

**TOWN OF FARMINGTON
BUDGET COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday – September 28, 2011
356 Main Street - Farmington, NH**

Members Present: Arthur Capello, Sam Cataldo, Brian St.Onge, Ann Titus, Steve Henry and Neil Johnson

Members Absent: Cindy Snowdon, Chris Somma, Mike Morin (excused)

Selectman's Rep: Paula Proulx (excused)

School Board Rep: Joe Pitre

Public Present: Mike O'Neill Interim School Finance Administrator

Chairman Arthur Capello opened the meeting at 7:13pm and announced that he went to the most recent School Board meeting and asked why there was not a school representative at the last public hearing and the response was it was an individual school board member decision. Also, the Budget Committee did not get the appropriate packet last week from the school because it was not given to Megan.

A. Review of Minutes:

1. *Ann Titus motioned to accept the minutes of 6-22-11 as amended, 2nd Neil Johnson. Motion carried with Joe Pitre abstaining.*
2. *Ann Titus motioned to accept the minutes of 6-15-11 as amended, 2nd Neil Johnson. Motion carried.*
3. *Brian St. Onge motioned to accept the minutes of 7-11-11 as amended to add Paula Proulx as in attendance, 2nd Ann Titus. Motion carried with Steve Henry and Arthur Capello abstaining.*

B. Review of School Reports:

1. The interim finance administrator, Mike O'Neill explained the school will be returning \$711,860 to buy down the taxes by about \$0.84. The General Fund revenues exceeded estimates by \$340,671 due primarily to \$301,631 more than projected in tuition from Middleton, \$27,940 in tuition from other districts and \$10,887 in indirect costs. The budget savings of \$352,126 for a number of line items like books, software, fuels, electricity, salaries and more. The 2009-2010 audit is complete and there were no findings for the second year in a row.
2. Brian asked if the schools are looking for quotes for outsourcing food service, bussing, trash disposal and insurance.
3. Mike explained that the changes to HB-2 for this year will cost the school an

additional \$119,214 and they are trying to find a way to make up the difference.

C. Review of Town Reports:

1. The Board agreed to table this discussion until next month when Paula is available.

D. Discussion on log book:

1. The Board discussed whether or not they would like to continue the use of the log book that was previously used. It was discussed that the Board was unsure how questions would get related to the appropriate representatives if they are not present. It was decided that questions would be recorded in the minutes and the representatives should bring the answers to the next meeting. (Brian asked who the Selectmen's Rep. alternate is?) Arthur Capello motioned to record the questions in the minutes and have the representatives bring the answers to the following meeting, 2nd Ann Titus. Motion carried with all in favor.

E. Other Business to Come Before the Board:

1. Brian asked why the hot lunch program is not self-sufficient and Joe explained that the program will begin to self-sufficient because the cost of lunch as been increased. The federal government has mandated to the School District that the cost of lunch needs to be increased in order for them to continue reimbursing the school.
2. Neil asked if we can get the SAU budget and Joe said the Budget Committee cannot review the SAU budget due to the RSAs. The Budget Committee can contact the Middleton Budget Committee to see if they would be interested in having a joint committee to review the SAU budget.
3. Brian said that the Budget Committee Handbook states that if a member is absent for four meetings then they are dismissed from the Committee and he would like to enforce it.
4. Neil would like to request a monthly detailed report of the Rec Revolving Account.
5. Next meeting is October 26, 2011.

At 8:03pm, Ann Titus motioned to adjourn, 2nd Neil Johnson. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brandy Sanger
Recording Secretary