

**Budget Committee Meeting Minutes
January 10, 2007
7:00pm Town Hall**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Alfred Smith at 7:05pm.

Present: Chairman Alfred Smith, Vice Chair Larry Wahl, members Gail Klanchesser, Rick Stern, John Lamson, Selectmen's Rep Jack O'Reilly, Gail Pare, Jack Anderson, Cliff Abbott, Russell Cooke; representing the Conservation Commission were Vincent Frank, Peg Lamson, Dottie Watson, Barbara McDonald; representing the Planning Board were Sandy Hislop, Jack Pare, Planner Tom Morgan; and representing the Sewer Commission was George Fletcher.

Gail Pare moved to approve the minutes of September 27, 2006 with Jack O'Reilly seconding. Motion passed with Jack Anderson and Larry Wahl abstaining.

Gail Klanchesser moved to approve the minutes of January 3, 2007 (with a spelling correction). Gail Pare seconded. Motion passed with Jack Anderson and Russell Cooke abstaining.

Selectmen's rep Jack O'Reilly reported back that he had been in touch with the YMCA and will continue to get updated pricing in hopes of bringing the summer program back into town. Will report back as information flows inward. 2004 costs indicated it was for 4 days a week and approx \$24,000.

Conservation Commission

Gail Pare moved to accept the selectmen's proposed budget for Conservation in the amount of \$ 12,055. Rick Stern seconded.

The Conservation Commission proposed a budget in the amount of \$45,090.

The Budget Committee first reviewed to Selectmen's recommended budget, then opened it up for discussion on the Conservation Committee's proposals.

Topics of Discussion:

The legal and the wetland consultant lines were discussed at length as well as secretarial.

Secretarial was finalized at \$ 3,500 Selectmen recommended \$1,200 Conservation's request was for \$5,190.

Legal ended up at \$2,500 while the Selectmen felt \$1,500 was acceptable and Conservation wanted \$ 10,000. The consensus was that it was a good concept to have certain departments have some available money such as for lawyer advice, etc, however felt the overall control of larger legal needs be under the direction of the Selectmen.

General Supplies - \$200

Dues & Subscriptions - \$ 200

Beautification - \$ 0

Wetlands Consultant – \$11,850 which is slated to cover the general consulting projects of \$ 5,000 and to fund \$6,850 for a endangered species inventory program which falls under the Natural Heritage Plan started in 2001.

Reference Books - \$ 200

Town Forest - \$ 4,000

The Conservation Commission was urged to consider writing a warrant article to fund the larger projects they wanted to create such as identifying ½ acre wetland sites or greater and identifying them via mapping.

Gail Pare moved to amend her motion to accept to show the amount of \$ 22,450. Russell Cooke seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Historic District Commission

Larry Wahl moved to accept \$ 7,100 for the Historic District Commission budget with Jack O'Reilly seconding. Gail Pare passed around a list of proposed books needing restoration. Rick Stern asked the budget committee to consider adding \$500 to the operations expense line so that some of the historical pictures could be blown up and framed to be displayed possibly at Old Town Hall.

Operations exp. - \$600; Town record restoration \$7,000.

Larry Wahl moved to amend his motion to \$7,600 for the Historic District's budget and to accept. Jack O'Reilly seconded with the motion passing unanimously.

Sewer Commission

Commissioner George Fletcher presented their budget.

Gail Klanchesser moved to accept the Sewer Commission budget in the amount of \$743,346.

Larry Wahl seconded.

Chairman Smith explained that although the budget committee is to review this budget, it was self supporting and had no bearing on the tax rate.

George spoke of the in house financing for the centrifuge in an effort to save on interest for the customers.

After a brief discussion, **the chair called for the vote which passed unanimously.**

Planning Department

Larry Wahl moved to accept the Planning Department Budget in the amount of \$ 135,834. Jack O'Reilly seconded.

Jack Pare gave an explanation of the photo line and how it encompassed two projects, those being aerials and exit 4 photos. The Master Plan was questioned and it was explained that only two chapters were left. If passed, the projection system requested would be ceiling mounted in the DeRochemont Room.

The chair called for the vote which passed at \$ 135,834 unanimously

Regarding the vacant seat with Dennis Acton resigning, Gail Klanchesser recommended Candice Cantalupo. The chair concurred. It would be a one year appointment. The Board of Selectmen will address this recommendation at their next meeting slated for January 16, meanwhile Candice should be invited to attend the next budget meeting as a member which is January 17.

Jack O'Reilly moved to adjourn at 9:20pm - Cliff Abbott seconded - Motion passed.

Respectively Submitted,

Beatrice Marconi
Administrative Assistant