

## BUDGET COMMITTEE

FEBRUARY 2, 2015

## MEMORIAL BUILDING

7:00 P.M.

Budget Committee members present: Chairman, Ken Jacques; Jon Poston, Justin Hastings, Jeff Milne, Darrin Patten, Tim Cook, and Ex-officio, Leigh Callaway. Absent: Bryan O'Day and Bill Huntoon.

Others present: Tim Julian.

Ken called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. The roll was called.

Minutes: Jeff moved to approve the January 19, 2015 minutes as written, seconded by Tim and unanimously approved.

The Board reviewed the list of adjustments the Selectmen made to the proposed operating budget at their January 26<sup>th</sup> meeting. The adjustments were based on recommendations made by the Budget Committee on January 19<sup>th</sup>. Cuts were made to some line items and others were shifted to for better clarity.

Ken stated the past several years the budget has been trim and flat. The hits to the tax rate have been from school and county taxes. The Selectmen and Budget Committee's responsibilities are to look at what the town is doing. There is good control over the budget.

Proposed Warrant articles were reviewed:

*Sample Article A: To see if the municipality will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of up to Eighty-Thousand Dollars (\$80,000) for the purpose of paving. This sum to come from the unreserved fund balance.*

Leigh explained the Selectmen have increased the highway paving line from \$40K back to the \$80 K that has been the usual annual request, and reduced the amount to appropriate from the fund balance from \$120 K to \$80K. This was a budget committee recommendation.

*Sample Article B:*

*To see if the municipality will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of up to Thirty-Thousand Dollars(\$30,000) For the purpose of replacing the heating system at the town office/library. This sum to come from the unreserved fund balance. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation and will not lapse until the project is complete or by December 31, 2017 whichever comes first.*

Ken asked if the Selectmen have made a decision as to what type of heating system will be installed. Leigh stated no decisions have officially been made as to what is taking place. They have a quote from Mason for propane conversion. Jeff stated it would be prudent to have another opinion for town meeting. The Board made recommendations other companies to contact for recommendations. Disadvantages/advantages of oil versus propane were discussed. Leigh stated Mason has warned the Selectmen that the oil boilers are nearing the end of their life

expectancy and should be replaced. There are other issues with the fuel tanks and chimney. He does not believe Mason was asked to address replacement with oil and gave a quote based on what he was asked to do.

*Sample Article C:*

*To see if the municipality will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Thousand Nine Hundred Sixty One (\$3,961) for deposit in the Old Home Day Expendable Trust Fund in accordance with RSA 31:19-a. This sum to come from the unreserved fund balance and represents proceeds and Donations raised in 2014 by the Old Home Day Committee.*

Leigh reported that a \$500.00 donation made to the recreation department was accepted by the Selectmen and it was decided the best option was to appropriate that donation to the Old Home Day Expendable trust, so the \$3,961 represents \$500.00 more than was raised through fund raising events and OHD.

The Board reviewed the Capital Improvement Program worksheets, specifically looking at big ticket items coming up in the next couple of years. The CIP is a working document, and needs could change from year to year.

Ken reported that following the last meeting, he spoke to B. Manning and Malcolm Milne from Durgin and Crowell about who they use for electrical issues. They have been very happy with and highly recommend Royal Electric. Royal has done work for Carroll Concrete, Gillette Stadium, the NH Motor Speedway, and the windmills, to name a few. They were able to find some grant money to assist in changing some lighting at Durgin and Crowell. He had given that information to the Selectmen. Leigh reported he has an appointment with Mr. Bissell next week.

The Board had no other issues. Leigh reported the Selectmen have no loose ends and he does not anticipate any other changes to the budget.

The Budget Committee would like to have revenue information available for next week.

A Public Hearing on the Budget is scheduled for Tuesday, February 10, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. with a hold-over meeting, if necessary, scheduled for Thursday the 12<sup>th</sup>.

Ken stated the Selectmen have done a good job with the budget and taking care of the business of the town and addressing personnel issues.

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Submitted by

Janet Roberts