

Town of Enfield
Budget Committee
Public Meeting Minutes – January 9, 2003

Chairwoman Sanders convened a business meeting of the Enfield Budget Committee at 7:00 p.m. in the Selectmen's Conference Room, Whitney Hall, Main Street, Enfield, NH

PRESENT: Holly Sanders-Chairwoman, Celie Aufiero, Mike Dudley, Richard Crate Sr., Keith Oppeneer-Selectman's Representative, April Whittaker-Town Manager, Lori Bliss, Wendy Euler-Bookkeeper, Gayle Hulva, Lynn Baker, and Paula Rowe-Recorder. Absent: Larry Gardner and Donnie Roberts.

Minutes:

Motion to approve the Minutes of December 7, 2002 by Chairwoman Sanders, second by Lynn Baker. No further discussion, and all were in favor.

Motion to approve the Minutes of December 10, 2002 by Chairwoman Sanders, second by Mike Dudley. Discussion of one correction, Lynn Baker was not absent, please move her to the present list was brought forward. No other discussion and all were in favor of carrying this motion.

Motion to approve the Minutes of December 12, 2002 by Lori Bliss, second by Mike Dudley. No discussion led to the motion carrying favorably by all in attendance.

Sewer Department:

Selectman Oppeneer, TM Whittaker, and Chairwoman Sanders provided information to the committee on the public hearing regarding the Sewer Department fees and rates on January 6, 2003. The sewer rates are being raised to put the department back in line. TM Whittaker provided the handouts that were given out at the Public Hearing to this committee for review. In summary, TM Whittaker said that she will be reviewing and going forward with contract negotiations with the Board of Selectmen, the Public Works Director and Engineer.

Non Public Session:

At 7:11 p.m., Chairwoman Sanders made the following motion: In order to discuss pending negotiations, I move to go into non-public session under the provisions of RSA 91-A:3, Subsection II (e). Lori Bliss second the motion and all voted in favor.

Motion to come out of non-public session at 8:16 p.m. came forth from Lori Bliss, second by Chairwoman Sanders. All were in favor.

Town Manager's Budget Review:

TM Whittaker outlined with a handout to the committee those items in her review that she has addressed and will be removing from the proposed 2003 budget, as well as a

few items have been added back into the budget totaling \$49,149, effecting the bottom line totals with a net figure of \$324,728.

Chairwoman Sanders asked for advisement on the surplus that is being proposed to defray the construction costs for a new salt barn (\$500,000). TM Whittaker determined that we are at the high end of the allocation of 5 to 10 percent that is allowed by the Dept. of Revenue. TM Whittaker continued with reviewing each line of the budget cuts. A question on the line of Patriotic purposes in conjunction with the Veterans Memorial Park Contribution. It was confirmed that there will be a Warrant Article coming forward on the Veterans Memorial Park. The Fire Department reduction reflects a deletion of the \$6,000 power unit for Jaws of Life.

4902-Machinery, Vehicles and Equipment:

Of note, there is a new police cruiser, and utility vehicle, as well as, four Highway department vehicles. Discussion with the use of vehicles ensued, and TM Whittaker will be reviewing those questions on reducing the costs of these vehicles. Chairwoman Sanders welcomed the additional review, heeding the timeliness of this years' budget process.

Mike Dudley asked TM Whittaker if comments could be added to the major individual budget accounting lines to include what is stated in the Capital Improvement Plan. This would aid the committee in knowing the planned need of items. This will probably begin next year. Chairwoman Sanders asked for a survey of vehicles from TM Whittaker for the Public Works Department.

Personnel:

Chairwoman Sanders asked for a list of new personnel that is being proposed, showing part time and full time. Ms. Aufiero felt that we should wait a year before putting on new staff, allowing TM Whittaker to review all positions and see where the real need is. Selectman Oppenpeer recognizes certain areas have increased more rapidly than the town has grown.

Shaker Museum:

Mr. Crate asked about the role of the museum in relation to the town. TM Whittaker said that it holds a very important part in the town, revitalization, and the overall well being of economic viability of our businesses.

Tire Changer:

Mr. Dudley asked Mr. Crate if he has obtained a lower price for the highway department on the cost of a new tire changer. Mr. Crate said he is looking into this. Ms. Aufiero pointed out if all vehicles within the town are changing their tires on this machine that may mean additional employee hours. TM Whittaker will be looking at a maintenance sheet on this.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting will be on Thursday, January 16, 2003. TM Whittaker will be providing the Selectmen's proposed budget and end of year expenses and revenues, if available.

Rescheduling is needed as follows: Postpone the Saturday, January 18, 2003 meeting and it is rescheduled for January 25, 2003, at 9 a.m. at the Public Works Facility.

The Public Hearing will be Tuesday, February 4th, at 7 p.m., followed by a Committee meeting, not February 5th, 2003, as previously reported.

TM Whittaker asked all committee members to let her know if there is anything that they would like her to bring to the Selectmen's Meeting on Monday, January 13th, 2003, via e-mail awhittaker@enfield.nh.us or telephone 632-5956.

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn came at 8:40 p.m. by Lynn Baker, second by Lori Bliss, motion carried.