1.0 The meeting was called to order at 9:12 AM by First Selectman Joyce Okonuk. Selectmen John Bendoraitis and Russ Blakeslee were present as well as Tom Doyle of Banknorth Insurance Agency.

2.0 The Selectmen discussed the present medical insurance options available for full-time Town Hall, Library and Public Works employees, citing the 15% increase in the upcoming year’s premium. The increase is a result of experience (for both the town and school). This increase is following several years of single digit increases. Selectmen concurred that changes in the plan offerings had to occur to help minimize the increase to the medical insurance budget as we presently are paying $218,000 per year to insure eight employees on Century Preferred and eleven on Blue Care. Employees contribute 10% to the Century Preferred plan and 3% to the Blue Care, an amount unheard of in present day standards. Tom Doyle presented an overview of the present two plans being offered--Blue Cross Century Preferred and Blue Care.

The Selectmen then reviewed other options with Tom including a Health Savings Account (HSA) that would provide a pre-tax benefit for the employee, with reduced costs for both the town and employee. The Board of Education has been offering an HSA for the past couple of years. Details of the HSA were reviewed and it was the general feeling of the Board that should a standard BC plan continue to be offered with an HSA, a significant increase in the co-pay for the standard plan as well as benefit modifications would need to be made in order to make the plan affordable. Selectmen will continue to review options.

3.0 Moved by Bendoraitis, seconded by Blakeslee to adjourn the meeting at 10:45 AM. Vote: yes, unanimous

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce R. Okonuk
First Selectman