

Sullivan County Delegation Adopts 2010 County Budget

by Katie Richardson

InterTown News Service

NEWPORT – A Sullivan County Full Delegation meeting was held July 21 at the county complex in Newport. The purpose of the meeting was to approve minutes from the June 26 county convention meeting which adopted the 2010 county budget. New Hampshire law requires that those minutes be approved within 30 days.

The 2010 budget will keep the amount to be raised by taxes at \$12,956,180, the same figure as the

2009 budget. The projected expenses for 2010 totals \$33,320,837 and includes the \$6.9 million House of Corrections renovation and construction project, which will not affect the county tax rate.

The County Commissioners had originally presented a budget with a 2.1% increase, which was unanimously voted down by the Executive Finance Committee in favor of a level funded budget. Rep. Sue Gottling (D-Sunapee), chair of the Executive Finance Committee, has repeatedly

expressed her goal of reducing what was once a multi-million dollar deficit in the county budget.

In addition to approving the June 26 county convention minutes, the delegation voted to hire a recording secretary, subsidized by the delegation's budget, to fill a vacancy left by the resignation of Rep. Cynthia Sweeney (D-Charlestown) as Delegation Clerk.

An Executive Finance Committee meeting, originally slated to follow the full delegation meeting, was rescheduled to July 27.