Minutes Water and Sewer Commission Emergency Meeting January 14, 2010

Present: Walter Kellogg, Ken Taylor, William Turner and Brenda Lessard, Secretary

Also Present: Joyce Muka, Accountant, Bonnie Roberge, Collector and Margie Dunphy, Assessor

The Emergency Meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m. at the town offices. The purpose of the meeting is to address the budget shortfall for fiscal year 2010 in relation to setting the tax rate.

Accountant, Joyce Muka explained that the expenses are over revenue by approximately \$30,000 and the Department of Revenue will not set the tax rate until the water and sewer commission revenue will cover the expenses for fiscal year 2010. It was noted that the sewer department will also be short by approximately \$10,000.

It was also noted that Ms. Muka plans to attend the meeting with the water and sewer commission when they are planning their budget for FY 2011 to help set the rates.

Collector, Bonnie Roberge and Brenda Lessard reported that the commission would need to increase the water rate by \$1.40 per 100 cubic feet from \$4.00 to \$5.40 . The commission would need to increase the sewer rate by \$.50 per 100 cubic feet from \$3.50 to \$4.00.

Motion was made by William Turner to raise the water rates by \$1.40 per 100 cubic feet and the sewer rates by \$.50 per 100 cubic feet effective immediately to meet the current year revenue shortfall and to review the rates before the fiscal year 2011 budget is set. The motion was seconded by Ken Taylor. Motion carried unanimously.

Ken Taylor wanted to go on record that the commission needs to re-address the Unquomonk Dam work. He feels that it is not fair to the taxpayers to pay for something they are not using. The work was originally started in response to Massachusetts in relation to dam safety.

Notification to the public about the rate increase was discussed. A press release will be sent in to the Gazette and put on the town website and the town television channel.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.