Budget Committee Meeting Minutes Wednesday, January 25, 2012 Town Hall 6:30pm

Chr. Lamson called the meeting to order at 6:30pm

<u>Present:</u> Chairman John Lamson, Liz Taccetta, Gail Pare, Sandra Sweeney, Mary Crossley (arriving at 6:45), School Rep Dave Mueller, Selectman's Rep Jack O'Reilly, Selectmen Cosmas Iocovozzi (Chr.) and Rick Stern. Also present Beatrice Marconi, Administrative Assistant.

<u>Minute Approval:</u> G. Pare moved to accept the minutes of January 18, 2012. J. O'Reilly seconded. Motion passed 5-0-1 (*L. Taccetta abstaining/M Crossley had not yet arrived*)

General Government Budget Request of \$ 1,879,048: G. Pare moved to recommend – seconded by L. Taccetta. Motion passed 7-0. Before the vote, Selectman's Rep Jack O'Reilly gave an overview of the Health Plan proposal and how the switch to Comp 2500 and the savings is contingent on the Warrant Article for supplementing the deductible passing at town meeting. If Article 6 fails, Jack states that we should be prepared and have an amendment in writing ready to increase the total budget warrant article amount for continuing on the current plan through the end of the year. If it passes, the new Comp2500 plan would begin May 1. All new hires as of that date would be required to contribute 10% of the premium costs.

The budget committee had discussions on the stipends/wage payout sheet. Engineering is funded for misc. needs but the Mott Pond restoration project will be requiring engineering. Chr. locovozzi explained that the engineer is researching to see if we can qualify for a grant (eel grass restoration) and due to limited access to the main pond, dredging is out of the question this year. Rocks will be placed on the other side of the road to lessen the flow and Cos has concerns about the embankment preservation on the main pond. Shattuck Way may also have engineering needs.

Safety program was discussed as well as the computer expense line. In that amount is a request for a new server. The legal breakdown sheet was passed out. Town Bldg. Administration covers our custodian and affiliated needs as he purchases the supplies.

The Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Officers budget was reviewed as it was funded last year as partially part time and full time for 2012. The Board relies on the Bldg. Inspector providing the Selectmen with an annual buildings needs report for budgeting purposes. G. Pare asked if this was a written requirement in the job description. Jack noted that he and his department took in over \$130,000 in 2011.

Highway Garage, pest monitoring and WC insurance were all discussed as well as Rockingham Planning's annual dues. Regional Associations were discussed. Emergency Mgmt. – the Co-Directors got a 3.25% C.O.L.A. We hope to train (perhaps pay) shelter aides. Transfer Station Director got a pay adjustment. That maintenance line will be for misc. items and lighting.

The budget committee discussed trash collection and removal costs. Road side (Wednesday Trash Collection) costs are in the same line as container haul from the transfer station and next year hope to break those costs out. Wednesday's garbage tonnage disposal is billed by Lamprey Co-Op, which we are a member of which is funded under the transfer station 'disposal' area of the budget.

Land Management was reviewed, Fox Point costs, grounds keeping, and misc. garden upkeep and grooming. *Chr. Lamson then called for the vote* – the original amount tentatively recommended was corrected to \$ 1,879,048 (cover letter typo) moved to correct, seconded and passed 7-0.

The Warrant Article Draft was then reviewed along with the report from the Trustees of the Trust fund on year end balances.

At 8:32, J. O'Reilly moved to adjourn. Seconded by L. Taccetta – motion passed 7-0.

Respectfully Submitted, Beatrice Marconi Administrative Assistant