

**Minutes of the Meeting
Of the
Board of Commissioners
Of the
Fishers Island Ferry District**

A **PUBLIC HEARING** of the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District was held in the Fishers Island Community Center on **Wednesday, October 28, 2009** at 5:00 PM. The purpose of the hearing was to adjust the tax levy in the 2010 Budget.

Present were Commissioners: Brooks, Burnham, duPont and Edwards.
11 members of the community attended, including Cathy Parsons via telephone.

The Public Notice, which was published in the Suffolk Times on October 22, 2009, was read.

Bob Brooks, a member of the Ad Hoc Committee, distributed spreadsheets with the Committee's projection for the 2009 budget, which showed a deficit of over \$260,000. A line item by line item discussion was then conducted with the participation of the Commissioners and attending community members. During the course of the discussion, while comparing a 2009 budget projection submitted by management, various additions and subtractions were adjusted into the projected spreadsheet.

At the conclusion of the discussion, the projected budget reflected a deficit of approximately \$95,000. After a lengthy discussion as to the size of the tax increase, the Board decided to increase the 2010 Tax Levy \$100,000.00, to \$750,000.00. The motion carried by a split vote 3-1, with Commissioner Brooks, wanting a larger increase, as the lone Nay vote. [Commissioner Edwards voted in favor, based on the consensus of the taxpayers present.](#) The motion is a part of these minutes.

Questions:

Why is the Board raising taxes in 2010? To cover a projected deficit in 2009.

Why don't you raise the freight rates? The freight rates will be raised this coming winter.

What percentage is the town wide increase? Somewhere between 7% and 8%.

What if all of the tax money is not used? It will remain in the 2010 budget and possibly be used to offset future taxes.

Meeting adjourned at 7:10 PM

Thomas F. Doherty
Manager/Secretary
Fishers Island Ferry District