

BOARD OF ALDERMEN

ITEM NO. C(7)

AGENDA ITEM ABSTRACT

MEETING DATE: March 20, 2007

TITLE: A Request to Approve a Budget Amendment for Facilitation Services from the Dispute Settlement Center

DEPARTMENT: Management Services	PUBLIC HEARING: YES ____ NO <u>x</u>
ATTACHMENTS: A: Budget Ordinance B: Proposed Contract with Dispute Settlement Center	FOR INFORMATION CONTACT: Steve Stewart, Town Manager (918-7315)

PURPOSE

The Board is requested to approve a budget amendment transferring \$4,000 from contingency to the Planning budget to provide sufficient funds for the facilitation of the Northern Study Area Plan Implementation Review Committee (NSAPIRC) process to be held during the spring and summer of 2007.

INFORMATION

The Board of Aldermen, at a regular board meeting on February 20th, 2007, discussed having consultants with expertise in planning issues assist with the Northern Study Area Plan Implementation Review process discussed and approved at the same meeting. Staff put out feelers in several directions, particularly (at the Board's request) to Mr. Andy Sachs at the Dispute Settlement Center (DSC). Though Mr. Sachs was not available to be the primary facilitator for this process, he worked with the DSC and put together a proposed contract based on Mr. Sachs working in an advisory role and Ms. Robin Langdon and Mr. Will Dudenhausen acting as the primary facilitators. Town staff also received a separate proposal from a Wilmington consultant and a resume from a Durham facilitator, but the DSC proposal was deemed superior for a number of reasons.

Even prior to the contract being signed, Ms. Langdon attended the first NSAPIRC meeting on the evening of Thursday, March 15th.

If the Board approves this budget amendment, town staff will also move forward with executing the contract with the Dispute Settlement Center for facilitation services for the NSAPIRC

FISCAL IMPACT

Upon approval of the budget amendment, contingency balance would be at \$8,250.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Town staff recommends that the Board approve this budget amendment and approve the execution of the facilitation agreement with the Dispute Settlement Center.