

Budget Committee Meeting Minutes

Town of Newington Town Hall

approved 1/18/06

January 11, 2006 - 7:00pm

Present: Chairman Alfred Smith, Members Dick Spinney, Leslie Brock, Helen Maldini, Larry Wahl, Gail Klanchesser, Rick Stern, Russ Cooke, Dennis Acton, Jack Pare, Selectmen's Rep Jack O'Reilly, Barbara McDonald, Gail Pare, Cliff Abbott, Dennis Herbert, Tom Morgan, Beatrice Marconi, Rick Stern,

Chairman Smith called the meeting to order at 7: 04 pm.

Minutes of January 4, 2006

Larry Wahl moved to accept the minutes of January 4. Russ Cooke seconded.

Member Gail Klanchesser spoke to the Highway portion of the minutes and felt the dialog which had taken place at that meeting pertaining to encumbrances should have been included in the minutes. Chairman Smith states that encumbrances should be included in the departments figures when accepted as they must be appropriated, although will have no effect on the rate. **Motion to accept minutes with modifications passed.** Highway budget will be re-reviewed at the next meeting.

Cemetery

Dennis Acton moved to accept the budget request of the Cemetery Committee in the amount of \$ 18,850.00. **Motion seconded by Leslie Brock.** There was discussion on the adding of extra money to pay Lenny Thomas and John Frink due to the fact that they both put in a lot of hours at the cemetery. The \$230.00 will cover the Fica and Medi costs.

Dennis Acton moved to amend the cemetery budget request from \$18,850.00 to \$19,080.00. **Motion seconded by Leslie Brock. Motion moved.** Larry Wahl asked why the cemetery budget was over by 70%. Jack O'Reilly stated that there was a grant coming to cover the costs of the fence project and from this grant \$11,000.00 will be put back into the general fund account to offset the costs. Cemetery representative Cliff Abbott added that some of the money has been placed back into the fund. There was a brief discussion on the grant and last years set up. The subject of supplies was brought up. Cliff Abbott stated that he purchased some of them out of pocket. **Dennis Acton made a motion** to add \$120.00 to the cemetery budget for supplies. **Motion seconded by Rick Stern. Chairman Smith called for a vote,** all in were in favor. **Motion passed** making the total amount \$19,200.00.

Historic District Commission

Larry Wahl moved to accept the budget request for the Historic District in the amount \$10,531.00. **Motion seconded by Gail Klanchesser.** Gail Pare spoke on the grant and how it will be utilized. She also stated that it would be a 60/40 grant being that the State would pay the 60 and the Town would be responsible for the 40. After a brief discussion on the budget request, **Chairman Smith asked for a vote,** all were in favor, **motion passed.**

Planning Board

Larry Wahl moved to accept the Planning Board budget request in the amount of \$152,855.00. **Motion seconded by Jack O'Reilly.** There was a question about the wage line and legal line. Dennis Hebert stated that the Planning Board secretary left three months ago and now they had to budget for new help. Mr. Hebert felt as if the legal request of \$20,000.00 was justified due to the pending issues. Barbara McDonald stated that the Conservation Commission took money from the Planning Board legal fund from time to time to cover their needs. There was much discussion on the legal line. Chairman Smith asked for a GIS explanation. Dennis talked about how correct wetlands maps are needed for FEMA correction of the flood plain zone - which has an effect on property owners insurance premiums and mortgages. Jack Pare spoke about the \$17,800.00 to buy software and updating licenses and map work. Dennis stressed how necessary it is to participate in the flood plain program either via warrant article passage or the funding of \$ 17,800 in the GIS line. Tom Morgan stated that the current FEMA maps show 30%-40% of Newington houses are in flood area and because of this it causes their insurance to go up. Tom Morgan also stated that not the entire \$17,800.00 request for GIS is not for FEMA and actually if the warrant article passes then this request can have \$ 6,000 removed from the total. **Chairman Smith asked for a vote, all were in favor, motion passed.**

Sewer Commission

Larry Wahl moved to accept the budget in the amount of \$720,614.00. **Motion seconded by Jack O'Reilly.** George Fletcher-Sewer Commissioner spoke. He discussed the Centrifuge project and other projects that could be done this year. He also mentioned the labor savings with utilizing the current labor force. Chairman Smith commented on the fine job and Jack O'Reilly brought up their national award. **Chairman Smith called for a vote, all were in favor, motion passed.**

Larry Wahl moved to adjourn at 9:00pm. **Motion seconded by Jack O'Reilly.**

Being that there was no further discussion before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm. With all voting in the affirmative.

Respectfully Submitted,

Beatrice Marconi
Administrative Assistant

KRF