

# Lights Out?

**Excerpt from Selectmen's Minutes 04/19/06: 3<sup>rd</sup> Order of Business, first paragraph**

“John informs the board that the budget for the street lights in town next year is \$18,000.00 and \$20,000.00 has already been spent this year. John is recommending turning off some of the lights in town and he has a list of lights with recommendations and would like the board to decide which ones to turn off.”

**End excerpt**

## WIC Asks:

Should the decision to turn off street lights be left to the town manager, or should the board of selectmen discuss whether *any* lights should be turned *off*, before deciding which ones?

The list of recommendations the town manager referred to was not distributed at meeting. Where is it?

Would it be better to look at the budget and see if necessary funds can be transferred from other, less critical, less public-safety-related purposes?

If street lights are turned off, will crime increase?

If crime increases, will burdens become heavier on the Police Department, thus requiring additional expenditures of funds?