The Charter states that the Town Manager needs to have a draft budget by December 10<sup>th</sup>.

School Resource Officer. Currently the Schools cover 10 months and the Town covers 2 months. There is one officer. Mr. Barry Cahill, High School Principal clarified that the SRO works the on the schedule of the schools.

Plant & Facilities Manager: will revisit this in the future.

Mr. Clasby stated that based on preliminary data the target most likely to be 2 ½ to 3 %.

Mr. Loeb questioned setting the target at 2 ½ % and how it would effect the schools without any real numbers at this time. His concern is that it would create a level of unnecessary tension. He suggested delaying the Town Meeting. Mr. Ziegler stated that if the State doesn't know the pain of the towns and schools, then how will the message get to the new Governor of the need for increased aid.

Feoffees: Mr. Korb stated that the Feoffees distribution will be withheld so far this year due to the current legal issues. This amount is about \$600,000. This amount, compounded by a deficit in the budget to start with will create major cuts in the schools.

Mr. Loeb stated that the School Committee has talked about the concept of a one time override but at this time it is only a concept. Discussion on the schools situation with the Feoffees.

The Finance Committee does not support postponing the Town Meeting.

Mr. Schaaf questioned how the situation with the Feoffees has dragged on so long. Mr. Loeb stated that the Trust proposal was drafted over the last three years by the School Committee.

By the end of January/February, the School should have some sense of where their numbers will be.

A citizen noted that a legal suit may be brought against the Feoffees due to the eviction problem and that this would delay the whole problem longer.

Over the next month or two there will be an Executive Session on the legal issues.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lynne Gibbs Recording Secretary Ipswich Finance Committee Approved: 1/9/07

