

Budget Committee Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, December 10, 2008
Town Hall 7:00pm

Preliminary

Chr. Larry Wahl called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

Present: Larry Wahl, Darin Sabine, Gail Klanchesser, Tom Benson, Selectmen's Rep Jack O'Reilly, John Lamson, Gail Pare, Liz Taccetta, Cemetery Trustees Charlie Brewster and Rick Stern; Sewer Commissioners George Fletcher and Tim Field; Planning Board Chr. Denis Hebert, member Jack Pare and Planner Tom Morgan. (*absent: Russ Cooke and Helen Maldini*)

Gail Pare moved to accept the minutes of December 3rd as presented. Gail Klanchesser seconded. It was suggested by GK to change the term '5 year road work plan' on pg 2 to now state '4 year paving schedule' via an amendment. ***Motion passed with amendment with D Sabin abstaining.***

Sewer Department Budget Request of \$689,886 (*passed*)

G. Klanchesser moved to tentatively recommend the Interfund Operating Transfer budget of \$689,886. G.Pare seconded. J. Lamson asked Mr. Fletcher if it was still managed by Earth Tech and if he still thought they were cost effective. George was very pleased with their performance. Their operations budget request is for an increase of 3.4%. They have a 5 year agreement whereas only portions are negotiated annually. George told the Budget Committee that there will not be a centrifuge cost next year which is at \$ 66,958 currently. G. Pare asked if there was anything new on Regional Sewer Plans. Tom Morgan answered that although it was not a dead issue, it was not on the front burner at this time. ***In calling for the vote, the motion passed.***

Planning Department Budget Request of \$136,120 (*passed*)

G.Klanchesser moved to tentatively recommend the Planning Department budget request of \$136,120. G. Pare seconded. G. Pare asked about the legal services line and if there were existing issues in which was cause to increase. Denis Hebert answered that the Town was in court with a South Newington case. J. O'Reilly also noted that the General Legal account is covering some of the costs there too, primarily for the ZBA. D. Hebert added that identifying land for windmills could very well be cause for extra needed legal consulting. Professional Training is generally set aside for the newer members. Nothing has been formally planned. The Master Plan text is complete. J.Pare is working with Tom Morgan. Regarding FEMA, J. Pare is spear heading this project but due to his injury last December, it set him 'back'. ***In calling for the vote, the motion passed.***

Cemetery Budget Request of \$ 19,030 (*passed*)

G. Klanchesser moved to tentatively recommend the Cemetery budget request of \$ 19,030. G.Pare seconded. Noting nothing has been spent to date under wages, G. Klanchesser asks if Highway did any labor for them in 2008. AA B. Marconi answered that no, they hadn't. Chr. Wahl asked about the stone wall project and where the funds were being taken from. Rick Stern said \$5,200 was coming out of their budget, \$ 5,500 from Cap Res and more funds from the Trustees of the Trust Fund after the first of the year. ***Chr. Wahl then called for the vote, which passed.***

Historic District Commission Budget Request of \$ 6,500 (*passed*)

J. O'Reilly moved to tentatively accept the HDC budget of \$ 6,500. Tom Benson seconded.

Regarding the CLG grant, if awarded it is off set, however if we don't budget for it, we can't spend out of this line. It would be used to do things like National Register Research such as the Rail Road Station. Special Projects line is new. Since Town Restoration of Records is essentially done, the HDC hired a sonar company to identify areas where bodies are buried outside the cemetery boundaries. These areas will be identified to distinguish as a burial place.
Chr. Wahl called for a vote. Motion passed.

Gail Klanchesser moved to adjourn at 7:36pm. Gail Pare seconded. Motion passed.

Respectively Submitted,

Beatrice Marconi