Members Present: Marc DeBois (Chair), David Ricker (Orford); Mark Avery (Vice Chair), Bruce Lyndes (Fairlee); Kathy Hooke, Jean MacDonald (Vershire); Kathy Blanchard (at-large)

Members Absent: Grover Boutin (Fairlee), Mike Fanizzi (W. Fairlee), Cicely Richardson (Orford), Sarah Rinehimer (West Fairlee)

Administration and Staff Present: Brenda Needham (Superintendent), Keri Gelenian (Head of Schools/RA Principal), Dick Paulson (CFO), Janet Cole (Director of Special Education), Hank Plaisted (Director of Info Technology)

Others Present: Angela Ricker (Student), Barbara Griffin (Teacher), Jennifer Shatney (West Fairlee)

Chair DeBois opened Public Budget Forum at 6:30 p.m. and welcomed public to meeting. Copies of the preliminary draft budget were available. Needham said that Paulson had made some adjustments as the Board requested after the last public forum. The draft budget being presented was $9,961,522. DeBois asked if there were any questions/comments. Shatney asked and expressed concern regarding Rivendell’s Title funds being reduced due to designation of a school under school improvement status. Gelenian indicated the requirement relates to using 20% of the Title funds Rivendell is allotted for school improvement which Rivendell is already doing. Needham said she does not expect a significant reduction in Title funds for next year. Griffin asked about CLAs and she was directed to look at page 3 of the proposed draft budget where they were all listed. She was pleased to see all the Vermont towns were around 100% since that affects taxes.

Chair DeBois asked if there were any further questions or comments and there were not. He thanked the public in attendance for coming.

Action: Motion made to adjourn Public Budget Forum. Approved.

Forum adjourned at 6:42 p.m.

Recorded by:
Penny Perryman, CEOE
Executive Assistant/HR Manager