

Town of Enfield Budget Committee Public Meeting Minutes ~ December 11, 2003

Chairman Dudley convened a business meeting of the Budget Committee on December 11, 2003 at 6 p.m. at the Department of Public Works Facility on Lockhaven Road, in Enfield, NH.

Present:

Mike Dudley-Chairman
Lee Carrier
Lynn Baker
Lori Bliss
Richard Martin
Shirley Green
Gayle Hulva

Absent with Apologies:

Dominic Albanese-Selectman
April Whittaker-Town Manager

Guests: Marilyn Bourne, Sharon Carr, Becky Powell, Gene Talsky, Nancy Smith, Carol Hardy, Robb Rudd, and Douglas Smith.

- **LISTEN (Lebanon In Service To Each Neighbor)**

Marilyn Bourne, Director of LISTEN, presented the committee with an overview of LISTEN's function to the Upper Valley community, informing 366 households from Enfield were served in the past year. LISTEN has provided a formal request for \$2,900 to the Town of Enfield. As only four communities from the Upper Valley contribute to LISTEN, Mrs. Bourne is working diligently on obtaining funding from other towns. Mrs. Bourne invited suggestions from the committee in asking if there were any other services the town would like from them.

Ms. Baker is missing pages 2 and 4 of the LISTEN audit report, and learned that other committee members did not have these as well. Further Ms. Baker quizzed the United Way Contra account under the income account, in the LISTEN budget and Mrs. Bourne said that it was an in and out account. Mrs. Bourne informed that she has received requests from the town welfare officer for fuel assistance,

and is unsure if the town should fill the request before coming to LISTEN, or the other way around.

- **EVA (Enfield Village Association)**

Sharon Carr, President of the EVA, Becky Powell, Secretary of EVA, and Gene Talsky, Managing Director of EVA provided a summary of the highlights of the Enfield Village Association in the past year. They are requesting \$10,000. Ms. Powell informed that there is an annual campaign currently activated and Mr. Talsky pointed out that the noted increase projection should be viable. Ms. Baker asked for a Balance Sheet and Mr. Talsky said that he would look into obtaining one for the committee from the new Treasurer of EVA. Mrs. Carr pointed out that 100% of the money that is raised by the EVA goes back into the community. Chairman Dudley asked if they have a Web Site for communication purposes, and learned that not only do they have one; they will be increasing the Web Site and its communications throughout 2004. Mrs. Carr said that she is looking for a 'signature item,' that could become 'a theme' for the Town of Enfield. Mr. Talsky informed that the EVA would be reaching out to other programs and businesses. Mr. Carrier felt that the EVA should coordinate with the Shaker Museum development, and Mrs. Baker felt that the Shaker Museum was a big draw for Enfield. Mr. Doug Smith reminded that EVA was created by the town under the direction of the town, to do a specific job that the town felt they couldn't do their selves, and that the Board of Selectmen joined in with the EVA and signed their support to them.

- **Advance Transit, Inc.**

Carol Hardy, Accountant for Advance Transit, Inc., came before the committee, in place of Mr. Van Chestnut, to speak on their request of \$5150, which is a 3% increase over last year. Ms. Hardy said that there were 3851 riders from Enfield in 2002, and this was a substantial increase for Enfield. Advance Transit serves seven towns of which four are in New Hampshire and three are in Vermont. Ms. Hardy informs that the Enfield Board of Selectmen as the Enfield Representative to the Advance Transit, Inc appointed Evelyn Palmer. Mrs. Hulva asked Ms. Hardy if Advance Transit would be expanding their routes? Of which, Ms. Hardy replied that with level funding of a second year grant, it isn't possible at this time. Ms. Baker has recalculated the cost per rider figure to be approximately 83 cents per ride, which is lower than the previously reported figure of 95 cents (average).

- **Shaker Museum**

Mr. Robb Rudd, Director of the Shaker Museum and Inn, was present and is requesting \$4,500 from the town for the 2004 budget year. Director Rudd informed that the Shaker Inn and Restaurant was taken over by the Shaker Museum in March, and will be continuing this venture, exclaiming they are one of the larger employers of Enfield. Director Rudd demonstrated the advertising in the past year has dramatically increased the population of visitors to this facility. Director Rudd said that they have received an LCHIP grant that will allow them to look at the future of the Shaker development. Director Rudd has charged a networking effort to attract other museum's coordination with the Enfield Shaker Museum, and has begun work more closely with the Town of Enfield and the Town manager April Whittaker. Communications have dramatically increased, and the effort to cast an image has been enhanced.

- **ACORN**

Aids Community Resource Network is requesting \$2000 for the 2004 budget year. As no one came before the committee this evening to represent ACORN, this committee will review this budget request further on in the budget process.

- **Next Meeting:**

Saturday, December 13, 2003 at 8:30 a.m. at the DPW facility.

Motion to adjourn was welcomed at 8 p.m. from Ms. Lynn Baker and was graciously seconded by Lori Bliss, with a unanimous vote.

(I, Paula Rowe respectfully submit the above-unapproved record of meeting on this 12th day of December 2003).