

BUDGET COMMITTEE

JANUARY 8, 2018

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 p.m. and roll was called.

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

Minutes of December 11, 2017: Motion by Jeff to approve as written, seconded by Darrin. All members in favor with one abstention (Bryan O'Day) as he was not present on Dec. 11th.

The Board will meet with department heads next week, January 15, 2018.

Operating budget proposals, were reviewed and discussed.

The Selectboard has approved a wage increase of 3% for weekly employees that receive weekly paychecks. Retirement benefits for those eligible still need to be calculated.

Non-recurring projects line includes roof overhangs on the employee access doors at the highway garage.

Pete Abair has appropriated \$20,000 in his budget for a used chipper. He is planning to pave Philbrick Hill. The Board reviewed the CIP and would like to hear from Pete what his paving plan is moving forward.

Sunapee Transfer Station cost is not known yet.

The Recreation Department has increased appropriations from the past couple of years for some events they are planning in 2018. The 250th Celebration Committee has requested an appropriation of \$3500 for 2018 and will again for 2019. The Committee held their first event on Sunday, January 7th. The committee has events scheduled and are meeting and planning for more over the next two years.

Debt Service has not been calculated yet.

Ken Jacques reported the Conservation Commission has been discussing necessary steps to transfer unspent appropriations from the Conservation Commission operating budget to the conservation fund. This is a process that was done many years ago. This may require an annual warrant article at Town Meeting if they chose to do so.

Tamara noted the Selectboard agreed with the Budget Committee's suggestion to apply for a loan for the SCBA equipment at \$100K. One quote for financing is 3-years at 3.1%. Two projects are proposed from the Unreserved Fund Balance (URFB). The Town Hall Roof at \$35K and sand shed site prep at \$40K. There are no bids for the town hall roof so this may need to be

adjusted. Pete Abair pulled together numbers for the sand shed site prep. Tamara will ask him to bring the information next week.

The beach sand cannot be replenished until 2019 according to the last permit. There is money in engineering for 2018 to work on developing plans and permitting for a possible perched beach in 2019. The board asked if the Selectboard felt a perched beach was the best way to go. Tamara stated that she did. It is a better long-term solution, and sand can then be added as needed. Otherwise only 20 cubic yards of sand can be replaced every 5 years.

The Selectboard will review the unreserved fund balance and apply money as available, if needed, to offset taxes in 2018 when the rate gets set in the fall.

The meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Submitted by,

Janet Roberts,
Administrative Assistant