

**TOWN OF FARMINGTON
BUDGET COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday – September 22, 2010
356 Main Street - Farmington, NH**

Members Present: Mike Morin, Chris Somma, Brian St.Onge, Ann Titus and Cindy Snowdon.

Members Excused: Chris Biron, Steve Henry and Arthur Capello

Selectman's Rep: Gail Ellis

School Board Rep: Ken Dickie

Public Present: School Finance Administrator Carolyn Rioux, Asst. Superintendent Rebecca Gagnon

Chairman Brian St. Onge opened the meeting at 7:00pm.

1. Review of School Reports:

Ms. Rioux provided the Board with end of year summary sheets for the school and the budget sheet for this year. She explained that there is an unreserved fund balance of \$265,506 that can be used to reduce taxes. These funds are a result of lower expenditures and higher revenues. Ms. Rioux reviewed the final end of year summary sheets for the 2009-2010 school year. They have \$247,886 in encumbrances for items that were ordered and not received and these expenditures will be reported in the Fund 11 report sheets.

Ms. Rioux reminded the Board that last year the schools agreed to withdraw \$52,800 from the Health Expendable Trust Fund to help buy down the taxes but now that there is \$265,506 in the unreserved fund balance that will be turned back to the Town to buy down the taxes she was wondering if the budget committee would like to take the \$52,800 out of the 2010-2011 budget. Ken Dickie stated the School Board would like to use the \$52,800 in 2010-2011 to help buy down the taxes next year. Ms. Rioux explained that she would recommend using these funds for the tax buy down next year so that the taxes are kept more even instead of showing a large drop and then huge increase the following year.

Gail Ellis motioned to recommend that the school department should not withdraw the \$52,800 from the Health Expendable Trust Fund, 2nd Chris Somma. Motion carried with all in favor. Ms. Rioux explained that she already forwarded the MS-24 to the state with the funds but she will contact them and let them know that the fund will not be included.

In reviewing the expenditure reports, Gail asked why the textbook line has such a large encumbrance and Ms. Rioux replied that she believes that encumbrance will be going away because HWMS 4-6 is looking into this purchase. Gail asked what Northstar Services is and Ms. Rioux explained that it is a special education contracted service under HWMS 4-6. Cindy asked if we had a new hire for speech and Ms. Rioux replied that this line is being researched because it is overspent. Mike pointed out that the media specialist line is also overspent and Ms. Rioux explained that this is because there was a new hire at an increased rate. Brian asked what the school board misc. line is for and Ms. Rioux

Revised and accepted 10-27-10

explained the line is for background checks and sympathy.

2. Review of Town Reports:

The Committee reviewed the remittance report and Cindy asked how the Committee can see what funds are coming in and out of the recreation department revolving fund. Gail said that she would try to get a report of just this fund. Mike commented that it looks like all the unemployment lines are overspent and Gail replied that the unemployment lines were all under budgeted because the rate came in higher than expected. Ken asked why the community center water and sewer lines are over expended and Gail explained that there were two separate leaks this year. Brian asked what was done to the town clock and Gail explained the funds were spent to cover damage from the wind storm.

3. Review of Minutes:

- *Gail Ellis motioned to accept the minutes of 1-26-10, 2nd Ann Titus. Motion carried with Ken Dickie and Mike Morin abstaining.*
- *Gail Ellis motioned to accept the minutes of 4-28-10 as amended, 2nd Ann Titus. Motion carried with all in favor.*

Next meeting on October 27, 2010 at 7pm.

Gail Ellis motioned to adjourn, 2nd Ken Dickie. Motion carried at 9:04pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brandy Sanger
Recording Secretary

Ann Titus, Secretary