

**DERBY BOARD OF APPORTIONMENT & TAXATION SPECIAL MEETING**

**TUESDAY, MAY 22, 2007 - DERBY CITY HALL, ALDERMANIC CHAMBERS – 7:00 P.M.**

**MINUTES**

A Special Meeting of the Board of Apportionment and Taxation of the City of Derby was held on Tuesday, May 22, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. in the Aldermanic Chambers, City Hall.

Chair Henry J. Domurad, Jr., called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. All rose and pledged allegiance to the flag.

**Roll Call**

Present: Henry J. Domurad, Jr., Chairman  
Martin C. Martino  
Julia R. Romano  
Anthony J. DeFala, Jr.  
Carolyn M. Duhaime  
Robert Bell  
Frank E. Lazowski, Sr.  
Christopher Carloni  
Robert J. Scarduzio, Jr. (arrived at 7:05 p.m.)

Absent: Robert A. Cerritelli

Also Present: Alan Schlesinger – Interim Finance Director  
Anthony Szewczyk - Alderman  
Janet Robinson, Ph.D. - Superintendent of Schools  
Martin Hubbard, President, Board of Education  
Ronald Culmo, Director – Public Works Department  
Chief Eugene Mascolo – Derby Police Department  
Deputy Chief Gerald Narowski – Derby Police Department  
Office Ken Dupke – Derby Police Union  
Robert Hughes – Police Commissioner  
Theodore Estwan, Jr., Chair, Planning & Zoning, Police Commissioner

Mr. Domurad said this is a Public Hearing on the adopted preliminary 2007-08 budget.

**A MOTION** was made by Mr. Martino with a second by Mrs. Duhaime to limit the public portion to three minutes per person and before someone is allowed to speak again the room is gone through one time first. **Motion carried.**

**PUBLIC PORTION**

Janet Robinson, Ph.D., 204 New Haven Avenue, Derby, CT (Superintendent of Schools) –  
I would like to address the board regarding the Board of Education's share of the budget. About three years ago when I was talking to the Board of Education and

considering coming to Derby I was informed by the board of the things that needed to be healed and improved and we've done a lot to try to make those improvements. We've managed on a wing and a prayer to bring in more effective professional development; some of that has been by using the barter system. All staff is being evaluated regularly. Curriculum is being aligned with the State standards. Our financial software is organized such that even our human resources feeds into our system. We are processing our accounts payables and our own payroll in-house. We have some knowledgeable people in leadership roles. A lot has changed in those three years. Now some say the criticism of the school system has taken place on decisions that have been handled and not everyone – you know everyone is sort of an expert on education because they've been through schools. Well we've had to trade some traditional positions to be able to have people in some effective positions. To the remarks that the district seems to always be able to come up with money for something – I've asked those people to ask me what we had to give up to get something that we felt was in the best interest of long-term student success. This is not your Father's classroom today. The City's boards have asked for accountability and we make every effort to provide that and to provide the children of Derby a fair chance to compete with the children of other communities that happen to provide more for their kids. We do not want our children to get disadvantaged because they grew up in Derby and had to take three study halls because we had nothing to offer them; that is not okay. Okay has been the benchmark here and that's not good enough for our kids. Our standard is now excellence in the classroom and we're working to get there universally. However in keeping with the concerns for taxpayers we submitted a status quo budget; not a growth budget. We made cuts before the budget ever got to the public and your table. We don't have the gifted programs, the elementary language programs or other extras that other districts might have to cut. When we have to cut it's to our basic programs. 16.1 represents a \$500,000 cut for our request and that will devastate our efforts. We can't lose sight that this is about the education of those who will govern in the future and let's not have the foresight to shortchange them. The kids of Derby don't deserve to be shortchanged because of other things that might be going on in town.

Jim Stadt, 38 Laurel Avenue, Derby, CT – As I begin I would like to point out that I have been attending Board of Ed, Board of Aldermen, and Tax Board meetings for some time now. I've stated before that one thing that bothers me is information not being passed along and the whole story not being told. The problem that I see now is the Board of Ed is upset that there is a shortfall of \$500,000. If they are not then the \$349,000 switching of line items in this year's budget maybe there would not have been a problem. But as I see it the budget was set and the funds were used elsewhere. And they were used to hire an Assistant Superintendent, a second Accounts Payable Clerk and a Public Relations person. There were also other things done with that money. There was a \$7,000 raise for the Superintendent – why a raise? There's an Assistant Superintendent hired. There were contracts settled this year and that was great. The money for that was planned and expected. The main problem is that any salary positions that were hired from that money now have to be paid this year with money from where – yes the taxpayers. The fact is that if you budget money for textbooks then buy textbooks. Is that why there were certain textbooks at the middle school that the students could not take home because there was not enough? If you budget for miscellaneous you

cannot hire people with miscellaneous. I'm confused and I hope that many of the things can be explained but we do need the truth. Thank you.

Carl Yacobacci, 10 Lombardi Drive, Derby, CT – I just have a couple of quick questions between last year's and this year's budget. I was looking over the report and the question is on revenues for 2006-2007 it shows like \$1.75 million of reimbursement for redevelopment. I would like to know if the City is expecting any of that money by the end of this fiscal year.

Mr. Domurad – Actually to be quite truthful right now this is not a dialogue. This is just for people to address the board. This can come up as a question during public portion on Thursday.

Mr. Yacobacci – Well I was here on Thursday – last Thursday you're talking about?

Mr. Domurad – No this coming Thursday.

Mr. Yacobacci – This coming Thursday. Well there is \$1.75 million in the budget that is expected revenues on that and I was wondering if that was going to be actually part – if that's going to be collected by the City because on the expenses it shows that there's a lot of expenses on the downtown project laid out and didn't know if that was going to be a major shortfall of the City by not receiving the \$1.75 million and (inaudible) out say approximately \$2 million for the demolition and relocation of downtown Derby. But I guess since I can't get an answer that one there is a moot point. The other I guess question I was going to ask is in the 2006-2007 there is \$6,000 in the Bradley School Playground. It doesn't show any expenses as of May 18<sup>th</sup> and there's no money in the budget for 2007-2008 to do those repairs. So I was just wondering if the Bradley School project is completely scrapped or if there's going to money I guess to fix the playground for the kids up there? There's going to be no answers?

Mr. Domurad – I'm sorry tonight's mission is for the public to speak. The dialogue can take place on Thursday. But if we addressed every single question tonight it would be a very long night.

Mr. Yacobacci – Well I guess I misunderstood what the concept of a public meeting was – I apologize about that. Well those are my things just finding out what the actual revenues and some of the expenses of the town were. I'll see you on Thursday night.

Mr. Domurad – Well if you want to stick around until the end we might have an answer period but like I said I have to give an opportunity for everybody to speak.

Chief Eugene Mascolo, Derby Police Department, 125 Water Street, Derby, CT – I know you're going to have a long night but I just want to say a few things. First I just want to thank the board and the Mayor for just an excellent budgeting process for us this year. One of the things we say at the Police Department is just the decisions that we fear are the ones that are made in a vacuum with inaccurate information or distorted facts. And I want to thank you for letting us come back and let us clear up some of the misinformation you were given about our budget. That being said I have to thank

Henry specifically and Keith McLiverty too – I don't know if he's here tonight – for the cooperation and assistance you gave us in putting our final proposal together and thank you all for what you're doing – I know you have a tough job. Thank you.

Linda Romano, 304 Hawthorne Avenue, Derby, CT (Educator at Derby High School) – I would like to first thank the Tax Board for the increase that you gave us last year it was really (inaudible) and I would just ask that the Tax Board consider that progress so that we can move ahead and get our students ready for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century and this very difficult (inaudible.) Thank you for inviting us.

Ron Culmo, Director, Derby Public Works, Coon Hollow Road, Derby, CT – Three and a half years ago eight people retired from public works under the retirement plan and since then they have replaced five of the eight people. We are three people short still. I have requested some help this year in the budget. Since then they've increased the work load up there and a lot more things took place, a lot more things were put on us to take care of. It's very difficult to operate the department with the amount of manpower we have right now. I also see that they cut a little bit out of the contract of seasonal people, which we need if we don't get the manpower up there to perform our jobs for the City of Derby to make the residents do the job that we're supposed to do. We really do need help up there to do the job. Right now there's only a couple of people on the road to do the work and if people are out we have nobody on the road to perform the duties that we're supposed to do to serve the public. I would appreciate if you would reconsider somehow to do something to help our department out to work efficiently. I went through the books today and just for contracted people we hired the past year to work that we would have done with the people that we have we spent over \$95,000. That's not counting the work the contractors did during the road bond project last summer where there was over \$600,000 spent on contractors doing work that the public works department performed 3 ½ years ago when the road bond started. So it saves the taxpayers money. We really need help up there and eliminate the problems that we have hiring outside people and paying for money that we really don't have to pay. Thank you.

Anthony Szewczyk, 166 Mt. Pleasant Street, Derby, CT (Alderman 1<sup>st</sup> Ward) – The angle of tax process is one of the most important functions of local government and our Tax Board has worked hard to come up with a fair budget. I heard from the Tax Board members and there isn't enough public participation. I hope this gets better as the public gets used to our much more open form of government. Everyone has areas of interest that they feel need more funding but we have a limited amount of money to go around. That is the people's responsibility to come forward to ensure the most effective use of their hard earned tax dollars. A major concern of mine is the Department of Public Works, which needs more staff to keep the City in good and efficient working order. Derby has a history of letting its facilities and infrastructure deteriorate through lack of maintenance. I believe Public Works is noticeably understaffed and this leads to the town's dilapidation. It's time to turn this situation around. Ron Culmo became head of Public Works last year and he has been working very hard to tract the data needed to support his request for more personnel. He's well on his way to completing a plan that shows what the Department of Public Works needs in order to more effective. In the long term this will actually save the taxpayers

money. In the meantime I appreciate all the financial support you can give Public Works. Thank you.

Katelyn Bryant, 267 Caroline Street, Derby, CT – I'm a student at Irving School. If the City of Derby doesn't give the Board of Education enough money I'm going to have to go to a New Haven school next year.

Martin Hubbard, 57 Hawthorne Avenue, Derby, CT (Chairman, Board of Education) – First of all as I have done in the past I would like to thank all of you for your hard work. I know I've sat on that side of the table as a Tax Board member. Looking at the make up of this Tax Board here I see a lot of people who were past students of Derby High School. I see a lot of parents on this board right here who have students in Derby High School. I would imagine at one time or another students heard their parents talk about monies being funded so the education of their children is going to be there as the parents that are sitting on this board wondered where the monies were going to come from to teach their children. As I stand before you here I just want to address a few things – I noticed an article in the paper yesterday Mr. Schlesinger our Interim Finance Director has said there is room to move this budget in an upwards direction. You know we've made many improvements in our school system. We have realigned our curriculums, we have added staff, we have added professionalism to our high school, middle school, and grammar schools. In answer to Mr. Stadt's concerns our Assistant Superintendent has done wonders in one year's time – I can go on with a list of work that she has done – she has more than aptly served her duty and she is well worth the money. The raise for the Superintendent is well worth it considering that in this day and age Superintendents are a commodity; they are being recruited from school systems all over the place. We have one that has been put in place and has done wonders in two year's time and we would like to keep her. This year the State budget has, as put forth by Governor Rell, is going to be including a large increase in the ECS. You as tax board members must take that into effect. You must realize that if the State realizes that up education systems need to be bolstered and lifted up by the bootstraps that those monies should be directed towards public education. You know there was some questions that were given to me by your Chairman Mr. Domurad as to things that were going wrong with our system and they seem to be pulled from line items about moving monies. I sat on this tax board and you guys have the ability to move money from line item to line item whenever you please in order to take care of your services; just as our school system has the same opportunity. You give us a round number we make sure that the services put forth to our children are done so properly and if need be monies need to be moved from one area into another to make sure things are done the right way we so do that. We are not – we've consistently been put under a conspiracy cloud. Our education system has gone forth in leaps and bounds over the past few years. Please, please I implore you do not let this system unravel. We have people in place. We have great teachers. We have a number of teachers that sit here before you. I wish they can all get up and speak and tell you how well these children in the City of Derby – how well they are doing. Kim Krieger alluded to that at the meeting the other night on how a majority of our children are going on to college. If this board decides to hold back monies it's going to set us back. We have taken two steps forward – if you decide to take our money away we're going to take five steps backwards. And as the Board of Education Chairman I just don't see how we can

operate this year under those guidelines. So again I want to thank you for the hard work that you do and I really, really implore you to let the Board of Education operate as it should and to give us what we had granted in our budget at \$16.6 million. Thank you very much.

Kim Krieger, 7 General Wooster Road, Derby, CT (Board of Education Member) – I'm sure you've heard this before but I'm going to say it one more time that's why I appreciate your time this evening. You know this community has come forward and shown that it's committed to the education system in Derby. They value it – they feel that it's important. We just recently voted for a brand new middle school, which we're all very much looking forward to moving forward with in Derby and I think that is a very strong statement from this community that it believes and it values education here in this City. Because what do we have if we don't have our children in this community; they're our future. Of the \$16.7 million roughly that the Board of Education has requested for this budget approximately \$325,000 of that only is in new initiatives. And those new initiatives that we would like to put forward are basically people. A custodian, a mechanic, a math teacher, a social studies teacher, a science teacher, a foreign language teacher, and an information technology person. So of that \$16.7 that we requested to operate yes we did put in roughly \$325,000 to add to our program. Much needed folks and these folks would go directly to the middle school, which unfortunately is in a bit of a space crunch as we know for the next couple of years until our new school comes up. So I would ask that you take that into consideration and let us continue to operate in the manner in which we've been operating – the children deserve that. It's our goal for the Board of Education to put forth the best and the brightest and we have a tremendous group of children in Derby and they deserve that commitment. They realize that this community supports them and I would ask you to continue to do the same and invest in these children. Thank you.

Dan Waleski, 21 Elm Street, Derby, CT – I've had the pleasure of sitting in on some of your workshops. I don't have all the figures that you had. Mrs. Robinson was very generous with her figures. But I must say that as an old timer in particular this has been the best tax board that I have seen in a good many, many years. There's no question you work awfully hard and you looked at the figures very carefully and you tried to strike a balance and I have to pat you on the back. I think Dr. Robinson is undoubtedly the best Superintendent of Schools that we've had in many, many, many years. She worked awfully hard to do the best that she can. But in this day and age some of us who have gone to parochial schools, private schools we often wonder why public education is so expensive. Some concerns that come immediately to mind is our Police Department – they seem to be awfully expensive for a small town. What worries me the most is our bonded indebtedness for a small town to be in the figure of a little over \$2 million. And lastly I think since we are a small town of 12,000 – 13,000 people 5.3 square miles in area a town that has no real economic base, a town that has I think the largest segment of its population is elderly and senior citizens on fixed incomes – we're not what you would call an affluent town as you know our beginnings started being a mill town and we haven't really changed all that much. So a balance is got to be struck between how much we can afford how much that's comfortable for the people and try to cover all the City expenses. I wonder sometimes you are a new administration – you're doing a fine job and then some – but I would like to suggest that you can't do it

all in one year. Do a little at a time – it's probably the more prudent and safest approach for all concerned. But most of all I wonder how we stack up with other towns about our size. There are figures coming from Hartford and New Haven and elsewhere but it would be good I think – maybe you've made an analysis – but I haven't made an analysis and I kind of wonder whether we're average, above, good, bad or different in regard to some other towns and their budgets. So I want to thank you all for your very hard work. Thank our former Mayor who has helped you out. It's not an easy task; it's a very difficult task and I would like to wish you all well. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Arlene Yacobacci, 10 Lombardi Drive, Derby, CT – I urge you to proceed with care in adopting the budget. Please act responsibly and do not cut the education budget. The children are our future and deserve the best that we can provide for them. We need to keep quality teachers for just current learning materials and books and keep up to date with labs. Also where is the funding in the budget for the new school that was recently approved? How does this administration plan on handling the financing of the school building? Aren't there architectural fees, consulting fees, and excavation costs that will be incurred in the preliminary stages? The City is still responsible for a portion of these costs. Please do not politics and a false sense that you are low in taxes ahead of the needs of our children. Thank you.

Vanessa Bryant, 267 Caroline Street, Derby, CT – We always say that the children are our future. But without building a strong solid foundation with our children and education what is the future for Derby? I'm a parent of an elementary school student and I don't want to have to take her out to another school district to give her a solid foundation when I live in Derby. I shouldn't have to bus her out extra early in the morning and come home late at night because I feel that she can't get the proper education. She's getting a good education now but it can be better. We need the funding so that she can continue to get a good education in Derby – not outside of Derby. We live in Derby; taxes are being paid in Derby. So she should be able to get her address in Derby.

Mr. Lazowski asked Mr. Domurad if he could read a letter into the record from former Mayor Marc Garofalo.

Mr. Martino asked for a point of order. He said that Mr. Lazowski has to present himself as the person who is in public portion, state his address and then read the letter.

Frank Lazowski, 190 Derby Avenue, Derby, CT – I would like to read a letter from former Derby Mayor Marc Garofalo.

Dear Tax Board Members;

I am writing to you regarding your consideration of a necessary line item for the 2007-2008 budget. I have been reading with disappointment about this administration's complete lack of judgment and respect for the children of our city. I do understand full well the challenges of putting together a budget while battling the political interference of the administration. Best of luck in setting the priorities in the next fiscal year. I firmly urge you to set aside the \$75,000 necessary to repair the playground at

Bradley School. This playground was given to, and accepted by, the Board of Education for use by all of the city's children. The Board of Aldermen and the Board of Education should come to an agreement in writing that the city will make this commitment and that the Board of Education should be responsible for this in the future. It is completely irresponsible of this administration to force the school parents to raise this extraordinary amount of money in the community when that kind of fundraising effort should be focused in areas that are not the city's responsibility. Please put the children's needs ahead of the political indifference of this administration and allocate this money so that the parents' efforts can be focused where they belong – on the children. I apologize that I am not able to be here in person and I thank you for your consideration. Sincerely, Marc J. Garofalo

Martin Hubbard, 57 Hawthorne Avenue, Derby, CT (President Board of Education) – You know if it needs to come to a compromise the tax board members feel you cannot reach that number there are a couple of items that I feel on my own behalf that our school system really needs. The first would probably be – and they're probably about even – I would say our language teacher, our Spanish/Italian teacher because we want to roll our language back into the middle school. It is well known that children who learn a second language become and adapt to educational curriculum a lot better. You know I think the way our socio-economic system is made up especially in our own City of Derby we've become a little mini United Nations we have a heavy population of Spanish speaking people and for us to have a well qualified Spanish teacher in our school system would bode well. The second one that would ride along side by side would be our kindergarten teacher at Bradley School for an all day kindergarten. We and Dr. Janet Robinson and her staff would fully support that. We had realized not only going through professional development time that kindergarten is such a sensitive grade that children at a full day kindergarten learn and adapt to school much better than children that go to half-day. Those extra hours really pay off when those children enter first grade. So if we were to come to a stand-off and if monies were to be raised those would be my two priority items. Thank you very much.

Mr. Domurad asked three times if anyone else would like to address the board.

Hearing no response...

### **PUBLIC PORTION CLOSED**

Mr. Domurad – Now I don't know if Mr. Martino could correct me if I'm wrong but I would like to take a Chairman privilege.

Mr. Martino – Absolutely.

Mr. Domurad – Okay. I would like to take a Chairman privilege to address these questions. Mr. Yacobacci is correct – it is a public democracy. As for the playground line items it's a pass through. Mr. Garofalo the \$75,000 represents replacement costs. I was on the committee that built this - \$42,000 – it doesn't need \$42,000 or \$72,000 or \$75,000 – but the parents are raising it and there is a line item set up and it's a pass through – it has nothing to do with City money. As for the redevelopment money we

didn't get any in. That's why we cut the capital projects short. We took it on our dime until the property is sold, which we would then get the costs back, but unfortunately things haven't materialized. As for Mr. Culmo – as for the Public Works – if you remember when we had the early retirement program there was a five year payback on it. And as it stands now we owe an extra \$85,000 because of that to the pension program in addition to \$100,000 for pension experience. So technically we can't hire people back to make a break-even point until another two years I believe. Also, for hiring as Mr. Waleski's charge and your charge for hiring more people the Tax Board was discussing hiring an HVAC person but that hasn't come to fruition yet that's by taking a tradesman from other tradesmen costs associated to other budgets and make it one position for the whole city. That was under discussion and that can't happen (inaudible) current monies. As for Mrs. Robinson Mayor Staffieri said that he had talked to you and that you had come up with \$32,000 in savings and required only \$172,000 for the budget. Is that an accurate number?

Dr. Robinson – It sounds like \$325,000 was the last page of the budget book where we were looking at the new hires and the teachers. But we did not reach an agreement.

Mr. Domurad – Mayor Staffieri told me yesterday that you would only need \$172,000 more to bring it to about \$16.3 approximately. That's inaccurate?

Dr. Robinson – No – there's a misunderstanding somewhere.

Mr. Domurad – Okay.

Dr. Robinson - \$16.3 would be very difficult.

Mr. Domurad – Okay but that's what the Mayor told me as of yesterday. As for the middle school costs – Mrs. Yacobacci also I believe – we put money into this year's budget to write notes to do planning for the school so that we would be one year ahead of schedule. The middle school costs will not be incurred - the 1.3 mills – until we actually turn the key and walk in. As for the State Board of Education true we can move money around but it would be also taxed. You cannot tax as the Board of Education. And also too reimbursement – when I was on the board we were around a 51% - 52% reimbursement from the State. We're down to 39% according to your numbers. So the State of Connecticut really hasn't taken an interest in education either. Under Governor Rowland our reimbursements either went up the lesser of two evils – one what the actually costs were or what the State decided to give us. And typically what the State decided to us was peanuts. So our share continues to rise so the State of Connecticut is not behind education no matter what they say.

Alan Schlesinger, City of Derby Interim Finance Director – I'd like to just extrapolate a little bit on what you just said Henry. A lot of people are very concerned with the capital situation with the City of Derby as they should be. The downtown has project has (inaudible) a lot of the fund balances of the City of Derby but it is only temporary. What we are looking at right now, and that's why we froze all capital because we wanted to make sure there would be a fund balance at the end of this year, we started this year with \$3,700,000 on July 1 in our fund balance. We have basically spent down –

if we spent out the whole budget with the frozen capital we would basically have a zero fund balance. But we've been very, very careful freezing capital projects in other areas and other parts of the budget so we should end up with over a \$1 million fund balance at the end of this fiscal year. In addition to that we now as the Chairman was saying is we have now an asset whether this preferred developer or a future preferred developer comes in the first thing that they have to do is reimburse the City for all the money they've expended, which would bring the fund balance back actually to around \$4.5 million. So when that does happen whether its through this developer through negotiations or a future developer the fund balance will actually be higher than it was when we started on July 1. But temporarily if you folks understand finance a little bit we are kind of in a cash crunch because we haven't had that reimbursement so we have to be very careful as we move forward. I think the Chairman also made a good point that education in the City has gone up probably more than any other department and it will continue to because I believe this administration as well as the Tax Board believe very much in our children and the future of our children and I think there's always room to compromise. And please understand that when you talk about cuts you're talking about cutting from what you're requesting. You're not talking about cuts from last year's budgets. You're talking about increases whether right now the Tax Board I believe is it 3.5% I think we can agree on?

Mr. Domurad – Right.

Mr. Schlesinger – That's what we're going to be recommending – a 3.5% increase over last year's budget and in addition to that there is as I said (inaudible) for good minds to come together and do what's right for the future of our children. I think that basically what this Tax Board has done is put together a tremendous compromise between the needs of the City of Derby and the ability of the taxpayers to fund it. So I think as we move forward I think you'll see the City in a very sound financial condition and also a tremendous opportunity for the rebirth of the City of Derby both from a capital infrastructure point of view and also from a financial point of view and also for the future of our children. I think that we have met all the demands. And also just to back off on the new school that is one of the reasons why this Tax Board and this administration is extremely concerned with our finances because as everyone who has stated in the past – they are correct – that this will be a tremendous burden in the future once that new school comes on line. So we have to be ready for that and we have to try to be very lean and very careful how we spend money because when that new school does come as the Chairman has stated when we open that door that's when we'll have to start paying our share of the costs of the infrastructure as well as the teachers that will be in that new building. So we have to strike that careful balance and I hope that we can all work together.

Mr. Schlesinger informed those present that he would be available for further discussions after the meeting.

Mr. Domurad – One other quick addendum to that would be that when we do go to bond for the middle school – the finances – it behooves us to get the money for downtown so there is pressure to do it in order to get a good bond rating and a good interest rate.

Mr. Schlesinger – That is our first priority.

Mr. Domurad – So this administration is well aware of the situation and we are trying hard and they are to make it right for the City of Derby. So the future does look bright – we just have to get through little clouds here and there.

**THE NEXT MEETING OF THE BOARD OF APPORTIONMENT AND TAXATION WILL BE THURSDAY, MAY 24, 2007 AT 7:00 P.M. AT CITY HALL.**

**A MOTION** was made by Mr. Martino with a second by Mr. Scarduzio to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 p.m. **Motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Finn  
Temporary Recording Secretary

/paf