

BUDGET COMMITTEE

JANUARY 30, 2017

MEMORIAL BUILDING

7:00 P.M.

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

Present: Chairman, Ken Jacques, B. Manning, Bryan O'Day, Tim Cook, Justin Hastings, Darrin Patten, Jeff Milne, and Tamara Butcher. Absent: Bill Huntoon.

Leigh Callaway was also present.

The roll was called. Ken called the Budget Hearing to at 7:00 p.m. and the roll was called.

Minutes of January 31, 2017. Ken noted, as stated in the minutes of January 31, corrections were made to the computer support and guardrail lines. B. moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Tim and unanimously approved.

Review of Operating Budget: Darrin questioned what is happening for plans for a sand shed? Leigh noted the highway department is clearing and brush cutting for now. There has been no further discussion or plans proposed for 2017. The Board discussed Leigh's previous presentation from January 16th. The property behind the highway department had been looked at by CLD engineering, and it is impractical for a sand shed. The area is too steep to have a sand shed up there. The other area needs to be cleared, and perhaps could be used for other storage, but is not a solution for sand. Moving some of the plows and things away from the building to a different storage location would free up space around the building. The Board agreed organizing a group to do some further research, would help identify what is available. Clearing, stump removal, grading, and drainage might be able to be done within this year's budget. It is too late to put money into this budget. Leigh noted, progress has been made, as the engineering study determined it is too expensive and impractical to put a sand shed at the end of the lot.

B. questioned if the Planning Board was comfortable with the reduced amount for the circuit rider from the Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission. Ken stated the circuit rider was discussed at the last meeting of the Planning Board, but was not voted on. The Circuit Rider contract goes until June 30, 2017. There is enough money appropriated if the Planning Board chooses to continue through the rest of the year. The circuit rider is billed at \$288.00 per month for 6 hours whether assistance is needed or not. The Planning Board does not appear to have any big projects proposed for 2017. There may also be a possibility of hiring a consultant from UVLSRPC on an hourly basis. Further research is needed for that.

Fire Truck: Ken stated he is pleased with the Selectmen's decision to allocate the amount of fund balance they did toward the cost of the fire truck. The money in URFB has been raised through taxes already, and it is appropriate to use it toward a large capital purchase. B. stated that the Selectmen made a good sound decision to use the money now. Leigh noted the Selectmen addressed this from a financial standpoint. The Fire Department made a good presentation addressing the standards and replacement needs.

Veteran's Tax Credit: The Board questioned if there was a need to take a position regarding the tax credit. It is not a monetary article so there is no need for a recommendation from the Board. An RSA was adopted in 2016 changing the qualifications. A request was made for the Selectmen to include it on

the warrant. The Selectmen decided it was not up to them to determine the outcome, but rather to put it on the warrant and let the voters decide.

At 7:47 p.m. the Public Hearing was closed. The Board began deliberations:

Article 4: Purchase and Equip a tanker truck for the Fire Dep

Article 4: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$240,000 (gross budget) to purchase and equip a tanker truck for the Fire Department; said amount to be offset by \$100,000 from the Unreserved Fund Balance; and further to authorize the issuance of not more than \$140,000 of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33); and to authorize the municipal officials to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon; furthermore, to raise and appropriate the sum of \$16,175 for the first year's payment.

Jeff moved to recommend, seconded by Tim, and unanimously approved.

Article 5: Deposit in the Old Home Day Trust Fund

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$4,012 for deposit in the Old Home Day Expendable Trust Fund in accordance with RSA 31:19-a; with said funds to come from the unreserved fund balance with no amount to be raised from taxation; (this represents proceeds collected in 2016 by the Old Home Day Committee).

Darrin moved to recommend, seconded by Justin, and unanimously approved.

Article 7: General Municipal Operations

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,288,498 for general municipal operations. This article does not include appropriations contained in special or individual articles addressed separately. (Majority vote required)

Jeff moved to approve, seconded by Darrin, and unanimously approved

Ken extended appreciation to Tamara for her first year on the Budget Committee. He also extended appreciation to the Selectmen, Janet, and all the departments and the Budget Committee members. B. noted the Fire Department did a good job with their presentation. The discussions were all very constructive.

The Hearing adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Submitted by,

Janet Roberts, Administrative Assistant

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