

Monday, January 11, 1993

A public Budget Hearing was held in the Little Town Hall.

Meeting called to order at 7:08 PM

Present: Phil Dwight, Chairman BOS, Dave Boule', Mike Oldershaw, Bob Varnum, Road Agent, Brian Brown, Police Chief, Dick Winslow, Library Trustee, Pat Beers and Jean Uebel from Parks and Recreation, Ann Dwight, Joe and Carol Smith, and Betty Shaw, Secretary to BOS.

Phil explained that for two to three years an informational hearing has been held in order to have input from the public while the BOS worked on preliminary budgets. He pointed out the preliminary budget being reviewed tonight was based on current salaries and explained the reasons for adjustments over last years budget.

Jean Uebel and Pat Beers asked to have the park budget amended to allow for a janitor one hour a day, seven days a week at \$7.25 to clean the Town Gym after each use. The cost would be \$2,639. A possible user fee was discussed as well as having those using the gym pay for the janitor if they do not leave the gym clean.

Phil pointed out the Library increase does not reflect the decrease of revenue from the Library. Due to low interest rates, the Town can not receive \$9,000 to offset the budget which has been the case in past years.

A second public hearing will be held early in February at which time Warrant Articles will be available. Presently the Selectmen are aware of Warrants for Capital Reserve funds, Fire Dept. will be asking for a truck, Highway will be asking for a one ton truck. They also stressed the importance of approving funds for a reappraisal of the Town. There will also be a bond issue for the landfill closure. Although the Town is in better financial position this year with a sizable surplus, the State aid formula for the schools show Antrim will be reduced \$65,000. This in itself will result in an increase of eighty cents on the tax rate and does not reflect any increase due to the school budget. Selectmen do not expect the Municipal portion of the tax rate to be increased.

Mr. Winslow asked what news was available on the College. Selectmen have been assured that construction will restart when the economy is better. Although the College asked for a tax abatement this past year, it was denied.

A tax abatement request has also been received from Chicago Cutlery. Some adjust of taxes will have to be made since the property has not been kept up since the company closed. There is some environmental questions relative to the property.

The road improvement will be on West Street.

Meeting adjourned at 7:53 at which time the Board of Selectmen moved to their office to continue with their regular meeting.

Ann Dwight joined the meeting.

Dave Boule' moved to have Howard Humphrey prepare new tax maps as soon as possible at a maximum cost of \$2,500. Second, Mike. All in favor. So moved.

Intent to cut on the Bean property was signed subject to trucks using Craig and Brown Road.

Selectmen reviewed abatement requests and comparable properties submitted by property owners. Dave moved to reduce the assessed value by \$16,000 on the Benson property. Second, Mike. All in favor. So moved.

Mike moved to reduce the assessed value on the Frazer property by \$15,000. Second, Dave. All in favor. So moved.

Dave moved to reduce the assessment on the Hugron & Hopkins property by \$17,510. Second, Mike. All in favor. So moved.

Phil will speak to Bart Mayer regarding the Chicago Cutlery property.

It will be necessary to place articles on the Warrant if the Town plans to apply for grants of matching funds.

Dave offered to draw up a policy for the use of the Town Gym.

Phil will try to find out what other Towns are proposing as increases for employees this year. Mike pointed out the importance of job descriptions.

Mike moved to accept the minutes of Jan. 4th as written. Second, Dave. All in favor. So moved.

Selectmen will seek bids for the cleaning of the Town Hall for 1993.

Meeting adjourned 9:00 PM