

**WEST POINT TOWN COUNCIL
JOINT WORK SESSION
WITH THE SCHOOL BOARD
MINUTES
March 10, 2009**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Honorable James H. Hudson III called the work session to order at 7:00 P.M., followed by the pledge of allegiance.

Members Present: Mayor, Jim Hudson; Vice Mayor, Deborah Ball; Charlie Gordon; Wayne Healy; Jack Lawson; Gail Nichols and Bub Shreaves.

Also Present: Trenton L. Funkhouser, Town Manager; Karen Barrow, Town Clerk; T.C. Moore, Town Treasurer; West Point School Board; School Superintendent and School Board Staff.

Dr. Jeffrey Smith presented Town Council with a power point presentation on the School Budget for FY 2009-2010.

Dr. Smith advised the State budget cuts for the school system totaled \$777,441, the School Board has absorbed \$690,046 of these funds through the elimination of eleven (11) positions, pupil transportation and other operating expenses. The School Board would like to request the funding gap of \$87,036 as a budget increase for health care and mandated services. There are no salary increases and no increases to Capital Improvement funding.

Mr. Gordon advised that last year Town Council told the School Board the \$150,000 for a new school bus and text books was a one time expenditure and not a reoccurring expense. This fund appears in the budget request for FY09-10.

Dr. Smith advised that due to the \$690,046 budget cuts, the \$150,000 is needed for the operating budget.

Mrs. Ball asked if the School Board has received any funds from the stimulus package.

Dr. Smith advised the School Board has not received any funds. The stimulus funds are restricted on what they can be used for and are a reimbursed funds. You have to spend the funds first then apply for reimbursement. The unofficial allocated stimulus funds are \$375,351 as a one time funding.

Mr. Hudson asked how many students are enrolled at the schools.

Dr. Smith advised we are anticipating 740 students for FY 2009-10.

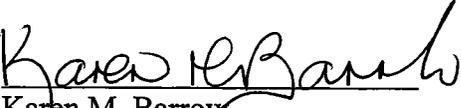
Mr. Lawson advised that the School Superintendent has communicated with the Town Manager regarding the budget and Dr. Smith has done a good job with the budget. This has been a very refreshing process and Mr. Lawson is stated he is impressed with Dr. Smith and the work he has done with the budget.

Mr. Hudson advised that he also feels Dr. Smith has done a marvelous job with the Budget, considering the tough economic conditions, it has been a breath of fresh air to work with the School Superintendent on the budget.

There being no further business, Mr. Hudson adjourned the work session at 8:10 P.M.


James H. Hudson, III
Mayor

ATTEST:


Karen M. Barrow
Town Clerk