Town of Newington, NH

Budget Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, December 9, 2015 Town Hall

Chair John Lamson called the meeting to order at 7:00pm

**Present**: John Lamson , Gail Pare, Gail Klanchesser, Brandon Arsenault, Sandra Sweeney, Jennifer Kent Weiner, David Mueller, School Board member, Cosmas Iocovozzi, Selectman, Peggy Lamson, Cemetery Trustee, Cynthia Gunn, Historic District Commission member, Len Thomas, Road Agent and Martha Roy, Town Administrator.

**Absent:**  Leila Richardson, Kathy Latchaw and Alan Wilson

**Cemetery Budget Review: G. Klanchesser moved to tentatively approve the Cemetery Budget of $21,412. D. Mueller seconded the motion.** P.Lamson and C. Iocovozzi presented the Cemetery budget. J. Newick’s company cuts the grass inside the walls and around monuments. P. Lamson thanked Len Thomas and the Highway Department for their help with the cemeteries. The Trustees showed the Budget Committee the map of the Eastern Division and reviewed the monument cleaning project. Discussion ensued about the boundaries of the cemetery proper. P. Lamson reviewed the boundaries of the cemetery by the old theater at the request of G. Pare. B. Arsenault asked if the grubbing charge will be every year. P. Lamson stated that it will depend on the entomologist’s opinion.

**J. Lamson called for a vote on the Cemetery budget and all were in favor of $21,412.**

**Historic District Commission Budget Review: G. Klanchesser moved to tentatively approve the Historic District Commission budget of $14,300. D. Mueller seconded the motion.** G. Pare discussed the fourteen historical maps that were recently developed, through a CLG grant, on a computerized system. This has an alphabetical listing of everything upstream from Portsmouth. The CLG Grant is reimbursable from the State. The location was found of the first NH Turnpike that came through Newington.

**J. Lamson called for a vote on the Historic District Commission budget and all were in favor of $14,300.**

**Highway Budget Review:** **G. Pare moved to tentatively approve the Highway budget of $410,840. S. Sweeney seconded the motion.** G. Klanchesser expressed appreciation for the Town merging the Highway Department wage lines into one line. M. Roy stated that the snow plow drivers with CDL licenses will start to receive $20/hour in order to keep competitive in the market.

C. Iocovozzi discussed Woodbury Avenue, when the State will turn it over to the Town and the need for more plow drivers when that happens. S. Sweeney asked if all highway employees work part time and C. Iocovozzi responded that they did. G. Klanchesser observed that the parked Highway trucks idle in all seasons and they are wasting fuel. There was a discussion about maintaining the trucks and the condition of the trucks.

**J. Lamson called for a vote on the Highway budget. The vote was seven in favor and one (B. Arsenault) opposed. The budget of $410,840 passed.**

**Review of Minutes: G. Klanchesser moved to approve the minutes of December 2, 2015. G. Pare seconded the motion and all were in favor.**

**G. Klanchesser moved to adjourn at 8:41pm. This was seconded by**

**B. Arsenault with all in favor.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Martha S. Roy**

**Town Administrator**