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FREMONT BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING

Fremont Town Hall 295 Main Street Fremont, NH 03044 January 4, 2012 7 P.M.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Gene Cordes called the January 4, 2012 meeting to order at 7:02 PM on the main floor of Fremont Town Hall.

Present were: Budget Committee Members Gene Cordes, Charles Kimball, Greg Fraize, Greta St. Germain, Jeanne Nygren, and Pat Martel, School Board Representative Sharon Girardi, Town Administrator Heidi Carlson (via cell phone as needed) and Recording Secretary Susan Perry.

II. REVIEW/APPROVE MINUTES: DECEMBER 28, 2011

There was review of the December 28 minutes, including discussion regarding WA 19: COMBINATION OF TAX COLLECTOR/TOWN CLERK.

Sharon Girardi made a motion to amend the minutes of December 28, 2011. Jeanne Nygren seconded the motion. Motion passed 7:0.

Sharon Girardi made a motion to approve the amended minutes of December 28, 2011. Patricia Martel seconded the motion. Motion passed 7:0.

III. WARRANT ARTICLE 6: OPERATING BUDGET & REVIEW OF TOWN MS-7 DRAFT

There was discussion about WA 6: Operating Budget and of the MS-7 draft, including discrepancies in numbers such as in Police Details and library lines recommended by the Selectmen vs. Budget Committee. Amendments were made (as noted in the following votes) and would be given to Heidi Carlson for editing.

Sharon Girardi made a motion to amend Warrant Article 6: Operating Budget to read "\$2,563,725.00" instead of "\$2,561,725" in the Budget Committee's Appropriations Recommended column. Greta St. Germain seconded the motion. Motion passed 7:0.

Charles Kimball made a motion to recommend Article 6 as amended (changing the Budget Committee's non-recommended amount from \$10,000 to \$10,500; and changing the Budget Committee's recommended Police line amount to read \$451,690 instead of \$449,690). Patricia Martel seconded the motion. Motion passed 7:0.

IV. SCHOOL DISTRICT WARRANT ARTICLES

Note: there was nothing outstanding concerning the School District Operating Budget.

WA 2: APPROVAL OF COST ITEMS INCLUDED IN CBA

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This was a non-item since the support staff said that they did not want changes because they understood the economy and the predicaments people were in; they just appreciated having jobs.

Greta St. Germain moved for the Budget Committee to recommend School District Warrant Article 2 as written. Greg Fraize seconded the motion. Motion passed 7:0.

WA 3: SPECIAL MEETING IF ARTICLE 2 WAS DEFEATED

Charles Kimball moved for the Budget Committee to recommend School District Warrant Article 3 as written. Jeanne Nygren seconded the motion. Motion passed 7:0.

WA 4: OPERATING BUDGET/DEFAULT BUDGET

Greg Fraize motioned for the Budget Committee to recommend School District Warrant Article 4 as written (operating budget of \$11,049,721; default budget of \$11,048,753). Greta St. Germain seconded the motion. Motion passed 7:0.

WA 5: \$10,000 TO PREVIOUSLY ESTABLISHED EXPENDABLE TRUST FUND

The following recommendations were made for clarity to voters:

Edit last sentence: "This sum to come from the June 30, 2012 unreserved fund balance available for transfer on July 1, 2012 and no amount to be raised from taxation. (Majority vote required)".

WA 5 was tabled to consider the edits (to go to the School Board on January 10).

WA 6: FOREIGN LANGUAGE TEACHER

There was discussion about the benefit of Fremont students having foreign language experience (such as what middle school students have in Sanborn, etc.) before attending high school. The idea of virtual learning was reviewed, noting that it works better for more disciplined students.

Patricia Martel motioned for the Budget Committee to recommend School District Warrant Article 6 as written. Greta St. Germain seconded the motion. Motion passed 6:1 (nay = C. Kimball)

V. NEXT MEETINGS: JANUARY 11, 2012 AT 7 PM (TOWN PUBLIC HEARING AT 7:30 PM) JANUARY 12, 2012 AT 7 PM (SCHOOL DISTRICT PUBLIC HEARING AT 7:30 PM)

Mr. Cordes said he would draft the Town Report Information and email it out to members. Mr. Cordes reviewed information requested for "Virtual Town Hall", including items such as contact information. The Budget Committee members agreed that there should be central email address/contact information set for the Budget Committee and member names and their end-of-term dates could be listed. Ms. Germain said she could go to the meeting on January 19, 2012 on behalf of the Budget Committee.

February 9, 2012: public hearing for fire truck purchase at 7:30 pm.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

At 8:05 PM, Sharon Girardi made a motion to adjourn. Jeanne Nygren seconded the motion. Motion passed 7:0.

Respectfully Submitted, Susan Perry, Recording Secretary