHES A STABILIZATION FUND FOR THE PURPOSE OF FUNDING FUTURE CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH MGL CH.40 §5B.

DISCUSSION: Chairman Sutphin noted the Ways and Means Committee forwarded a unanimous positive recommendation. Mayor Martin stated this fund was being created in good faith for bargaining purposes.

It was unanimously, 12 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain,

VOTED: TO APPROVE MOTION ORDER NO. FY 12 -044, Financial Order 12-006.

Order no. FY 12-045

Financial Order 12-007

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Sutphin, second by Councilor Allis, it was,

MOVED: THAT IT BE ORDERED THAT THE GREENFIELD TOWN COUNCIL, UPON RECOMMENDATION OF THE MAYOR AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH MGL CH.44 §33B ORDER, \$330,000 BE APPROPRIATED FROM FREE CASH TO REDUCE THE TAX RATE.

DISCUSSION: Chairman Sutphin noted the Ways and Means Committee forwarded a unanimous positive recommendation. An average of \$42.00 would be going back to each household. Mayor Martin said it seemed prudent to return some of the money back to the taxpayer because the money came from the taxpayer. In response to Councilor Renaud, the Mayor spoke of the homeless situation in Greenfield and Massachusetts along with finances associated with this issue. Councilor Wisnewski suggested this proposal may be premature however, he suggested using the funds for items such as a downtown Police Officer, Recreation Department, Eunice Williams Bridge repair, Town Attorney line item, and Library services. Mayor Martin noted the downtown police officer concern had been addressed in the supplemental budget. He discussed Youth Services available to the community. He addressed some of the ideas Councilor Wisnewski suggested for the use of funds. Councilors Vicencio-Rasku and Wisnewski questioned the best way to use these funds. Mayor Martin described some of the Social Service Agencies the Town supported through CDBG funds. Councilors Allis, Farrell, and President Singer spoke in favor of the proposal.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Kelner, second by Councilor Hoffman, it was,

MOVED: TO TABLE THE DISCUSSION UNTIL THE NEXT TOWN COUNCIL MEETING.

DISCUSSION: Ms. Kelly advised if this proposal was not approved, the Fiscal Year 2012 budget would be out of balance and the Tax Classification orders could not be voted. The purpose of the supplemental budget was to balance the budget. President Singer stated the motion to table was non-debatable.

It was by majority,

DEFEATED: TO TABLE THE DISCUSSION UNTIL THE NEXT TOWN COUNCIL MEETING.

DISCUSSION: Discussion continued on options for the Town Council to balance the budget. If this were approved by the Town Council, the base level for the Proposition 2 ½ Override would not change. Councilor Hoffman was not convinced that giving the money back to the citizens was the only solution.

It was by majority roll call, 8 yes, 3 no, 0 abstain,

VOTED: TO APPROVE MOTION ORDER NO. FY 12 -045, Financial Order 12-007.

Order no. FY 12-046

Financial Order 12-008

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Sutphin, second by Councilor Allis, it was,

MOVED: THAT IT BE ORDERED THAT THE GREENFIELD TOWN COUNCIL, UPON RECOMMENDATION OF THE MAYOR AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL LAWS, ORDER, \$250,000 BE APPROPRIATED FROM FREE CASH TO THE STABILIZATION FUND.

DISCUSSION: Chairman Sutphin noted the Ways and Means Committee forwarded a unanimous positive recommendation.

It was unanimously, 12 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain,

VOTED: TO APPROVE MOTION ORDER NO. FY 12 -046, Financial Order 12-008.

Order no. FY 12-049

Financial Order 12-009

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Sutphin, second by Councilor Allis, it was,**MOVED:** THAT IT BE ORDERED THAT THE GREENFIELD TOWN COUNCIL, UPON RECOMMENDATION OF THE MAYOR AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL LAWS, ORDER, \$250,000 BE APPROPRIATED FROM FREE CASH TO THE CAPITAL PROJECT STABILIZATION FUND.**DISCUSSION:** Chairman Sutphin noted the Ways and Means Committee forwarded a unanimous positive recommendation.

It was unanimously, 12 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain,

VOTED: TO APPROVE MOTION ORDER NO. FY 12 -049, Financial Order 12-009.**Order no. FY 12-047**

Financial Order 12-010

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Sutphin, second by Councilor Allis, it was,**MOVED:** THAT IT BE ORDERED THAT THE GREENFIELD TOWN COUNCIL, UPON RECOMMENDATION OF THE MAYOR AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL LAWS, ORDER, \$250,000 BE APPROPRIATED FROM FREE CASH TO THE CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT STABILIZATION FUND.**DISCUSSION:** Chairman Sutphin noted the Ways and Means Committee forwarded a unanimous positive recommendation.

It was unanimously, 12 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain,

VOTED: TO APPROVE MOTION ORDER NO. FY 12 -047, Financial Order 12-010.**Order no. FY 12-048**

Financial Order 12-011

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Sutphin, second by Councilor Allis, it was,**MOVED:** THAT IT BE ORDERED THAT THE GREENFIELD TOWN COUNCIL, UPON RECOMMENDATION OF THE MAYOR AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL LAWS, ORDER, UP TO \$50,000 BE APPROPRIATED FROM FREE CASH FOR REMEDIATION OF HAZARDOUS MATERIALS AT THE TOWN HALL ANNEX PRIOR TO DEMOLITION.**DISCUSSION:** Chairman Sutphin noted the Ways and Means Committee forwarded a unanimous positive recommendation.

It was unanimously, 12 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain,

VOTED: TO APPROVE MOTION ORDER NO. FY 12 -048, Financial Order 12-011.**Order no. FY 12 -050 A****MOTION:** On a motion by Councilor Sutphin, second by Councilor Allis, it was,**MOVED:** THAT IT BE ORDERED THAT THE GREENFIELD TOWN COUNCIL ADOPT A MINIMUM RESIDENTIAL FACTOR OF ONE (1) RESULTING IN AN EQUAL TAX RATE FOR ALL CLASSES OF PROPERTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2012.**DISCUSSION:** Chairman Sutphin noted the Ways and Means Committee forwarded a majority positive recommendation, 3 yes, 1 no, and 1 abstention. Chief Assessor Murphy clarified the Town Council did not reduce the tax rate; they reduced the tax Levy with the approval of the \$330,000 vote. Ms. Murphy reviewed the process for the Assessors' recommendation to the Town Council for setting the Tax Classification for Fiscal Year 2012. She reviewed documentation forwarded to the Council. The Board of Assessors recommended a single Tax Classification for residential and business within the Town of Greenfield. She responded to questions from Councilors regarding residential and commercial exemptions and other taxing options. Councilor Wisniewski spoke regarding a split tax classification as a fair option to the citizens and businesses of Greenfield. A split tax rate was the only tool the Town could use to balance the tax burden currently on the citizens. Councilor Wisniewski reviewed documentation he had presented this evening regarding tax classification. He suggested if the tax rates were to be split, businesses would see an increase in customer spending due to lower tax bills. The following was discussed:

- Would the higher cost of a split tax rate for business be passed onto businesses who rent from building owners?
- Although business property taxes may have gone down within the past few years, the cost of licenses issued by the Town through the Board of License Commission had risen over the past few years.
- Local small businesses were being asked to support community events financially. Would they continue this practice if the rate was split?

- For the first time, in a long time, the business attitude in Greenfield appears to be favorable.
- Concern was expressed that this topic was not brought up earlier in the year.
- If a split tax rate was approved tonight, it would take approximately 20 to 25 days to get the tax bills out which could jeopardize the town's finances.
- A split tax rate would kill the businesses.
- It would be beneficial when making a decision, if data such as the license fees and financial implications had been available for the discussion.

Councilor Farrell would vote in favor of a single tax rate. Councilor Hirschfeld would vote in favor of a split tax rate. Ms. Murphy emphasized the Town Council was aware the tax rate was set in November. If any Councilor wanted information all they need to do was ask. She was more than willing to attend meetings, have discussion, or provide information at any time. Mr. Ruggeri did not believe a split tax rate would benefit the citizens of Greenfield. Mr. Cote spoke of reasons he favored a single tax rate.

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Wisnewski, second by Councilor Devlin, it was,

MOVED: AMEND THE MOTION TO READ: THAT THE GREENFIELD TOWN COUNCIL ADOPT A MINIMUM RESIDENTIAL FACTOR OF 1.03 RESULTING IN AN SPLIT TAX RATE FOR RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL PROPERTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2012.

DISCUSSION: Ms. Murphy confirmed the residential tax rate would be .97 and the commercial rate would be 1.03.

It was by roll call, 6 yes, 6 no, 0 abstain,

DEFEATED: THAT THE GREENFIELD TOWN COUNCIL ADOPT A MINIMUM RESIDENTIAL FACTOR OF 1.03 RESULTING IN AN SPLIT TAX RATE FOR RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL PROPERTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2012.

It was by roll call, 7 yes, 4 no, 0 abstain,

VOTED: TO APPROVE MOTION ORDER NO. FY 12 -050 A.

President Singer thanked Councilor Wisnewski for his efforts. He suggested in coming years, this discussion take place prior to the night of the vote.

Order no. FY 12 -050 B

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Sutphin, second by Councilor Allis,

MOVED: THAT IT BE ORDERED THAT THE GREENFIELD TOWN COUNCIL VOTES THAT NO RESIDENTIAL EXEMPTION BE ADOPTED FOR FISCAL YEAR 2012.

DISCUSSION: Chairman Sutphin noted the Ways and Means Committee forwarded a unanimous positive recommendation.

It was unanimously, 12 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain,

VOTED: TO APPROVE MOTION ORDER NO. FY 12 -050 B.

Order no. FY 12 -050 C

MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Sutphin, second by Councilor Allis, it was unanimously,

VOTED: THAT IT BE ORDERED THAT THE GREENFIELD TOWN COUNCIL VOTES THAT NO SMALL COMMERCIAL EXEMPTION BE ADOPTED FOR FISCAL YEAR 2012.

PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS AND SIMILAR PAPERS None.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

COMMUNITY RELATIONS AND EDUCATION COMMITTEE – Chairman Vicencio-Rasku announced the next Public Forum would be held on Tuesday, November 29, 2011 for precincts 4-5-6.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: Councilor Sutphin held the following first reading:

- Ordered that the FY2012 Operating Budget for the Greenfield Public Library be increased by \$7,500, and to meet said appropriation \$7,500 shall be raised and appropriated.

- o Ordered that the FY2012 Operating Budget for Town Attorney Services be increased by \$75,000, and to meet said appropriation \$75,000 shall be raised and appropriated.
- o Ordered that the sum of \$21,000 be appropriated for a feasibility study for a Public Safety Complex for the Fiscal Year 2012 and to meet said appropriation \$21,000 shall be raised and appropriated.
- o Ordered that \$100,000 be appropriated to the Contractual Agreement Stabilization Fund and to meet said appropriation \$100,000 shall be raised and appropriated.

MOTIONS FOR RECONSIDERATION: None.

PUBLIC FORUM: None.

ADJOURNMENT: On a motion by Councilor Farrell, second by Councilor Allis, it was unanimously **VOTED:** TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 10:25 P.M.

A true copy,

 Attest:
 Maureen T. Winseck, Town Clerk

GREENFIELD TOWN COUNCIL MEMBERS

GCTV-15
 Regular Meeting
 November 16, 2011

		Amend	Motion to Table			
1. Kelner, Mariann	P	N	Y	Y		
2. McLellan, Thomas	A	--	--	--		
3. Allis, Brickett	P	Y	N	Y		
4. Ronhave, Steven	P	Y	N	Y		
5. Singer, David	P	--	N	--		
6. Hoffman, Hillary	P	N	Y	N		
7. Renaud, Karen	P	Y	N	N		
8. Vicencio-Rasku, Iris	P	N	Y	N		
9. Hirschfeld, Norman	P	Y	Y	Y		
10. Farrell, Timothy	P	Y	N	Y		
11. Wisnewski, Mark	P	Y	Y	N		
12. Devlin, Patrick	P	Y	Y	Y		
13. Sutphin, Tracey	P	Y	N	Y		
		8 yes 3 no	6 yes 6 no	7 yes 4 no		