

Budget Committee Meeting Minutes (amended **)
Saturday, February 3, 2007
1:00pm
General Town Government

Chairman Alfred Smith called the meeting to order at 1:05pm.

Present: Chairman Al Smith, Vice Chair Larry Wahl, members Rick Stern, Russell Cooke, Gail Pare, Helen Maldini-School Board Rep, Gail Klanchesser, Candice Cantalupo, John Lamson, Jack O'Reilly-Selectmen's Rep; Cliff Abbott-absent, Selectmen Cosmas Iocovozzi and Jan Stuart, Administrative Assistant Beatrice Marconi and Cyndi Gillespie, Ruth and George Fletcher

*** The minutes of January 31 were moved to accept by Gail Klanchesser-Jack O'Reilly seconding. Motion passed with amendments.*

The Selectmen presented a budget of \$ 1,672,167. Gail Pare moved to accept with Gail Klanchesser seconding.

Larry Wahl indicated that last year's budget when presented included capital outlay.

Gail Pare amended her motion to reflect the new amount of \$ 1,826,715. Gail Klanchesser seconded. (showing the \$ 154,548 in Cap Outlay)

The executive office budget showed about a 2% decrease.

Stipends did not go up

The telephone acct does not include the T-1 monthly charges

Elections: Fewer elections in 2007 – less costs.

Tax Maps: \$5,000 was encumbered for map update and only \$1,500 requested for 07.

(Encumbrances not needed to be raised, but must be shown as appropriated)

Legal: No change from last year.

Town Bldg Admin: Town wide maintenance needs. Salary is custodian.

For Town Buildings discussion, refer to 'planned' maintenance report below.

Town Hall	75,000	Roof - under contract now (9,800) Front Walkway Paving Road side and better signage Brickwork -Wastrom (25,000) Room Divider Replacement Complete Interior Painting Commercial Stove (probable)
Town Garage	5,000	Bldg is in need - especially foundatn Do not want to sink too much money into it as a new bldg is planned in a few years.
Library	15,000	Bathroom to ADA compliance (approx \$9,500) and general maintenance
Old Town Hall	3,000	Window Treatment, Stage curtain,

		sump pump
Meeting House	60,000	Bell Tower, Roof, Repair Rot, Elec upgrade, Interior/Exterior repairs, foundation, window repair - will probably be a phased job.
Fire Station	10,000	Misc renovations to possibly kitchen radio room or hallway *
Police Station	15,000	Gutters, Gutter Grds, carpets, painting, exterior landscaping.
Stone School	500	Plywood replacement to keep weather-proofed
Old Parsonage (New Acct)	21,500	Brickwork, exterior repairs, security & security monitoring, address mold.
Fox Point - see land mgmt	50,000	Extensive Repairs to Carriage House Chicken Coop and Well House repair <i>Rental House unknown at this time</i>
TOTAL Projected	\$255,000	

* Although the Fire Department had hoped for extensive kitchen, radio room and hallway renovations, the board felt with the costs last year with the doors, extracator and shower that \$ 10,000 for '07 would be reasonable.

Insurance costs went way up this year which is based on experience rate and should drop over time bearing nominal claims.

Regional Assoc: Same requested amount for 07.

Code Enforcement: Salary is COLA and Merit

Stipend is for Elec. & Plumber Inspectors

Bldg Inspector's salary is based on 38 hrs per/week.

Emergency Mgmt: Was much higher last year due to generator which was off set by grant.

Street Lighting: Had audit and rebate. Minimal charge is \$8.86 per month per unit.

Transfer Sta. Collection: Discussion about Hazardous Waste Day occurred with the suggestion that a sign be placed at the Transfer Station reminding people that it happens twice a year.

Pest Control costs are from the vender from testing to treatment applications.

Welfare: Uncontrollable and unpredictable.

Land Mgmt: Jack gave an overview of considerations for the carriage house, Mott House and recreational facility for Fox Point.

Field Maint appears to be double funded not only through Recreation budget but also shown as \$10,000 in land mgmt. It was suggested that that be cut down to \$500 and the tennis court request be cut from \$1,000 to \$500. (Tennis court was for power, balls) bringing the land management down from \$ 98,300 to \$ 88,300.

Discussion about dept service occurred with Cyndi explaining that after a cap out lay project is passed, it then shifts to a Fund 15 project which exists for the life of the project vs considerations

annually for funds and listed under dept service.. In 2006, \$775,319 was spent for Old Town Hall and that \$22,795 in unspent Bond funds were then dedicated to the debt service of the bond. The superfund balance is \$ 253,559 (revolving loan) Coakley '03 balance is \$ 47,032. Cap Outlay is for 2 cruisers and Fox Point infrastructure (which will be done in phases).

Gail Pare moved to revise her second amendment bringing the total bottom line to \$1,816,715 for the general government portion of the budget. Gail Klanchesser seconded and agreed to revise her second.

Chairman Smith called for the vote which passed unanimously.

A break was then asked for while the room cleared and the meeting reconvened at 3:55pm.

The list of preliminary warrant articles were discussed at length. No action taken.

Chairman Smith asked the Budget Committee their thoughts on miscellaneous requested budgets in an effort to forego yet another meeting.

It was the general consensus that an amendment would come from the floor for the recreation budget to include summer Y program costs – bringing the program back in town.

Regarding the Fire Department budget, 14% is very high and the budget committee would like to bring that down to an acceptable amount. Jack O'Reilly stated that their increase over last year was approx \$137,000 ish and felt by cutting that amount in half to \$ 68,600 it would still give that department \$30,000 over last year.

It was motioned by John Lamson to accept a new fire department bottom line of \$ 1,074,794 and seconded by Rick Stern to be reflected in the MS-7. Motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Smith announced he will not be rerunning next year. Larry Wahl said that if the budget committee offered him the chair, he would not refuse it however has to make special arrangements do to the sound at Town Meeting.

Chairman Smith was given a round of applause in appreciation of his many many years of service. He will truly be missed.

Larry Wahl moved to adjourn – Rick Stern seconded and the motion passed at 4:47pm

Respectively Submitted,

Beatrice Marconi
Administrative Assistant.