

Town of Newington, NH
Budget Committee Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, September 20, 2017 Town Hall

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

Present: Budget Committee members: John Lamson, Chair; Brandon Arsenault, Vice-Chair; Sandra Sweeney, David Mueller, School Board Rep, Selectman Ted Connors, Martha Roy, Town Administrator and Eleanor Boy, Recording Secretary

Absent: Alan Wilson, Rick Stern, Katherine Latchaw and Jennifer Kent Weiner

Guests: Jim Katkin, SAU 50 Business Administrator; Amy Ransom, SAU 50 Assistant Business Administrator, Jack O'Reilly, School Board Member and Peter Latchaw, Newington School Principal

James Belanger entered the meeting at 7:07pm.

School Fiscal Year 2016/2017 Budget Review: J. Katkin reviewed the school year- end budget. He noted that there was an unassigned fund balance of approximately \$277,759.68 that will reduce the school tax rate this fall. He further noted that the school has 49 students this year. Of those 49 students 15 of them pay tuition. 9 pay the full amount of \$6,500 and 6 of them pay half the tuition rate at \$3,250. Half tuition is offered to employees' children and grandchildren of the school district. 12.86% of the budget is for Special Education. The cost per student for 2016-2017 is \$23,415. The cost per student for 2015-2016 was \$30,714. There was a \$13,000 loss in the food service program.

J. Lamson explained that there was now a quorum so he could open the official meeting at 7:39pm.

2017/2018 Budget Committee Schedule: The Committee agreed on a schedule of meetings for the 2017 and 2018 season. They are as follows: December 6 and 13th, January 3, 10, 17 and 24 with a public hearing on February 3th. **D. Mueller moved to accept the schedule as presented. J. Belanger seconded the motion with all in favor.**

Election of Officers: B. Arsenault nominated J. Lamson to the position of Budget Committee Chair. D. Mueller seconded the nomination. Hearing no further nominations the vote was called and all were in favor.

S. Sweeney nominated Brandon Arsenaull to the position of Vice Chair of the Budget Committee. J. Belanger seconded the nomination. Hearing no further nominations the vote was called and all were in favor.

Town Budget through 8/31/17 Review:

M. Roy updated the Committee on the current year budget. Discussion ensued about the Towns' increased assessed value (22 million), The Fox Run Mall, the Planning Department's budget, the hydrant rental fees, the decrease of the legal and assessing fees because the law suits have been settled and Little Bay Road construction.

Adjournment: S. Sweeney moved to adjourn at 8:05pm. B. Arsenaull seconded the motion with all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Eleanor Boy
Recording Secretary