

**BUDGET COMMITTEE
PUBLIC HEARING**

FEBRUARY 9, 2016

MEMORIAL BUILDING

7:00 P.M.

The following are to be considered draft minutes only until approved by the Board at their next meeting.

Budget members present: Ken Jacques, Chairman; Bryan O'Day, Tim Cook, Justin Hastings, Darrin Patten, Bill Huntoon and Leigh Callaway. B. Manning and Jeff Milne were absent as they were working at the primary election.

Also present: Pete Abair

The hearing was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Ken Jacques stated at the close of the last meeting, the Selectboard had been asked to take a look at fuel costs and funding for the cruiser. The rest of the budget appeared to be in good order.

Minutes: Darrin moved to approve the February 1, 2016 minutes as written, seconded by Tim and unanimously approved.

The budget worksheet was reviewed by each department. Leigh reviewed changes the Selectmen made to vehicle fuel, and heating costs. The Selectmen also compared borrowing versus funding the cruiser from the fund balance. They were concerned with tying up money from the fund balance, but in the end agreed to appropriate from the fund balance.

The Board unanimously approved the operating budget.

The Warrant were reviewed and discussed:

Article 03: Paving

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$95,000 for the purpose of paving. This amount to come from the Unreserved Fund Balance with no amount to be raised through taxation. The Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this appropriation.

Motion by Darrin to recommend, seconded by Tim and unanimously approved.

Article 04: Replace Highway Truck

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$75,000 to purchase and equip a truck for the Highway Department. This amount to come from the Unreserved Fund Balance, with no amount to be raised through taxation. This special warrant article will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until the purchase is complete or by December 31, 2019, whichever is sooner. The Selectmen and the Budget Committee recommend this appropriation.

Motion by Darrin to recommend, seconded by Tim and unanimously approved.

Article 05: Cruiser

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$33,548 to purchase and equip a cruiser for the Police Department. This amount to come from the Unreserved Fund Balance with no amount to be raised through taxation. The Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this appropriation.

Motion by Darrin to recommend, second by Justin and unanimously approved.

Article 06: Old Home Day Expendable Trust

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,911 to be added to the Old Home Day Expendable Trust Fund previously established. This amount to come from the Unreserved Fund Balance and represents proceeds and donations raised in 2015; no amount to be raised from taxation. The Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this appropriation.

Motion by Darrin to recommend, seconded by Bryan and unanimously approved.

Article 07: Municipal Operating Budget

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,296,600 for general municipal operations. This article does not include appropriations contained in special or individual articles addressed separately.

Motion by Darrin to recommend, seconded by Tim and unanimously approved.

Ken noted the Conservation Commission spearheaded logging that is currently being done in the Kinsley Lot. There will be some increased revenue to the town in 2016 from that project. The town also owns two lots at the north end of town at the Grafton/Wilmot line, containing 250 contiguous acres. One of the parcels was taken by tax deed. That property will produce some timber in a few years. The Conservation Commission is also discussing logging of the Society and Royal Arch lots.

Leigh reviewed the fund balance retention numbers.

The budget hearing was closed at 7:45 p.m.

Ken thanked the Board and the Selectmen for the good cooperative effort on behalf of both boards.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Submitted by,

Janet Roberts