

**Milton Town Council Meeting
Public Hearing
Milton Library - 121 Union Street
Wednesday, August 11, 2010
6:30 p.m.**

[Minutes are NOT Verbatim]

Recording Secretary: Helene Rodgville

Mayor Newlands: We're going to get started now with the Public Hearing. Tonight's Public Hearing we're going to allow the public to ask questions about our budget. We have members of the Council here that may answers questions immediately; we may not be able to get back to you until a further time. So we'll post the questions and answers on the web, if we don't have the answers right now. If you have suggestions about things you would like to see us do; money saving ideas you would like to implement; or advise us of, things that we may not have thought of, please feel free to do that. We have two microphones so whatever side you're on, you can come up and speak; but please give your name and address clearly, so our transcriptionist, Helene, will understand who you are and no outbursts from the audience, if possible and if you feel the urge that you have to get up and say something, please get to a microphone. This is the public's meeting. It's your questions. We are not doing a presentation.

C Doby: May I ask you a questions, first? I'm looking at total expenses and total revenues in this new budget that we've gotten; which jives of course, which what we talked about the other night; but you added the water proprietary funds to the deficit; but we didn't subtract the water costs that those costs will cover from the expenses. So I don't think this \$506,600 is a fair figure for the deficit.

Mayor Newlands: Okay, I agree that's fine.

C Lester: That's the net profit; income less expenses.

Mayor Newlands: Is it just that we subtract the one number and that's all we have to do?

C Lester: Yes, the net number.

Mayor Newlands: Just the net number.

C Doby: So it already came out?

Mayor Newlands: Yes, it comes out by event backwards in that number.

C Lester: That's net income.

C Doby: Okay.

C Lester: Debits and credits.

C Doby: I understand debits and credits; I thought that this was the figure before that was out.

Mayor Newlands: I wish we could have taken it out, it would have made me feel a lot better too.

C Doby: It would have been nice.

Mayor Newlands: It's a big number. Okay do you want to raise your hands and come up, please.

1. Marion Jones, 409 and 411 Behringer Avenue: First I'll try to ask you to follow me, but it would be very helpful if the pages were numbered, so that when I refer to something, I could get Council to the same page.
Mayor Newlands: If you just go by the Department and there's a number in the left hand column, that's the account number, we could do that.
Marion Jones: Edmund Expenses, though I wouldn't want the job any of you have for this amount of money, it might be a good will gesture to give up your \$7,550 this year. These are just comments and suggestions.
Mayor Newlands: Are you talking about the Council salaries?
C Abraham: It's back down to \$4,000.
Mayor Newlands: We lowered that to \$4,000.
Marion Jones: I was not here at the other meeting, so this is all I have. Correct me when you need to. Overtime, 5110 – the dog with the bone that has brought up Flex Time each and every budget year. I know of no laws, labor laws that preclude Flex Time. I'm not sure that it is not set by the town itself. Overtime for the Town Manager and the Town Clerk to attend meetings, I believe could be reduced, if on known meeting days these folks utilized Flex Time.
Mayor Newlands: We've already set that to zero.
Marion Jones: I'm way behind all of it.
C Lester: Excuse me, Marion, you may want to get an updated copy of the budget.
C Duby: There are updated copies of the budget in the back.
Marion Jones: Then I better sit down and look at it again. Question on 5215 Consulting Fees for URS, are they simply distributed throughout the different departments, so that \$2,000 under URS Admin is not exactly it; as it also shows under Code Enforcement and the like? Are they just distributed through; I mean what's the deal?
C Abraham: Some of that we bill back, I think.
Mayor Newlands: The one under Code is billed back; most of that, if not all of that is billed back.
Marion Jones: They're just distributed as web site costs are distributed throughout?
Mayor Newlands: No Admin will talk to URS for different reasons; and Code will talk to URS for different reasons; and URS will be at Planning and Zoning meetings, so they're billed accordingly.
Vice Mayor Betts: And it's added to it as necessary.
Marion Jones: Lets see if this one has changed; 5350 it's a long day for the election committee. I was not aware until I read this that we actually had paid members of the election committee to serve that day; and again it is a very long day; it just seems like the cost is a little high for meals; background checks of candidates. I know background checks, not knowing how in depth you go with background checks, I know that our department does the checks that are preliminary and cannot release the information but can say yea or nay without the cost to the city.
Mayor Newlands: So you're saying have the police do the background checks?
Marion Jones: That information cannot be released to anybody outside of that department.

Mayor Newlands: I understand if they find something wrong, they keep that within that department and just give us a yes or a no. We could look at doing that, sure.

C Abraham: We also had discussed not supplying the meals; that they could pack.

Marion Jones: My guess is, and I've never sat for day, but I'll bet there are times they are so busy they can hardly get a meal break. The little snacks and things, I think are great to supply to them; but I just think you maybe loading a high figure that will just not be spent if you're looking at your bottom line.

Mayor Newlands: A lot of it is advertising, also. There's a lot lumped in there.

Marion Jones: I'm under Street Expenses and forgive me while I look at both of these at once here. Under the wish list of Street Expenses, it refers twice to a T-2 Report; was that ever made available and is it anything the public could have looked at to refer to; it says "Refer to T-2 report for baseline".

George Dickerson: Copies are available at Town Hall on the receptions desk.

Mayor Newlands: There was a presentation given to the public around November and the book is about that thick, so it's available; and we refer to that book when were looking to repave streets.

Marion Jones: Okay so if there's something on this budget for the public that is not attached, we need to go to Town Hall and request?

Mayor Newlands: Well the book is in the foyer of Town Hall in the reception area. We're referring to it because they're the ones who gave us the advice for what streets need to be done, in a priority order.

Marion Jones: Okay that answers that question.

Mayor Newlands: And T-2 is the University of Delaware.

Marion Jones: Police Expenses – I'm at 5180 at this point and my question, see if it's been reduced, it's been reduced \$500. Under the Training and Seminars, I circled here that ammunition, which is certainly where our training fees show up, but this ammunition is on the wish list for ammo and equipment; is that over and above the qualifying ammo that's used every year? Because it goes \$10,500 – oh, I'm getting so confused.

C Abraham: I think we removed all the wish list.

Marion Jones: You did; because I just didn't know if that was for something special; I know you have a new officer and what not, but \$7,735 was under the same munitions cap expenses, as well as now \$10,500 for what I'm going to suppose is qualifying ammo. It may be gone.

C Abraham: It is gone.

Marion Jones: Then it's a moot point. Are all police expense wish lists gone?

Vice Mayor Betts: Yes.

Marion Jones: Very good. My question under Code Expenses and it may well have changed too, there's a salary for the Project Coordinator and the Code Enforcer; with the potential for layoffs, and actually on the new copy it is still at \$81,400; is that representative of two salaries?

Mayor Newlands: Yes it is.

Marion Jones: Is there a better figure since we only have one and I'm going to assume with layoffs possible; that there won't be a second salary.

Mayor Newlands: This will get updated accordingly after a meeting we're going to have next Wednesday.

Marion Jones: Okay, so there is no figure break out for just one?

Mayor Newlands: Not yet, no.

Marion Jones: Okay. That was my question, the consulting fees for URS that had showed up there too. Code Expenses and I don't know if they have changed; you have \$1,400 down here for a phone. Is that for one person and don't they use the same land lines as Admin?

Mayor Newlands: No that's two cell phones. These guys are on the road and land lines.

Marion Jones: So the land line cost is actually charged to Admin?

Mayor Newlands: No it is broken out and charged to Code. The land line gets broken out and charged to Code.

Marion Jones: Okay. I did, maybe the figures are not available yet, but I know the police struggle to cut their portion; I know what we do is prepare an absolute budget that is presented; but then we're able also to use our SALLY and EDIE Grant money which ought to give a nice boost to the Police Department in helping to reduce their costs for necessities, as well as if they have any wish lists. Is that someplace under police revenue that I do not see? Because that actually is revenue that the Police Department can count on.

Mayor Newlands: We don't always know what we're getting on that and I forget how we offset some of those figures.

Marion Jones: You may not have your totals yet, but fairly sure we'll get something.

Mayor Newlands: Can you just go over what we offset our SALLY and EDIE grants with?

Chief Phillips: At this stage of the game, the money is used for overtime for narcotics investigations.

Marion Jones: Now that's EDIE.

Chief Phillips: We're using both for tread and investigations.

Marion Jones: Okay.

C Duby: But it doesn't show up here, or it does?

Marion Jones: It doesn't show up under your revenues, unless I'm just not seeing it.

Vice Mayor Betts: It should.

Mayor Newlands: That's a bank account; that's what is in the account. When do we get those grants; what time of the year do they come in?

Chief Phillips: When the State does its budget, we'll find out what the new ones are; how much money is in them.

C Duby: They did their budget the first of July.

Chief Phillips: I know it's being lowered again this year like it was last year; every year it gets lower and lower.

C Duby: The State Budget was done at the beginning of July; we don't have any information yet? I would think at this point we could try to ballpark it, at least for purposes of this.

Mayor Newlands: Not in the tens of thousands of dollars though. It's maybe \$5,000 or something like that.

Chief Phillips: I'll have to check on that one.

Mayor Newlands: It's not a lot of money.

George Dickerson: EDIE is traditionally only \$5,000 and so the SALLY, I mean it's not like Rehoboth I'm sure gets because it's...

Marion Jones: Actually we don't, you're in the ballpark for both of them; I'm just saying that as the Chief clamors to reduce his budget by 20%; this could offset what he's trying to cut to bare bones and that money will become available to him and I'm sorry to hear that they are using it for overtime, instead of things that they could use for their equipment and...

Chief Phillips: We use that for drug investigations, doing search warrants and things like that, and raids; because our regular overtime doesn't allow us so we have to use it for that the best we can; because we have people call us about a drug house here and they we have to sit and do surveillance and that money pays for that. The other overtime is used for shootings and rapes and things like that; overtime that we can't use the EDIE for; EDIE and SALLY can only be used for drug investigations and things like that.

Marion Jones: We kind of look at SALLY to offset now what are our essentials and we would be operating costs by the City, but it is nice to have that to fall back on and I'm sorry to hear that you have to use that for your overtime. That's all, thank you very much for your time.

Mayor Newlands: Thank you very much.

2. Joanne Mattioni, 309 Union Street: I am to assume with regard to the Code Expenses, the Project Coordinator and Code Enforcer, that we are not hiring a second person.

Mayor Newlands: We have yet to meet on that. We advertised that position, the Code Enforcer position, but we've yet to meet on that and make a decision.

Joanne Mattioni: Under the present condition of the economy and I was under the impression that there was a hiring freeze, I believe that it would benefit the Town to not hire a second person. I mean as far as I know, there's not really that much building going on in the Town.

Mayor Newlands: It's other code work that has to get done and our attorney has actually recommended that somebody has to enforce the Code. So we have to either have a person or give that responsibility to someone else.

Joanne Mattioni: Well can't one person...

C Duby: It is also a revenue generating job; there are a great many fees and fines come in because of the work the Code Enforcer does and so in a time when we're looking for revenue, it's something that we have to look at very carefully.

Joanne Mattioni: I realize that, I'm not addressing that the revenue won't be coming in; what I'm addressing is why can't one person do both? Because at this juncture, I mean the Town is in bad financial condition; the nation is in bad financial condition; and I really don't feel that we're in a position to hire a second person.

Mayor Newlands: Next Wednesday we're going to look at that job responsibility and see how we can split out the responsibilities amongst the staff.

Joanne Mattioni: All right. My second question is I don't know what was done with regard to the salary increase; was that ruled on?

C DUBY: There is no salary increase.

Joanne Mattioni: There is no salary increase. Okay, thank you, that's all.

Mayor Newlands: Thank you.

3. Lynn Ekelund, 406 Union Street: I have two comments, based upon things that were slashed from the budget during the last two budget Workshops. One I don't remember seeing a line item, I know that C DUBY brought it up and it was saving for our Comprehensive Plan Review and Rewrite in the next five years and I don't remember that it was put in anywhere.

C Abraham: It was in as a yellow item of hoping to do; I think we agreed at the last meeting to table it; to check with other agencies to be able to maybe do it cheaper than the price tag of I think \$100,000.

Lynn Ekelund: I know it was talked about that we would perhaps look into different firms other than URS or perhaps looking for grant money.

C DUBY: Possibly the University of Delaware.

Lynn Ekelund: But I really think that it is short-sighted if we don't start preparing for that Comprehensive Plan because we got caught short this last time and now that I'm on Planning and Zoning, I want to make sure that we're not caught short and I hope Mrs. Weeks and Don would agree with me there. Something else and I don't know where it was; but there was a donation to the Fire Department that I don't know again whether that was taken; it certainly wasn't approved; whether it was tabled or whether it was rejected; in my opinion we ought to give the Fire Department their \$5,000.

Vice Mayor Betts: I made that statement also.

Lynn Ekelund: That's right; I do remember that you did. I'm in total agreement with you and I feel very strongly about that.

Mayor Newlands: At the end of the Admin expenses, the last item is the Comp Plan. There is no money in there, but that's where the line item is; so the line item is still in the budget. The Fire Department that should have been under Admin...

C DUBY: I think it was under General Expenses.

Mayor Newlands: It was under General, okay.

Lynn Ekelund: I sat through the two budget Workshops and the one Finance Committee meeting and I think I'm pretty well informed; I might not be able to touch it; but I'm pretty well up-to-date; I think at last Monday's meeting we had about a \$350,000 deficit; we're not talking about Water and we're not talking about transfer funds; those two budget meetings, we went through and I think pared everything as close to the bone as we possibly can. Nothing was mentioned at either of those budget Workshops as to how we are going to address the budget shortfall. I understand this is the Public Comment. We have to increase our Revenue. It is either to increase our Property Taxes, which I am not in favor of doing; or it is take a look at people; unfortunately, which is a hard decision.

Between the two, I am in favor of taking a look at people and to that end I have two questions. One, for Allen's Department and I understand that Water is just about our sole profitable department; or at least it really does pay for itself; but the number of maintenance people. Do you have four or five people Allen?

Allen Atkins: I have four.

Lynn Ekelund: For everything?

Allen Atkins: Everything.

Lynn Ekelund: Did we have four people when we had the sewer plant as well?

Allen Atkins: We actually had two extra people in the beginning when we had the trash business; when we did the trash ourselves.

Lynn Ekelund: Okay but since we haven't been doing the trash, how many people did we have, not counting the trash; but when we had the sewer plant and took care of Water and Street Maintenance?

Allen Atkins: There were four.

Lynn Ekelund: So it's the same four?

Allen Atkins: Yes.

Mayor Newlands: I'm being advised we used to have summer help, as well, when we used to have the sewer treatment plant; so we had Allen's guys; plus some part-time summer help.

Allen Atkins: We had one person since I've been here in summer help. That's the only thing we had.

Vice Mayor Betts: I thought we had part-time.

Allen Atkins: And that was one year and that was it. Just one year.

Mayor Newlands: Two guys went with the sewer treatment plant, went with Tidewater, didn't they?

Allen Atkins: Just one, Sam.

Lynn Ekelund: But it is still, it's four when we owned the sewer plant with maybe one part-time guy in the summer and he was working strictly in the sewer plant?

Allen Atkins: No he was cutting grass.

Lynn Ekelund: He was cutting grass; I just think that, I don't know what the same four guys are doing since we don't have the sewer plant anymore; I don't know if that has been looked into or not; it just sort of struck me that we don't have the sewer plant.

Mayor Newlands: They were not sewer plant employees before. They were still Maintenance, Water, and Parks.

Allen Atkins: They were everything then, too; they were sewer plant... We had one sewer plant operator at that time, plus myself.

C DUBY: And he went to Tidewater, you said?

Allen Atkins: Yes, he went with the City of Rehoboth.

C Abraham: You also have to figure in the Parks that we've created; the Rails to Trails they're now taking on that.

Allen Atkins: Our biggest thing that we do now in the summertime is basically cutting grass, more than anything. There are a lot of other things we do, besides that, painting and different things; but basically it is grass cutting; maintaining the Parks.

Vice Mayor Betts: And the Parks.

Lynn Ekelund: It was just a question that I had, that we had a major, major job center with the sewer plant and now we don't have that anymore; and it seems that we have the same staff.

Allen Atkins: But you still have the maintenance of your water systems, your water arms; your water valves; and everything; what you have to keep...

Lynn Ekelund: But we had that same maintenance when we had the sewer plant.

Allen Atkins: Well not as much as we do now, lets put it that way; because you have to exercise these valves; we have done that; it wasn't getting done then. If you don't do your preventative maintenance on things, you pay 3 or 4 times as much down the road when something really goes wrong.

Lynn Ekelund: So the four people are devoting more time and doing PM's and that sort of thing is what you're saying.

Allen Atkins: Right.

Lynn Ekelund: Okay, that was one question. I want to go back to what Marion had brought up; because I had seen the SALLY and EDIE money in the Money Market Fund and I was just wondering why it wasn't listed as a revenue; and why it wasn't... I know EDIE is strictly for drugs and SALLY is just something that the State gives us as reimbursement for whatever; they just give it to us. I was just wondering why it was not listed as a revenue item; even if we aren't sure what we're getting; just to give us some sort of a feel that this would be something that would offset some of our potential overtime or expenses? And on the Police, we have now 10 officers, correct Chief?

Chief Phillips: Yes.

Lynn Ekelund: And that's for a population of, and I think Stephanie you gave us a figure of 2,300 people as the population of Milton today?

Stephanie Coulbourne: Correct.

Lynn Ekelund: How often do those 10 officers have to go out of jurisdiction on a percentage basis? I know you said from time to time on Monday.

Chief Phillips: I'm not sure of the exact number; I would say between 10 and 15 times maybe a month; to back up the State Police.

Lynn Ekelund: So do you have a percentage of time that they are out of jurisdiction, Lt.?

Lt. Cornwell: I checked from since we doing a budget type analysis and one of the figures in recruitments a lot; we're getting stuff from everywhere; but one of the figures is about 250 times since October 1st to assist other agencies. It doesn't break it down whether it is State Police, Milford Police, or what police agency; it doesn't even break it down whether it is assisting an ambulance or a fire, which we do on a consistent basis; but that was 10% of the calls so far from October 1st until now we're 1,800, almost 1,900 calls. So 250 out of that; and as I said of those assists and it is not broken down...

C DUBY: And during what time period was that the 250?

Lt. Cornwell: October 1st until today's date; because we're talking about budget and our budget starts October 1st instead of year-to-date. I can't tell you how many is Delaware State Police (DSP), because it doesn't break it down into DSP; but I know we assist the ambulance, we assist the fire department, we assist DFS, we assist other state agencies; if they go to a property and they have to take

children or do a check on someone; we assist probation and parole. All those are numbered into that 250 or so assists in this time period.

Lynn Ekelund: That assistance is outside?

Lt. Cornwell: No, the fire, ambulance, DFS, probation and parole that would be in Town. We even assist the State Police in Town because Troop 3 may call; Kent or SussCom and have us go check a residence inside Town to see if someone is there for; to see if there is an accident up in Camden; and they want us to check to see if the vehicle is there and we do an assist paperwork on that also; to track how many times we assist them. So all these assists are not that we go out of town, it is just that we assist different agencies.

Lynn Ekelund: No my question was specifically direct, if you know.

Lt. Cornwell: We can't tell you how many times we go out, but through this course from October 1st until now, its 250 assists; or somewhere around there and it's a whole gambit of different agencies we assist.

Lynn Ekelund: I'm just concerned since we are pretty, as a municipality, surrounded by unincorporated areas of Sussex County that our tax dollars are paying for police protection outside of our municipal limits. [Applause.] Wow, I got applause from Jeff Dailey, yeah. Sorry, Chief, I'm not making a joke, I really am not.

Lt. Cornwell: The thing about that is, it's like this; we don't go out and handle the complaint for the DSP; if they call us we go out and we either back up the officer for officer safety, just like if they have one available, they will come in and back us up. If they're not there yet, we'll take control of the scene, as soon as they get there, we hand it over to them. As soon as they are safe, we leave and come back. I don't want anybody thinking here that we go out and we actively patrol an area; we do not do that. We do not go out and we do not handle the complaint for them. We take control, we make sure it's under control, we turn it over to them and then we come back when it is safe. Another thing is, we assist them, and they assist us. We're not a 100 man agency like Dover. Dover has a fatal unit team, they have all kinds of different divisions; we don't have that. We've asked the State Police to come in and help us; we've asked Milford Police Department to come in and help us; we've asked Georgetown Police to come in and help us; Rehoboth if they have something we don't have; and we do vice versa. It's a community where not everybody has everything that's needed and we need to assist everyone; so we don't go out there and handle their incidents; we go out there and we assist them, so that someone doesn't get killed; that's basically what it is. It's officer protection. And we like that when they come in and assist us.

Lynn Ekelund: I certainly wasn't implying; or if I was I did not mean to imply, that you were patrolling outside of the municipal limits. What I was looking at the number of police officers that we have for a population of 2,300 people and I was wondering how those officers were being utilized; whether it was strictly in town or whether there was a percentage of time that could be quantified that they were outside of the jurisdiction assisting; backing them up? If you can give it to me, that would be great. It is just something that would help me understand the number of police officers and it looks like we're looking for an eleventh police officer, which brings me to another question; which is and I know that Monday...

Lt. Cornwell: My question is I know that they say there are 2,300 residents in Town; I want to know how many houses are in town; because the national average used to be 3.8 or 3.9 people per residence. At one time we had 1,800 homes built and standing in Milton; and that was when Eric was the Code Enforcer. So that's some time ago. Now unless we have one person living in each house in town, I believe we have more than 2,300 people. I know that there are some houses that are vacant and there are some summer houses, that's true, but it just boggles my mind when I'm on patrol and I see people out. I believe we have more than 2,300 people living in Town, but I could be wrong.

Stephanie Coulbourne: Lt. probably more than 2,300 now at the time. Eric went to the State and asked them to increase our population from 1,857 to 2,301 when he was here. That's the last time it was updated. So there are more homes now; but that's the last figure the State recognizes, so that's what I have to give the public.

Lt. Cornwell: How many years ago was that.

Stephanie Coulbourne: That was probably 2005.

Lt. Cornwell: Okay it is five years ago.

C DUBY: And obviously we'll have updated numbers soon because this is the Census year.

Lt. Cornwell: The Census year.

Mayor Newlands: John, could you go over the two incidents that happened recently; one where Officer Castro was backing up the DSP over by the Union Street Extension; where she got punched out; not Castro, the DSP got punched and we backed them up; we had been backing up the DSP since then trying to capture the guy.

Lt. Cornwell: Oh, where if you read the paper and stuff, Leonard Eley, he's what we call a frequent flyer. He lives just outside Town. The interesting thing is the street and the road in front of his house and part of his yard, is ours, because we have the State right-of-way; but the grass and house is State Police. Well we get called out there and I can go into some history of Leonard, but I won't. He assaulted a Delaware State Trooper a few weeks ago and our officer went out there to assist on that; and we're actively still looking for him because he's an Assault One person and it was a female trooper; but it doesn't matter.

Mayor Newlands: And we've been actively assisting the DSP in investigating his whereabouts are within Town.

Lt. Cornwell: We're using informants and stuff like that to try to track him down to take him into custody; so we work hand in hand with each other.

Mayor Newlands: The Georgetown Wilmington Trust robbery when that happened, when the bank was robbed, the suspect was in Milton and he was chased from Milton to Georgetown, by our guys. We're doing a cooperative sharing, back and forth, between all the departments.

Lynn Ekelund: I can understand an active pursuit. My question was directed to how many calls do we respond to where a State Trooper perhaps is not available so they call upon Milton to go out and secure the scene; whatever terms you were using.

Lt. Cornwell: The only time we secure a scene or do something, is if there is some type of life threatening situation happening when they call us or if it is a life threatening event to the Trooper and that's when we go out to back them up.

Chief Phillips: Or if they go to a domestic and they are by themselves and there are two people fighting, they expect us to go out there and help them; just like if one of our officers is working by themselves, they do the same thing. It is sort of like a give and take. If we refuse to help them, they will probably stop helping us before it is over with. I'm not saying that's going to happen; but it could happen.

The next thing you know, we'll have a Chad Spicer incident here with an officer dead or injured or physically hurt; because if they get injured; if one of our officers throws a shoulder out, he's going to be off of work with Worker's Comp, then we're going to have to have other officers have to fill in and do the overtime.

Lynn Ekelund: My last question relating to the police is if we get the COPS Grant and we have the eleventh officer, do we have to maintain that level of staffing?

Chief Phillips: For three years, the grant is for three years.

Lynn Ekelund: So we would have to maintain staffing of at least eleven officers for the next three years, if we get the COPS Grant?

Chief Phillips: That's my understanding, yes.

Lynn Ekelund: Okay thank you.

Mayor Newlands: And Georgetown is actually testing that rule right now. They are not maintaining their staffing, so there is a test in there.

C Abraham: It's beyond the three years; three years is all they pay for; but we have to pay after that.

Lynn Ekelund: I understand about the paying.

Mayor Newlands: Having eleven officers, I think after three years you can drop below that. I think once the grant is over with, after three years, the level can drop below that.

Chief Phillips: And the other problem we have is Cape Schools have pulled all the resource officers out; which means we will be handling all those complaints and if the school does what they're supposed to be doing and report what they are supposed to report; we should be averaging 1 or 2 complaints a day out of the schools. When I worked in Harrington for 12 years, we got at least 2 or 3 complaints out of one school; we have 3 schools and they had one resource officer in Cape handling at least 11 to 12 schools; and he was always tied up at the High School; so during Monday through Friday we are definitely going to need an extra person to help handle these school complaints.

C DUBY: How many school complaints have we had?

Chief Phillips: That we've actually helped out? We've assisted the State Police with different school complaints while they had the resource officer; I don't have the exact number, but I would get it for you.

C DUBY: I would like to see it because I was under the impression, based on things I have read in the press that that resource officer was as you have just said primarily at the high school; which means that his coverage of our schools shouldn't change much, if he is gone from the high school. So it would seem to me that it wouldn't go up too much.

Chief Phillips: Well two things, one he would come down and investigate things. There were times that we had to take people into custody and hold them for him until he got there. Also Cape School has not been following Delaware Law as far as reporting what they should have been reporting.

C Abraham: I know Mariner has had some drug issues during last year's school season, which is the school you're now going to start taking on.

Chief Phillips: Right, well we've had H.O. Brittingham a few years ago was one of the worst schools with knives and guns, believe it or not; it was one of the highest ones there was.

C Duby: I have a question about the COPS Grant. Is that for new officers only?

Chief Phillips: At this stage of the game, the way the grant was written, that's my understanding, yes.

C Duby: Okay, so we couldn't get a COPS Grant to pay the salary of somebody that's already on the force?

Mayor Newlands: No it's additional.

C Duby: Okay.

Lynn Ekelund: Thank you.

Vice Mayor Betts: I think we ought to think about keeping the 24 hour service to the town. I think 2, 3 or 4 years ago they dropped back and everyone was complaining that we didn't have 24 hour coverage; so I think we have to look to that also; if we do away with any of the police. We may not have the 24 hours coverage.

Lynn Ekelund: I agree with that, my concern primarily was, what percentage of time are our officers spending outside of Milton; and again it was probably my misunderstanding at the Finance Committee; I understood that the 2,300 was a figure that was a little bit newer than 6 years down the pike; and that's my fault for misunderstanding what Stephanie said. I agree with you; I'm a resident here; I like the 24/7; I like the police coverage; I don't like the percentage of the budget that the police expenses consume, so I was looking for any way to possibly address that and if it isn't their spending an inordinate amount of time and for me, an inordinate amount of time would be 10% of their time out of jurisdiction assisting the State Police, that might be a police body. If that is not the case and I think you are assuring me that it is not the case; that it's a 10%; then it assuages one of my fears. I still don't like the amount; I do think the SALLY and EDIE monies ought to go in as revenue to address expenses.

Chief Phillips: As far as us being out of Town, backing up State Police; if we're out there, we're not out there for no more than 10 to 15 minutes usually and then they're there; and then we clear and come back, so we're really not out there any elaborate amount of time.

Lynn Ekelund: Thank you, I appreciate knowing that. Thank you.

Mayor Newlands: Thank you.

4. Virginia Weeks, 119 Clifton Street: Good evening. You guys have a tough job. I don't envy you. I'm going to speak to only a couple of direct items on the budget and then I want to address something overall, if I may. First, you know the Christmas Lights are what \$1,500? Can I make a suggestion that you ask the

Milton Community Foundation to help you with that? I know I used to be on the Foundation; we left them with a pretty hefty amount of money and if they're for the community it seems that once in these austere times, they could help out. Two on the Streets, item 5420, I see that that says, and maybe this is just leftover because it was last year's budget typed over, it says including Shipbuilder's pump. I assume that's gone. So should that amount come down?

Mayor Newlands: The amount is already reflected; the comment needs to be removed; that pump was about \$10,000 last year.

Virginia Weeks: I understand that in annexation fees on both Dr. White's and the Sam Lucas that you feel that we can't charge them annexation fees until they get building permits or something like that?

Mayor Newlands: Their final site plan has to be approved. First of all, Key Ventures hasn't presented their Final Site Plan, so we can't charge them any money. Dr. White's is now being farmed, so we can't even charge them any taxes, according to Delaware State Law.

Virginia Weeks: What about the 20 acres? My understanding was that all the lawsuits that came in, that was fixed; that the agreements and that a signed Deed had been sent to them at one point. And that 20 acres, I have to say that as much as we say past Administrations did this, that and the other thing; there was a revenue stream planned and part of that was \$1.5 million from Tidewater for those 20 acres; that's not annexation fees; those 18 acres.

Mayor Newlands: My understanding is, and correct me if I'm wrong, that Tidewater is not going to give us \$1.5 million when we turn over the 20 acres; they're still going to give us \$1,500 per home. That's how the plan is set out.

Virginia Weeks: Is that true?

Mayor Newlands: The payment plan is \$1,500 per home coming on line. That's it.

George Dickerson: The total amount would be \$1.5 million.

Mayor Newlands: But not in one lump sum; when the property is turned over to them.

Vice Mayor Betts: Not in one lump sum.

George Dickerson: She's not asking how it's paid. She said...

Mayor Newlands: I will let her repeat what she said.

Virginia Weeks: I thought that the 18 acres, I didn't understand that it was going to be by home, as it came on.

Vice Mayor Betts: Yes it was.

Virginia Weeks: I thought that it was a payment of \$1.5 million or \$1.3 million once they had possession of the 18 acres.

Mayor Newlands: No it is not. It is over time.

George Dickerson: It is over time.

Virginia Weeks: It is over time.

Vice Mayor Betts: Yes it is.

Mayor Newlands: And that's around 2,900 homes or so to pay the rest of the Tidewater money off.

Virginia Weeks: Okay thank you.

Vice Mayor Betts: That's exactly right.

Virginia Weeks: Two, the other thought I had was the other night you were discussing that we owe Tidewater some money, you were saying?

Mayor Newlands: Yes, we were collecting sewer impact fees on Tidewater's behalf, because at one point it was easier for us to collect it as individual's came in for building permits; and we've stopped doing that, but we currently owe them \$100,000 right now. Tidewater will continue to pay us as houses are being built, they'll give us \$1,500 per home; but we right now out of the money we collected for them; we owe them about \$100,000.

Virginia Weeks: We can't make a deal with them to subtract it from the money they'll give us as it comes in?

Mayor Newlands: If we do that, we have to take that off the revenue projected for the next year and that's about \$60,000; that puts that deficit in significant...

Virginia Weeks: But if we don't have to pay them the \$100,000...

Mayor Newlands: Oh I agree, but if we do that and it's probably the better thing to do, we now have a bigger deficit in 2011; because we projected \$60,000 for sewer impact fees? So that changes that figure; so that the deficit now becomes bigger.

Virginia Weeks: Well it seems to be that if it's going to solve \$100,000 that we haven't paid them anyway, that we have to come up with that money whether it is for this year or next year; its \$100,000 we have to come up with.

Mayor Newlands: I don't disagree with you; I think it's a fine idea and we plan on talking with them about it. It does change this budget; it increases the deficit.

Virginia Weeks: Right and then I was looking over; I only had to revamp the figures very quickly from the budget that was passed out today and I just wanted to say that I originally used the pie chart that the Council passed out at their meetings, so these have to be updated. Going through the different departments, the Admin Department has a profit of \$152,493; the General Revenue has a profit of \$41,750; the Code Department has a profit of \$1,051; Trash \$10,000; Water a profit of \$156,644; I believe the Municipal Street Aid has a deficit of \$17,650; Parks will have a deficit of \$47,995; Streets will have a deficit of \$62,648; and the Police Department will have a deficit of \$598,718.

Mayor Newlands: The reason you're seeing those figures, is because we don't take property tax and spread it across all departments; we only lump it in Admin. I'm just telling you why, because it looks like there's a profit in Admin; because we're not spreading around certain figures.

Virginia Weeks: I'm just saying that no matter how you look at it the Police are a very large expense.

Mayor Newlands: I could easily take the entire \$700,000 for property taxes and put it into the Police Department; and they won't have it, but Admin will have it. It's an accounting issue, how we allocate money.

Virginia Weeks: I understand that, but what I'm saying is that even if you raise our taxes 50%, that's only another \$350,000; and I was concerned because at the last meeting you had here I asked about police overtime and I have to tell you I am the daughter of a New York City cop; so I'm not out to get you; but the overtime for the first 6-1/2 months, in other words from October 2009 to April 15, 2010, was approximately \$11,000; which was about 210% over budget.

Mayor Newlands: Could I have those figures again?

Virginia Weeks: It was approximately \$11,000.

Mayor Newlands: And what timeframe is that?

Virginia Weeks: From October 2009 until April 15, 2010.

Mayor Newlands: And where is that derived from; we haven't published those figures yet.

Virginia Weeks: I got that from those two people over there.

Mayor Newlands: I'm just asking where she got those figures from, because we haven't published those figures yet, so I'm wondering.

George Dickerson: Well they're public record; they're the accounting from Edmunds Software that we get, the Admin account reports that...

Mayor Newlands: So there's a FOIA request in for this information?

George Dickerson: Well she asked me and I gave it to her.

Virginia Weeks: It was at the meeting the other night; and I noticed that in the last 3-1/2 months there's been almost \$20,000 of overtime expended on top of that. It seems like that's a lot of overtime.

Mayor Newlands: I can't speak to that; I don't have that information that you have.

Virginia Weeks: This I don't know, but the rumor mill says that during the time that we were down a lot of policemen that flex time was used and the overtime went way down. I'm just asking you to look into that; could that alleviate some of this?

Mayor Newlands: Actually I'm not sure if by law if flextime can. We have to look at that. Police, fire and EMS are under certain guidelines with the Fair Labor Standards Act, so we have to check that out.

Virginia Weeks: I just understood that I under that when there was a lot of people were out of the police force, that flex time is used.

Mayor Newlands: That was before my time.

Virginia Weeks: And when Ms. Ekelund was asking about the Grant finishing at the end of three years, I saw interest over there, I'm not sure, were you saying that we have to continue to employ that guy beyond three years?

Lynn Ekelund: Yeah.

Virginia Weeks: For how long?

Lynn Ekelund: One to two years...

Virginia Weeks: All right, so we're locked into another year or two of that gentleman;

Mayor Newlands: It may be for that gentleman, but we have not have to keep our standing of eleven officers after that, so if we lose an officer, that officer...

Virginia Weeks: So seniority would go down the drain, more or less.

Mayor Newlands: That's a grant issue with the COPS Program and actually Georgetown is challenging that right now.

Virginia Weeks: Okay and the other thing I had to say which is not going to make me too popular is a lot of this came as a surprise to us; but having gone to the Council Meetings, it seems to me that for the last 3 or 4 months, we haven't had a financial report.

Mayor Newlands: You haven't had a valid financial report for the last 4 years. Sorry.

Virginia Weeks: Well, you know, we haven't had any report for 3 months and that seems to me something that should be ameliorated as soon as possible.

C Lester: I can address that. That's being worked on right now. Edmunds Software, the people that wrote the software the Town is using, are working on that software to correct all the errors that are in there and hopefully, beginning August 1st they will be able to go forward with some correct numbers. There are a huge amount of errors in the account system and I will not sign off on the Financial Statements that I cannot verify as being correct.

Virginia Weeks: I just remember in previous administrations the rancor from the floor because the cut-off date was like the 20th of the month, instead of the last day of the month; and I'm sitting here saying, where the h**l are the financial reports; we haven't seen any? We're supposed to say, hey folks, its okay, I'm telling you.

Mayor Newlands: We're not telling you its okay; we're telling you it's dismal.

Virginia Weeks: Sorry I'm just quoting C Lester who said at a meeting that everything's fine.

C Lester: When did I say everything's fine; when did I say everything's fine?

Virginia Weeks: At the Council Meeting.

C Lester: I said we're watching the funds, as best we can. I didn't say everything's fine. You misinterpreted my words.

Mayor Newlands: He's not signing off on statements for a very good reason. We ended last year with a \$1.3 suspense account; you're not supposed to have anything in a suspense account. We have account payables for M-T Trash somewhere around \$150,000; but we don't owe them a penny. We have bookkeeping errors that we have to get fixed. That's what we've been trying to do; we've been spending months trying to do this.

Virginia Weeks: I think the people would certainly appreciate a real explanation.

Mayor Newlands: He's been saying this every Council Meeting.

C Lester: We've been giving you an explanation as best I can.

Virginia Weeks: That's a general... The other thing is I would just like to know, obviously as seen at meetings, there's a great deal of animosity between yourselves and the Town Staff; be that as it may; and from reading the town blogs we can understand why; from reading newszap.com, but what I would like to know is; have you consulted very much with Mr. Dickerson or anybody on this budget?

Mayor Newlands: Sure we have.

Virginia Weeks: Okay thank you.

Mayor Newlands: Actually he prepared the budget.

Virginia Weeks: I know he prepared it; I know he prepared it; but did you consult with him after he prepared it? That's all I want to know.

Mayor Newlands: When we had our meetings, yes. It was given to us the day before the first Workshops.

Virginia Weeks: I just had the impression that sort of thing wasn't going on; because at the meeting on Wednesday night, you and Council, although it wasn't

passed out to the public, had some sort of a chart and he said that he had just seen it and that seemed strange to me that he had just gotten it that evening. That's all.
Mayor Newlands: I won't go into why that wasn't produced ahead of time; but he knows why it wasn't produced ahead of time.

Virginia Weeks: Thank you.

George Dickerson: I have no idea.

Mayor Newlands: You wouldn't produce it.

George Dickerson: I have no idea, for the record.

Mayor Newlands: Okay fine.

5. Louis Sgro, 104 Eaton Lane: Just a few issues, no. 1 the real estate taxes. Delinquent real estate taxes; my understanding is that it is around \$96,000? Would that be a correct figure?
George Dickerson: That's close, yes.
Louis Sgro: And we're in the process of collecting them, and I would assume that any legal costs, any fees are being put on to the delinquent person.
George Dickerson: That's correct.
Louis Sgro: Okay, good.
Mayor Newlands: Is that delinquent just this year? Or is that delinquent from year's past also?
George Dickerson: Currently the only outstanding taxes that have not been given to the attorney for collection, are 2010's. Everything else has been turned over to him. The actual, outstandings that I saw the report of today, was \$70,000 some thousand and actual back taxes that were owed and the remainder of that making it \$92,000 or close to that was interest penalty on those outstanding taxes; but we do keep up with those, yes.
Mayor Newlands: But our reports are showing that we have a deficit of only \$11,000. Is the \$90,000 from years past?
George Dickerson: Yes that's correct. I had it run from 2006 to today.
Mayor Newlands: Okay.
George Dickerson: That's with our Edmunds Software.
Mayor Newlands: So the tax owed us, outstanding, for this year alone is only \$11,000.
Louis Sgro: But we're in the process of collecting it all.
Vice Mayor Betts: Mr. Dickerson, when did you turn the delinquent taxes over to the attorney?
George Dickerson: Steph when did we turn those over?
Stephanie Coulbourne: The attorney collects on the three year taxes first; before they go after the two year delinquents; and the one year. And the three years were turned over to Mary Schrider-Fox and all but one paid the arrears just on a demand letter, without actually going to court, so we didn't have court costs. So now the only thing we have to collect was the two year and the one year; and then now it would be current.
George Dickerson: Stephanie handles that, that why I asked her.
Vice Mayor Betts: I was asking when you turned the delinquents over to the attorney. Was that two years ago? When Mary Schrider-Fox was here?

Stephanie Coulbourne: Correct.

Vice Mayor Betts: Okay, thank you.

Louis Sgro: The second issue would be about background investigations during elections. Police are forbidden to get involved in any local, state or federal elections, so you would have to go to an outside agency to get that information done. The police are not even allowed near the polls, unless they are called there for an emergency. The next issue I have is public safety. I know a lot of people talked about the Police Department and I have just a little experience with the Police Departments. Just one officer, we talk about the 4.6 vs. 4.8 officers per thousand; Philadelphia has approximately now about 6,000 police officers. If we have 250 to 300 police officers out a day, it doesn't affect us. In the summertime, generally with vacations, what they do is pull Administrative personnel out to work on the street; which I don't believe they have the option here because I think it is a civilian that's administration personnel, is that correct? So you don't have the option of getting another officer on the street. As far as going out of town, safety is a big issue. If the Milton police officer, let's say he was inside doing a DUI, and somebody in a Milton residence was being attacked and the State Police or Milford or any other department would have the same mentality is saying, we don't want our officer going out; that means that nobody is going to save that person. It's just common courtesy for police officers to back up one another. The Philadelphia Police Department leant me out; I've been all over this country; and they never had a problem if a Police Department asked for help and they needed me out there for a couple of days; and I went. It's just common courtesy and the same with us. So if you're thinking about leaving a police officer; you also have to think about what happens if that police officer gets a new job before you bring him back. You're going to have to hire another police officer, which is going to add to your costs; through advertisement, through testing, through going through the police academy, and you're not going to have a police officer on the street for at least a year, a year and a half by himself; so there is a lot of consideration; there's a lot of consideration about losing evidence for a court trial; so you have to think deep and hard before you let a police officer go. My next issue would be at training. There's an organization called MAGOCLEN (Mid-Atlantic Great Lakes Organized Crime Law Enforcement Network); its \$300 a year and they provide free training and equipment. If we needed night vision binoculars or extra camera equipment and they weren't available to us through our stakeout unit, we would go to MAGOCLEN and MAGOCLEN would lend us all of that equipment for as long as we need it. And they also train you free. So there's a lot of free information; there are a lot of good seminars that I believe every police officer should have, because everything is being updated; interviews and interrogation; body language; I mean the whole nine yards; report writing and it is of great value for \$300 you can't beat it. So there are some of the things that...

Mayor Newlands: Is that \$300 per officer?

Louis Sgro: No \$300 a year.

Lt. Cornwell: Actually on the MAGOCLEN there was a grant that was obtained and for Sussex County all departments are going to be in MAGOCLEN with a

grant; so that's already done. And we've got actually two officers going to a gang conference put on MAGOCLEN here in the next couple of months.

Louis Sgro: Believe me, it is really worthwhile. You have to look in your hearts, really deep, because it is not a matter of my safety; I'm armed in my house; but it's the other citizens, it's the visitors, but as important, is the officer himself; you could not get me to be a Milton police officer and I worked in some of the worst neighborhoods in Philadelphia; because that officer is out there by himself from 6 to 6. You lay off a police officer, you're going to have two officers working in a 24 hour period a day and that's not a good sign at all. So yes, they're going to have to leave; and yes, you're going to have to bring people in. So I would seriously consider it. Thank you for your time.

Mayor Newlands: Thank you.

6. Judith Seiffert, 406 Chestnut Street: My question was partially answered, but I was wondering how the number of police officers is determined for the Town of Milton. Maybe Chief Phillips could explain how do we have ten; and why don't we have eleven? Didn't we say the population was 2,300?

Mayor Newlands: Those are numbers from 2005 and we have to use them.

Judith Seiffert: From 2005. How is it determined like the number of officers that we should have for our town?

Chief Phillips: I'm really not positive of the number you are talking about wasn't 2005; it's basically goes to the quality of life. If you want one officer working by himself and if he's tied up with a DUI or a domestic and your house is being broken into or your yard is being destroyed, no one is going to come. The State Police have their own issues. That's why we have to help back them up, because they don't have enough manpower to even keep their own complaints going; so they are definitely not going to be able to help us. The problem is we try to have right now, two officers at nighttime, so if one officer is tied up, the other officer can come to your house to handle the complaint. Basically it is just how the Town has grown and decided they want the quality of life and they wanted more officers and that's where we are today.

Mayor Newlands: We grew from four years ago with seven officers and not having 24/7.

Chief Phillips: Yes, Sir.

Mayor Newlands: To now having 24/7 coverage.

Chief Phillips: Something like that.

Judith Seiffert: But the number ten is determined by the population of the community?

Mayor Newlands: Right now what we're doing, correct me if I'm wrong, is we're keeping staff levels so that we can 24/7 coverage. Population doesn't come into play until after you get to a certain number of people. You have to have so many bodies to handle 24/7; it's really just a matter of how many guys can be on duty in a 24 hour time period.

Judith Seiffert: Oh, I see.

Mayor Newlands: Then you're doing 12 hour shifts?

Chief Phillips: Yes.

Mayor Newlands: Some guys are doing 8 hour shifts during the day; others are doing 12 hour shifts; so it's just a matter of covering the shifts; it takes so many guys to cover 24/7.

Judith Seiffert: I understand.

Chief Phillips: We have a detective also, but we've also, in the last 8 months or so, we've had three shootings involved; we've had a couple of robberies and home invasions; and we've solved every one of them, except for the one home invasion and we're not quite sure exactly what happened at that place; but the others we've all solved, even though about a week ago we had our own robbery at the Wilmington Trust Bank, where an elderly man was up there and got beat up by some subjects; they tried to take his money, we arrested them for robbery. There also were the ones that broke into about fifty cars around town and we arrested them for that. No sooner did we get them arrested, Rehoboth had the robberies down there, and those same knuckle-heads are the same ones that broke into our cars here and all around Sussex County. That was just recently, that was two weeks ago; and we already started arresting them now. The ones in our Wilmington Trust Bank were 14 year old kids.

Judith Seiffert: I think I read that. Was that in the *Cape Gazette*?

Chief Phillips: Yes.

Judith Seiffert: Yes, I did read that.

Chief Phillips: But the next one coming out with Rehoboth, three of the people that did the robberies down in Rehoboth live right in Town and then they were our sister agencies and we had to go around and pick them up for the other agencies and turn them into them. We've been quite busy and it does cost overtime to investigate; when you have a crime scene, we have to save the crime scene, we have to knock on doors, we have to search for the subject when we have things going on.

Judith Seiffert: I understand. This is a difficult job here with this deficit. But also, I just was thinking, as I was listening to the answer to that, how many police cars are there, and are they all needed? Where are the cars during the weekend; if the officer is not on his 12 hour or 8 hour shift; where are the vehicles?

Chief Phillips: We have twelve cars; we have a take home car policy; because each car is that officer's office; that's where he works out of every day; that's where he is dispatched out of. We also have big black bags in there that DEMA gives us in case there is a school shooting or there's germ warfare. We have gas masks and things that have to be carried in each car. If we were to take each piece of equipment; if we had to share cars, we would have to build another building to put all the stuff that we take out of one man's car to put into another man's car. Basically they have laptops, they have cameras, they have radars in them, it is their office that they live and breathe in every day; and they use it. We have a spare car, basically, if one breaks down or needs work on.

Judith Seiffert: So there are twelve cars.

Chief Phillips: That's correct, yes, ma'am.

Mayor Newlands: And all the cars are paid for.

Chief Phillips: Yes and the one K-9 car that you've seen out there, we actually seized from a drug dealer a few years back; the car was just paid for, \$11,000

cash, a month before we seized it. We stopped him, he had \$5,000 cash on him, which we also seized and 5 lbs. of marijuana. He was a Hispanic subject; he is still on the run, still wanted, but we have his car. Through grants we painted the car, striped the car and now it is a K-9 car and it really looks good and it does the job very well.

Mayor Newlands: And the cameras were paid for by a grant.

Chief Phillips: Yes.

Judith Seiffert: Were you able to keep that \$5,000?

Chief Phillips: It was turned over to what's called a SLEEVE??? Grant State of Delaware and then we could try to get it back on grants from that; but we did actually paint that vehicle and fill it with equipment with money from grants; it didn't cost the taxpayers anything as far as that goes.

Mayor Newlands: And we just got 5 new laptops for the cars.

Chief Phillips: Yes and that was from grants also. We're working on another grant to do the other laptops.

Judith Seiffert: But the automobiles are taken home then?

Chief Phillips: That's correct.

Judith Seiffert: Do all the officers have cell phones that are part of the budget?

Chief Phillips: That's correct, yes. If we have a robbery or a home invasion, we call each officer and they have 20 to 30 minutes to call us back.

Judith Seiffert: Isn't that done on the radio?

Chief Phillips: No not if they are home sleeping or if they're off. If we have an active shooter in a school, we have a responsibility to respond. It used to be when I first started in police work, if we had a shooting today during school hours, the Town of Milton would go secure the outside and wait for the State Police to show up and hour to two hours later with their SWAT Team. Now we are trained, we have long rifles; if there is a shooting in a school and just two officers are working, those two officers will enter that school, actively look for that shooter and take that shooter out. The days of waiting for the State Police to get here are gone; we don't do that anymore; we're trained to do just the opposite. We will actually have to step over kids that are shot and hurt and go look for the shooter to stop the action; and that's the way we're trained. Hence if we have a robbery or we have a school shooting, we have to call our men in right away, and women in right away, they'll respond in from home. If they were to try to respond in from home; if we have a home invasion at night and I try to contact you, and you're one of our officers and you get in your POV, your personal car and you're on your way to work and you get hit head on by a DUI, drunk, is the Town going to be responsible for your car and your accident; if you're in your own car? You know what I'm saying; that's part of the reason for giving them a police vehicle.

Mayor Newlands: They go on duty the second they get in that car, don't they?

Chief Phillips: Right and also if we didn't have take home cars and let's say an officer is coming into your house and your house was having a home invasion, that officer would have to drive past your house, go to the city barn, go down there and get into a police car, and come back to your house to help you; time is of the essence at that time, I would believe.

Judith Seiffert: I was just trying to slice something off.

C Abraham: Didn't you also find a better phone plan that lowered the amount considerably of the cost?

Chief Phillips: Yes the cellphones we got down and also the hard line, the phone that is in the building; we switched to Comcast. I sound like a commercial. Now we're saving like \$2,500 a year, so everybody should do the same.

Judith Seiffert: Thank you.

Mayor Newlands: Thank you.

7. Jeff Dailey, 211 Gristmill Drive: You all do have a real tough job ahead of you. The one concern I have is that we're doing a line by line reduction and of course, we're looking at savings through cutting personnel. The times, economically speaking, are horrible; we all know that. Now there's talk of the possibility of a double-dip recession. We've read about towns/municipalities that have gone to a four-day work week with Admin; and of course, that would grossly impact our town workers; but I guess what I'm saying is we've got to be extremely creative and perhaps go way beyond the bounds of reducing the line by line items. Now I think I'm going to be like a fish swimming upstream here. Early on there was talk about the Main Street Program and how could we stave off paying for that, if we were to go that route and toss that money into the 2011 budget; and that's kind of the figure trickery that we're forced to; but the reason I bring up Main Street is that there is precious little in this budget that talks about investing in our future or making Milton, when all of this economic crisis hopefully blows over, a place that people want to come to. In recessions, it's a proven fact that more entrepreneurs create businesses during those trying financial times, then at any other time and so, as you all are elected representatives, are charged with coming up with this budget, I, as a citizen would be hopeful that if we have to tread water, that you come out publicly and just say that. We've got to balance this budget. We're going to do it by cutting and cutting and cutting; but if you're also going to make an attempt to be creative and look towards the future, let us know that too. There are an awful lot of towns across this country that do not have general funds totaling \$1 million and I'm not an advocate of dipping in to balance this, that or the next thing; however, even when you can hardly put meat on the table, a lot of families in this country keep contributing to the college funds; and we have to think along those lines. When we come up; when the air clears; we've got to be a town that people want to come to and I think we should all remind ourselves too. This town was written up in Southern Living and any number of magazines just a few years ago; we don't want to lose sight of that. We have a marvelous town. God be with you.

Mayor Newlands: Thank you.

8. Marion Jones: Police issue – instead of looking at the police ratio to population, something that might be helpful, is that you look actually at the size of the jurisdiction that the Police Department covers, instead of its population. It does help to put it in perspective. Rehoboth Beach is one square mile; we have 19 officers. That's year round. We probably run, based on five years, 2,500 people. So I do believe that Milton's jurisdiction is larger; it gives you another angle to

look at; what you're looking at for police coverage. I for one don't want to see any reduction in 24/7 coverage. It's dangerous, dangerous for the people, dangerous for the officers. Question – the attorney, Marshall, came before Council last October, asked for another six months extension on a site plan. It ran out in March. Are we being responsible? We don't get any annexation fees until they produce a site plan. Have they been riding since March?

Mayor Newlands: What do you mean riding?

Marion Jones: Riding meaning we can't charge them annexation fees until they present the site plan, and they're six month extension ran out in March.

Mayor Newlands: Robin, how much of an extension?

Marion Jones: Six months. It is in the October minutes. I mean if you are losing money, if you are losing revenue, you have to be proactive in knocking on the developer's door and saying...

Mayor Newlands: We have an attorney going to them right now trying to get the 20 acres; and all of their partners aren't going to be back in town until August 15th. So we won't get an answer on the 20 acres until then.

Marion Jones: I'm not talking about the 20 acres.

Mayor Newlands: I understand that. I'm just trying to give you what's going on. They have the property up for sale.

Marion Jones: For two years.

Mayor Newlands: Short of suing them, and incurring more legal costs, they are not forthcoming with their money right now and with their final site plans.

Marion Jones: So they are rather in limbo; this isn't part of their extension.

Mayor Newlands: Correct.

Marion Jones: Do Key Ventures and the White Property pay taxes?

Mayor Newlands: White property does not now. We went after them for about \$9,000 and they are still farming the property; so the property under Delaware Code for farmland is tax free.

Marion Jones: And that applies to Key Ventures?

Mayor Newlands: Key Ventures is still farms, isn't it? Yes. Although I don't think we sent them a tax bill.

Marion Jones: What I was just hearing was that being proactive in trying to collect your money would be knocking on that door of Key Ventures Developers as often as you had to. It's revenue. Does the Town, under the new leadership, plan to develop, like Mr. Dailey said, a five-year expenditure plan or give some light at the end of the tunnel; it may not always turn out, but will you be putting your collective heads together to try to slog through your finances, other than ever year having to come to this point.

Mayor Newlands: I agree we should put some sort of plan together, once we get out of this hole, we'll try and come up with some plan.

Marion Jones: Again, proactive. Thank you.

Mayor Newlands: Thank you.

Mayor Newlands: Does anybody else have anymore comments? Then we will close the meeting at 7:49. Thank you all for coming.