

Newington Budget Committee Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, January 9, 2013 Town Hall 7:00pm

Chr. Lamson called the meeting to order at 7:02pm

Present: Chairman John Lamson, Vice Chair Gail Klanchesser, Gail Pare, Janis Marconi, Michael Marconi, Mary Crossley, Sandra Sweeney, School Board Rep Dave Mueller, Selectmen's Rep Jack O'Reilly, Road Agent Len Thomas, Fire Chief Dale Sylvia, Assistant Chief Andy Head, Fire Engineers John Klanchesser, Ruth Fletcher and Steve Sabin and Administrative Assistant Beatrice Marconi.

Minute Approval: *M. Marconi moved to accept the minutes of January 2, 2013 as written. Seconded by G. Pare. Motion carried 5-0-4 with M. Crossley, S. Sweeney, J Marconi and J. O'Reilly abstaining for absences*

Highway Department 2013 Budget Request of \$ 497,900: *M. Marconi moved to tentatively recommend the Highway's budget of \$ 497,900. Sandra Sweeney seconded. Passed 9-0 after the following discussion.* Road Agent Len Thomas presented the budget.

- Signs – Included in the \$ 16,000 request is the cost for relocation of the current directory sign and costs to enlarge for current location. The residual money in that line will go to post replacement of various street signs as they are quite rusted. G. Pare hopes the square footage won't be made too much bigger-M. Crossley hopes nice flower boxes will be placed at its base for beautification.
- Resurfacing – Chr. Lamson noted that this line is generally underspent. J.O'Reilly then stated that the left over will be encumbered with Patterson Lane yet to be completed with top coat coming next year. He then briefed the committee on proposed paving jobs for 2013 with them totaling \$275,000. (Transfer Station Paving, Patterson Ln Top Coat, Little Bay Rd (end of new pavement to culvert), Cemetery, continuation of Shattuck, Fox Point (Old Post to Nimble), Gundalow Road loam fix, and Fox Point Road (Nimble Intersection to cul de sac.)
- Portable Generator Purchase - \$3,000 has been placed in the cap out lay for Highway for this purpose to be mounted on the back of a pick up.
- Salt use will be up this year and he continues to use sand as well.

After hearing no further discussion, Chr. Lamson called for the vote which passed 9-0.

M. Marconi thanked Len for his fine job with road side trash collection. The Committee echoed his thoughts.

Fire Department 2013 Budget Request of \$ 1,426,026: *M. Marconi moved to tentatively recommend the Fire Department's budget of \$ 1,426,026. Sandra Sweeney seconded. Passed 9-0 after the following discussion.* Chief Sylvia and AC Head presented.

- Personnel Costs for 2012 were up due to 4 people being out throughout the year on disability/injuries.
- Salary Line covers step increases as well as 1.7% C.O.L.A. There are 10 full time positions with all being active however one is being covered by a part time person. There are 2 to 4 call people generally on the list. We utilize 4 part time positions.
- Engineer's line covers incidentals
- De-Fib – discussion went on about the De-Fib and battery needs and how perhaps down the road may consider hiring a maintenance company to ensure it is always ready.
- Fire Truck – Chf. Sylvia talked to the Committee about how their 36 year old truck is currently down right now with radiator problems. It would cost about \$10,000 to fix it and because of the cab design, it would happen again. Because of it's age, he is bringing forth a warrant article for consideration for replacing it with a demo to purchase – utilizing the capital reserve for the last payment – payments would be less per month along with the interest rates being decreased.

(currently at 4.87%). The re-sale value of the older truck is minimal. D. Mueller spoke of the high
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maintenance that the ladder truck is requiring. The Chief explained that he has been working with the repair company and they now make Newington a top priority.

Discussion went briefly over NH Retirement, dispatching and 911 calls.

Chr. Lamson then called for the vote which passed 9-0.

M. Marconi moved to adjourn with G. Pare seconding. Motion passed 9-0 at 8:00pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Beatrice Marconi
Administrative Assistant