

## Budget Advisory Committee Minutes of October 27, 2008

Present: Charlie Pyle, Bob Arpin, Henry Kunhardt and Becky Moul. Nick Wilder came in just after the minutes were voted on.

Meeting opened at 6:50pm

Minutes of October 20<sup>th</sup> reviewed. Bob and Henry ask for changes. Henry motions to accept the minutes with changes. Charlie seconds. All were in favor.

Housekeeping items:

- 1) Charlie informs us he is working with Sherry on some payroll sheets. A sample was passed out tonight.
- 2) Gary contacted Charlie as a follow up to last weeks conversation on a new wheeler. We have an opportunity to purchase a 2007, without all the new emissions requirements, pay half in April 09 and the other half in April 10. This could be a \$20-25,000 savings. There is an early pay back penalty of \$4000. Gary has gone to the Selectmen for permission to get better actual details from company. In speaking with the Selectmen at the end of the meeting they have approved Gary to pursue details.

Becky will bring a truck report from last year for Bob.

**Library:** Andy Paul, Library Trustees Chairman and Paula Hunter, Library Trustees Treasurer presented the Library budget. Costs on the electric, water and lawn are best estimates given the information they have about the geo-thermal system and the tankless water heater. The landscaping is also a best estimate as they are not sure what the end result, from the construction, will be. Increase in custodial care. Size has double so care time/cost is doubled (from \$45 wkly to \$90 wkly). They now have about \$50,000 in their fund to purchase new office equipment and furniture. They started with \$100,000. Along the way they have made some additional improvements that had to be done in the construction stage, which will make the library more energy efficient (insulation, new light fixtures, and others). They are running a fundraiser for some of the extras that are needed in the way of furniture and the like.

**Police:** Chief Bell presented the Police budget. The only changes he made from last years budget is 90 less "on-call" hours and \$2729 less in gas for the vehicles. When asked why he hadn't reduced his operating budget in any other areas, which on this date, are not even close to being expended, he responded with he waits until the end of the year to see what he has left to be able to spend.

**Recreation Dept:** Donna Noonan, Rec Director; Paul McGraph, Rec Treasurer and Bob Rokes presented the Rec dept budget. They were able to reduce their budget by 5%. They reduced the field Maintenance line by \$6500. They are going to call on the good volunteers of Frankestown to assist in helping.....and (he is) they are confident they will.

**Elections, Registrations & Vitals and Finance (Tax Collection):** Donna Collides, Deputy Town Clerk and Elaine McClary, Town Clerk & Tax Collector presented the budget. They are going up on fees due to state. From \$2.50 surcharge to \$3.00 surcharge. Looking to get some folding tables for the elections to assist in the counting process. It was suggested that the cost of the tables come from another section of the Selectmen's budget. Donna will get her this year's estimates for us. Elaine will begin keeping track in January of 2009.

Becky questioned the committee if anyone else was not happy with the Police budget. Most line items are 0% change. It doesn't appear that Chief Bell has made an honest effort to reduce the Police budget There was discussion that Chief Bell has not reduced the Police Budget(with the exception of the call hrs reduction and gas reduction).

Charlie responded that at this time we are collecting information from the various Dept's. Once we have had an opportunity to discuss we can invite a dept head back for further conversation.

Next Meeting will be Monday, Nov 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:45pm at the Town Offices meeting room.

Charlie motions to adjourn, Henry seconds, all were in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 8pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Becky Moul, Secretary

RED = Deleted

Blue = Changed