

Town of Newington, NH  
Budget Committee Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, January 24, 2018 Town Hall

Chair John Lamson called the meeting to order at 6:27pm

**Present:** John Lamson-Chair , Brandon Arsenault-Vice Chair, Katherine Latchaw, Rick Stern, Jennifer Kent Wiener, David Mueller, School Board Rep, Sandy Sweeney, Ted Connors-Selectmen's rep, Jan Stuart-Selectman Chair, Dennis Malloy-State Representative, Michael Marconi, Selectman, Denis Hebert-Planning Board Chair, Mike Bilodeau-Police Chief, Jeff LeDuc-Assistant Fire Chief, Ken Latchaw-Police Commissioner, Janice Marconi, Martha Roy-Town Administrator and Eleanor Boy, Recorder.

**J. Kent Weiner moved to approve the minutes of January 17, 2018. K. Latchaw seconded the motion with all in favor.**

**Police Budget Review:**

**K. Latchaw moved to tentatively approve the Police budget of \$1,555,200. J. Kent Wiener seconded the motion.**

Chief Bilodeau discussed items in the budget, including the decrease to the health care and FICA lines. The benefits of leasing the tasers are that they would receive \$600 for the current tasers and there is a 5 year warranty. The department would own the tasers after 5 years and there is a \$2,500 savings in leasing vs buying.

Rick Stern would like to see the prosecutor's salary included in the salary line.

The Chief outlined the benefits of accreditation for the department. The policy and procedures would be updated, there would be a discount for insurance, the evidence room would be upgraded to meet the standards of accreditation, video cameras would be installed in the cells and sallyport. Rick Stern pointed out that only 12 towns in NH are accredited. Portsmouth is currently going through the process. The cost for accreditation is \$10,000 the first year and then a yearly payment of \$3,400. R. Stern would like to see an expense line added in the budget for weapons. J. Kent Weiner expressed concern of the future expenses associated with accreditation. T. Connors spoke in support of accreditation. J. Stuart stated that she had voted yes on the budget, but has concerns with accreditation. J. Kent Weiner wants to make sure that the Police department is very careful and judicious going forward and review all future costs related to accreditation carefully. The Chief confirmed that this would be the case.

**Warrant Articles:**

**New Police Patrolman Position**

J. Kent Weiner moved to recommend the warrant article to fund one new Police Patrolman, in the amount of \$72,000, to the Town. K. Latchaw seconded the motion with all in favor.

**New Highway Working Foreman Position**

J. Kent Weiner moved to recommend the warrant article to fund one new Highway Working Foreman, in the amount of \$52,000, to the Town. K. Latchaw seconded the motion. J. Lamson called for a vote. R. Stern opposed with all others in favor.

**Replacement and/or Repair of Vehicles Operated by the Fire Department**

J. Kent Weiner moved to recommend the Replacement and/or repair of Vehicles Operated by the Fire Department capital reserve fund warrant article, in the amount of \$50,000, to the town. D. Mueller seconded the motion with all in favor.

**Major Road Work Fund**

K. Latchaw moved to recommend the Major Road Wok capital reserve fund warrant article, in the amount of \$50,000 to the town. B. Arsenault seconded the motion with all in favor.

**Ripley Property Conservation Easement**

R. Stern moved to recommend the Ripley Property Conservation Easement warrant article, in the amount of \$260,000 to the town. S. Sweeney seconded the motion. J. Lamson called for a vote. B. Arsenault opposed with all others in favor.

**Municipal Buildings Emergency Repairs**

S. Sweeney moved to recommend the Municipal Buildings Emergency Repairs capital reserve fund warrant article, in the amount of \$30,000, to the town. D. Mueller seconded the motion with all in favor.

**Conservation Fund**

D. Mueller moved to recommend the Conservation fund warrant article, in the amount of \$30,000, to the town. K. Latchaw seconded the motion with all in favor.

**Severance to Town Employees**

D. Mueller moved to recommend the Severance to Town Employees Trust fund warrant article, in the amount of \$30,000, to the town. K. Latchaw seconded the motion with all in favor.

**S. Sweeney moved to adjourn at 8:40 pm. K. Latchaw seconded the motion with all in favor.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Eleanor Boy  
Recording Secretary**