

**Budget Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday, January 4, 2012 7:00pm Town Hall**

***Chr. Lamson called the meeting to order at 7:00pm***

**Present:** Chairman John Lamson, Vice Chair Gail Klanchesser, Members Liz Taccetta, Gail Pare, Sandra Sweeney, Dave Mueller (representing the School Board), Jack O'Reilly (Selectmen's Rep), Mary Crossley (*arriving at 7:24pm*); Langdon Library Trustees: Steven Bush, Lee Lamson and Melissa Prefontaine, Grace Simms Alternate; Library Director Scott Campbell; Police Commissioners: Doug Ross, Jack Hoyt and Paul Kent; Police Chief Jon Tretter and Administrative Assistant Beatrice Marconi.

**Minute Approval:** VC G. Klanchesser moved to approve the minutes of December 14, 2011. Seconded by Gail Pare. Moved with amendment from G. Pare (amendment accepted by motion maker and G. Pare) - under the Cemetery portion of the minutes, '*Chr. Lamson spoke of how costs, even if funded from outside sources, must be shown on the budget.*' **Motion with amendment passed 6-0-1 with Liz Taccetta abstaining.**

**2012 Budget Request Presentations**

**Langdon Library:** Langdon Library Trustees Budget Request for 2012: Requested \$ 131,016 as presented to Selectmen - ***VC G.K. moved to recommend the amount of \$ 131,016 later amended to \$ 134,516 after discussion; Original motion seconded by G Pare then amendment seconded. Motion passed 7-0-1 with G. Klanchesser abstaining.*** Before the vote was taken, Steve Bush Chairman, gave a brief presentation. The Trustees have established a long range planning committee. The questionnaire sent showed more hours were desired by the users, therefore to meet this request, the Director's position has been funded to a full time status along with extended Library evening hours on Wednesdays.

***Lawyer Fees:*** To review by laws, policies, etc. Also will review legal uses of Trust Funds.

***Director Position:*** Has basically been working over budgeted amount of hours for quite some time. The position's duties call for this increase.

***Health:*** Director's position will qualify for the town's policy with a full time status.

***Electronic Subscriptions:*** With the changing technology, the Trustees want to make available computer membership required sites to our residents such as Heritage Quest, etc. and with the State pulling back on what was normally offered through their data bases, puts this cost now back on the town.

***Fuel:*** J. O'Reilly suggested that when future renovations or expansion of the Library occurs, then perhaps the fuel can be looked at with the possibilities of the Town partnering up with them to bring the gas line to that area.

***Water:*** There was a discussion about the meter in the basement also supplying the cemetery and church.

***Bookkeeper:*** Formerly a Trustee performed this task. With hiring a bookkeeper, the Trustees felt they could establish a long range process on handling purchases, etc. bringing consistency to future transactions.

Chr. Lamson added that supplemental information regarding the future use of Trust Funds would prove beneficial.

The increase from \$131,016 to \$134,516 was adding \$3,000 to their reading material line and \$500 to their electronic Subscriptions line.

**Police Department:** Requesting \$ 1,340,980. ***VC G. Klanchesser moved to recommend \$1,340,980. Seconded by G. Pare. Motion passed 8-0.*** Before the vote, Commissioner Ross, along with Commissioners Paul Kent and Jack Hoyt with Chief Tretter presented the budget. Commissioner Ross felt this budget represented today's needs and met the expectations of the tax payers to hold the line. Chief Tretter stated the budget was up approximately 1%.

They added \$7,800 to cover the *ballistic vests*, in which half will be reimbursed to the town via a grant.

In 2011, two officers were hired.

***Personnel*** ran short throughout the year with unexpected long term absences, therefore utilizing the part time line more than usual.

They will be *purchasing a new Explorer* with 2011 excess funds, which the Selectmen encumbered so that we don't have to fund in 2012.

Chief Tretter is anticipating *replacing another officer* in 2012.

*The miscellaneous* line went over which covered equipment loss and vehicle damage, off set with insurance checks received.

The *part time officers* will be increased from \$ 18.00 to \$ 20.00 per hour.

*Outside details* were hard to fill this year with the shortage of staff.

Regarding the Communications Warrant Article, the Chief would like to see \$5,000 added.

***At 8:08pm, J. O'Reilly moved to adjourn. Seconded by VC G. Klanchesser. Motion passed unanimously.***

Respectfully Submitted,

**Beatrice Marconi**

Administrative Assistant

Fire and Sewer budget information was distributed for the January 11<sup>th</sup> meeting.