

Farmington Budget Committee
Wednesday, October 22, 2014

Members Present:

Ann Titus, Chairman
Brian St. Onge, Selectmen's Rep.
Gail Young
Joe Pitre, School Board Rep.
Neil Johnson
Gerry McCarthy

Members Absent:

Jodi Connolly (excused)
Joshua Carlsen
Sam Cataldo (excused)
Steve Henry (excused)

1. Call to Order:

Chairman Titus called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Review of Minutes:

Members reviewed the minutes September 24, 2014. Member Pitre suggested the phrase "SAU 61" be removed from the review of the School Board/SAU 61 budget because it is the School Board budget. He said a joint board would be needed to determine a School Board/SAU 61 budget. Members disagreed and noted the SAU budget is included in the School District budget and the committee did review both budgets. Motion: (Johnson, second Young) to accept the minutes of September 24, 2014 as submitted passed 4-1-1 (Titus, St. Onge, Young, Johnson - yes, Pitre - opposed, McCarthy - abstained).

4. Discuss Answers to Questions Posed to School and Town Reps.: None

5. Review Town, School and SAU 61 Budget, Remittance, Revenue, YTD Reports and Recreation Revolving Fund:

A) Remittance Report (Town):

Members discussed the sale of town owned properties at a recent auction. Total sales amount as of 9/30/14 is found on page 16 of the report (\$82,697.79). Selectman St. Onge added that another auction is planned for sale of the properties located on the east side of Route 11. He also noted that the Recreation Department report is incomplete due to some outstanding vendor payments.

B) Actual & Budgeted Expenses & Encumbrances (Town):

Members reviewed the following over-expenditures; town hall postage (page 1 - over by \$546.77, due to revaluation?) personnel liabilities (page 3 - over by \$5,123.76, may be connected to two retirements?) fire dept. office supplies (page 6 - over by \$1,846.10) fire dept. forestry equipment (page 6 - over by \$1,987.73) fire dept. repair air packs (page 6 - over by \$4,738.77) outside services (page 7 - over by \$4,078.65, due to snow clean up downtown and road sweeping?) removal of trees (page 8 - over by \$2,150) animal control mileage (page 10 - over by \$61.78, budgeted \$1, spent \$62.78). Selectman St. Onge will obtain additional information about the over expended items for the next committee meeting.

C) All Funds - Revenue Report (School District):

Members reviewed the tuition revenues received from Middleton. Member Pitre will inquire why the quarterly tuition receipts are not included in the report. Pitre also reported on a dispute between the Farmington and Middleton School Districts. He said Middleton claims to have been overcharged for their portion of the SAU budget, while Farmington says Middleton incorrectly figured the amount due. Pitre said he could not comment further as the matter is currently in litigation.

D) YTD Expenditure Report - All Federal Funds (School District):

Member Pitre said there is 64% of the total federal grants funds remaining and noted that the total amount received and expended is a "moving target" as the programs are replenished at different times of the year. He then explained that the reserve fund contains 2.5% of the current year budget and is not cumulative year to year. The School District may be looking at a significant reduction in the amount of federal funds received due to a smaller number of students participating in these programs following Middleton's withdrawal from the Farmington School District.

E) YTD Expenditure Report-General Fund (School District):

Member Young noted that the salary for the principal at the Henry Wilson School is over budget by more than \$6,700. Member Pitre replied that the new principal is well qualified to receive the salary requested and that the additional funds for the increase was obtained by using funds left over from teacher replacements hired at a lower salary. He added that the principal also requested the district retain the assistant principal due to the number of students enrolled there.

6. Any Other Business to Come Before the Committee:

A) Set School District Budget Dates:

Budget Presentation-Saturday, December 6, 2014 at 9 a.m. at the Municipal Building. Snow Date-Saturday, December 13, same time and place.

Public Hearing on the School District Budget-Wednesday, January 14 at 6:30 p.m. at the Municipal Building. Snow Date-Thursdays, January 15, same time and place.

B) Set Town Budget Dates:

Town Budget Presentation-Saturday, January 10 at 9 a.m. at the Municipal Building. Snow Date-Saturday, January 17, same time and place.

Public Hearing on Town Budget- Tuesday, January 27 at 6:30 p.m. at the Municipal Building. Snow Date-Wednesday, January 28, same time and place.

7. Next Committee Meeting: Thursday, November 20, 2014 at 7 p.m.

8. Adjournment:

Motion: (Young, second Johnson) to adjourn the meeting passed 6-0 at 7:55 p.m.

Respectively submitted,

Kathleen Magoon

Recording Secretary

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