

## **BUDGET COMMITTEE**

**DECEMBER 11, 2017**

## **MEMORIAL BUILDING**

**7:00 P.M.**

*The following are to be considered draft minutes until approved by the Board.*

Meeting called to order at 7:00 and roll was called.

Present: Ken Jacques, Darrin Patten, Justin Hastings, Brian Putney, Tim Cook, B. Manning, Jeff Milne, and Ex-Officio, Tamara Butcher. Bryan O'Day was absent.

The Board welcomed new member, Brian Putney.

Election of officers: Motion by Darrin, second by Tim Cook to keep the same officers. Ken Jacques, Chairman and Justin Hastings, Vice-Chairman. Motion passed.

Meeting schedule: 2018 Budget Meetings will be on Mondays at 7:00 p.m. as follows: January 8; January 15 with Department Heads; January 29; Public Hearing February 12, with a continuation date of February 19 if needed.

The Board discussed 2017 Expenditures to date with Tamara. They addressed overages in highway wages, retirement and health insurance. Allocation of cemetery wages was reviewed. The non-recurring project line was reviewed. Projects included in the appropriation will be reviewed. The Board questioned whether that line should continue.

Tamara reviewed 2018 appropriations. The Selectboard is looking to fund \$100,000 for Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) for the Fire Department and \$35,000 for Town Hall roof repairs from the unreserved fund balance. The life of the SCBA equipment expires in August 2019. It takes 6 to 9 months for an order for new equipment to process, so it needs to be ordered late 2018 or early 2019. Waiting until March 2019 would be too late. This will be a non-lapsing warrant article. The amount currently in fund balance is \$541,708. Leigh has estimated \$60,000 from 2017 budget will not be spent and added to the fund balance.

Other projects that have been discussed but not decided are \$45,000 for sand-shed site preparation, \$30,000 for a chipper for the highway department, and \$28,000 for a perched beach.

The Board discussed the various projects. B. suggested the Selectboard consider financing the SCBA equipment and funding the remaining projects through the fund balance. The numbers add up about the same.

The beach project was discussed. Dick Hendl had suggested this might be a project the 250<sup>th</sup> committee might take on, but there has been no response from the committee.

Tamara reported on the research she has done regarding what other towns have for chippers.  
Pete Abair's request seems reasonable.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Submitted by,

Janet Roberts,  
Administrative Assistant