

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm in the main floor meeting room at the Fremont Town Hall. Present were Budget Committee members Greg Fraize, Jeanne and Michael Nygren, Selectmen's Representative Greta St Germain, Charles Kimball, and School Board Representative Sharon Girardi; and Town Administrator Heidi Carlson.

Committee members introduced themselves. New members included Greg Fraize, Jeanne Nygren, and School Board representative Sharon Girardi. Pat Martel was unable to be present this evening, and Gene Cordes had car trouble and was expected shortly.

M Nygren moved to table the reorganization until the August meeting when the full Committee was present. St Germain seconded and the vote was approved 6-0.

There was discussion about how to handle and direct questions to the Town or School District, as members begin to review the new reports (and new members learn the budget layouts and process). It was decided that School Board questions would be directed to Sharon Girardi; questions regarding Town departments to Heidi Carlson; and questions for the Selectmen to Greta St Germain. All members will be copied and Carlson will put emails in the Budget Committee minutes binder.

There was discussion about sharing information and keeping accurate records of emails. The thought process is that everyone can learn from the questions of others, and that people can be gathering information regarding budgets and learning throughout the time between meetings.

Carlson circulated a list of all member contact information and it was reviewed and updated by all. This will be redistributed to members once updated.

Minutes of the meeting of January 26, 2011 were reviewed. A motion was made by St Germain to accept them. Mike Nygren seconded and the vote was approved 4-0-2 with Girardi and Fraize abstaining.

Discussion moved to a review of the updated School budget (dated March 31, 2011) which Carlson received at the Town Hall today. The updated Town and School budgets have also been placed on the Town's website. This process was reviewed for the benefit of new members as well.

M Nygren asked for more detail on the \$13,000 spent to clear snow off the school building, such as to whom the funds were paid and how many man hours it included. Girardi thought it was an hourly job and said she would get more details and report back.

M Nygren also asked for more information to be provided in the explanations of budget changes and not just "unanticipated services."

Girardi said she was still learning special ed as well, but explained that a child in out of district placement may get services at that location and that is a contract service. She said that more detail on this is that there are some new students to the Fremont District that are out of district placements

Girardi further explained that at this time, the District is looking at a potential fund balance of \$284,261. This includes an estimate of all anticipated expenses and encumbrances on all items known as needed through June 30, 2011.

J Nygren asked for a list of what the spaghetti supper funded. Girardi explained that this is run by 8th grade parents and is funded through donations. She said that the money that is raised pays for the 8th grade dinner dance at the end of the year. Their trip is funded by their parents and other fundraising

including calendar sales, and Little Caesars' pizza. The dinner dance is done at the school; and they pick a theme and decorate the gym for the theme. It is a semi-formal event and includes lower classmen as well. Girardi further stated that every fundraiser has to funnel through the specific grades activity account (ie: 8th grade activities account.)

Gene Cordes arrived at 7:30 pm. The evening's prior discussions were reviewed to get Cordes up to speed.

Girardi explained some of the function and object codes within the School budget.

It is noted for the minutes that last week copies of the Town budget and expenses for the first quarter of 2011, the County voted appropriations, School District voted appropriations and Town voted appropriations forms were mailed out to all members.

Girardi said that the School Board was going to hold another work session next week to continue work on finalizing the budget for July 1, 2011; and that a proposal had been presented for full day Kindergarten. The School Board will continue working on these two items next week.

St Germain asked about School health insurance insurance costs. Girardi explained that the teacher's contract did not pass, which would have reduced the cost of health insurance. The District is still paying the previous health insurance commitment.

Members moved to a review of the Town budget. Carlson distributed updated copies of the first quarter of 2011 data, which has been corrected and better organized for ease of reading.

The report is a trending for January, February, and March 2011. there was some discussion about the 2011 default budget reallocation. M Nygren asked Carlson to put together a list of the line items that were changed in the Selectmen's reallocation of the default.

M Nygren also asked about the new pay matrix adopted by the Selectmen for the Police Department. He said he read in the minutes that it was to be put into effect as of April 10, 2011 and asked if the Police Department budget had been updated for only $\frac{3}{4}$ of a year of the changes in rates. Carlson said that this is how it was planned when the numbers were allocated.

A comparative statement of department revenues for the past couple of years was reviewed. Not all of the revenue budgets have been keyed into the new accounting system. There was discussion about the Town's new software package and that staff was still working out some issues with it to tailor reports and such.

The next meeting was scheduled for Wednesday August 17, 2011 at 7:00 pm.

With no further business to come before the Board, a motion was made by M Nygren and seconded by St Germain to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 pm. The vote was unanimously approved 7-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Heidi Carlson
Town Administrator