

Responses to Steve Sears

New Boston Taxpayers Association

1. **Transfer Station-** The line in question has been used in the past to cover many different items such as TV's, microwaves, electronics and grants if we received them. In the past the disposal costs were much lower and didn't have a significantly larger impact on the budget. In the last few years as the economy receded and scrap value decreased, the true cost of electronics recycling began to increase disposal costs which led to an effort to collect disposal fees which would offset operational costs. The new 2016 budget and revenue lines will show this in greater detail. This change was long overdue. The fluctuation in some of the revenue lines are market driven and the Department does the best it can to insure we are paid top dollar for the efforts of our residents. We have no control of our disposal costs on fee items but make every effort to seek out the best vendor to keep the residential fees low in covering actual costs. The revenues at the Transfer Station cover collected disposal fees and also revenues from the sale of recycled materials.
2. **Fire Department-** All donations are received by the New Boston Fire Association and not the "town" per se. The association has full jurisdiction on their own as to how and where to use them. I am not aware of any donations coming direct to the Town. Only grants are reviewed and approved by the Selectmen as recommended by the Chief.
The Revolving Account is exclusively for expenses related to the operation of the ambulance and medical supplies only. The Fire Wards have jurisdiction over the Revolving Account.
3. **Emergency Management- The** Emergency Management budget is in no way connected to the Fire Department directly but is under the authority of the Selectmen who appoint an Emergency Management Director. The Emergency Management Director happens to be the Fire Chief and this is a separate budgetary item.
4. **Revenues-** The Recreation Department does indeed collect revenues for all of their organized activities. However, all of the funds collected are placed into a Revolving Account and the expenses are derived from this account including payroll for camp counsellors and instructors of various programs etc.