

# FREMONT BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING

Fremont Town Hall  
295 Main Street  
Fremont, NH 03044  
**September 16, 2013**  
7:00 PM

## I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Gene Cordes called the September 16, 2013 Budget Committee meeting to order at 7:00 pm on the main floor of Fremont Town Hall.

Present were: Budget Committee Members Gene Cordes, Leon Holmes Sr, Charles Kimball, Patricia Martel, Mike Nygren, and Greg Fraize; Town Administrator Heidi Carlson, and Recording Secretary Susan Perry. Members of the public included Ida Keane.

Gene Cordes presented a resignation letter from Griffin Cordes and informed the Budget Committee that he would also be leaving the Budget Committee in order to join the Board of Selectmen, from which a member had just resigned.

## II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM MEETING OF August 21, 2013

*Charles Kimball made a motion to approve the minutes from the meeting of August 21, 2013 as written. Greg Fraize seconded the motion. Motion passed 6:0.*

## III. SCHOOL REQUEST TO HOLD A SPECIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING FOR ACCEPTANCE/EXPENDITURE OF A GRANT

Mr. Cordes said that he had spoken with Ida Keane last week about RSA 198:20 regarding the ability of the School District to accept/expend grant funds without further authorization from the Town. The Superintendent knew of funding that the District would be eligible to receive but would not be able to without a special meeting.

Mr. Nygren said that there was a misunderstanding about the Warrant Article that he had authored. He said that the article regarded receipt of any unanticipated funds for which the District did not apply. The District could spend money if they applied for it. He said that the issue had been about a sum of money that was to become available to the District and the District having to explain how that money would be spent. If the District applied for a grant, the grant would explain how money would be spent.

Ms. Keane explained that the District had potential state funding of \$35,000 for a program to help with education of a special subgroup of students (as Ellis was deemed a "focus school"). She said that the previous Warrant Article rescinded the District's right to accept/expend unanticipated grant money. If the Board's article had passed, the District would still need a public meeting for funding over \$5,000 with a description of the use. Now, it was required to hold a special meeting to accept funds of which the District would like to take advantage. The cost for the Deliberative meeting and ballot vote would cost the School District about \$4,500. This money was for Title I and the Board felt it was worthy to hold a meeting for the funding as well as to have voters vote on a list of other grants that the District could accept. She asked if the Budget Committee had interest in having the District set up a special meeting. The timeline could take up to 8 weeks but Ms. Keane said that she would find out more information for the next Budget Committee meeting (timeline, sample Warrant Article, and confirmation if the article could be requested in the March election).

**IV. MARK PITKIN, ROAD AGENT: HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT BUDGET (4312)**

Mr. Pitkin reported that part-time wages for summer help was added (\$4,550). There was brief discussion about work done on roads this past year. There were standard State specifications for roads (based on traffic amount, etc.). Mr. Nygren suggested that the Planning Board look at the road specifications. There were about 45 miles of road in Fremont now. Last year about 2 miles of roads were worked on. The budget was level-funded; revenue decreased about \$2,000.

*Greg Fraize recommended the Board of Selectmen's budget recommendation of \$396,175 in 4312: HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT. Pat Martel seconded the motion. Motion passed 6:0.*

**V. TOWN BUDGETS**4130 EXECUTIVE

A 2% raise might be added to this budget once the total number was determined in over a month or so. This budget was currently level-funded.

*Pat Martel recommended the Board of Selectmen's budget recommendation of \$97,707 in 4130: EXECUTIVE. Charles Kimball seconded the motion. Motion passed 5:0:1 (abstention from M. Nygren whose wife works in this office.)*

4191 PLANNING & ZONING

Clerical Wages were level-funded. Revenues had increased a bit. The Matching Grants line was reduced; grants were not as plentiful now.

*Greg Fraize recommended the Board of Selectmen's budget recommendation of \$36,566 in 4191 PLANNING & ZONING. Pat Martel seconded the motion. Motion passed 6:0.*

4215 AMBULANCE SERVICES

A 5-year contract began two years ago in which there would be a \$500 increase every other year so the budget remained at \$7,000 this year and would increase to \$7,500 next year.

*Charles Kimball recommended the Board of Selectmen's budget recommendation of \$7,000 in 4215 AMBULANCE SERVICES. Mike Nygren seconded the motion. Motion passed 6:0.*

4240 BUILDING INSPECTION

The Building Inspector put in for 29 hours/week; the Board of Selectmen recommended 26 hours with some money left at the Board's discretion if the workload needed it. The Permit fee revenues were up to \$62,000 as of today.

*Greg Fraize recommended the Board of Selectmen's budget recommendation of \$32,716 in 4240 BUILDING INSPECTION. Mike Nygren seconded the motion. Motion passed 6:0.*

4316 STREET LIGHTS (WITH THE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT BUDGET)

*Pat Martel recommended the Board of Selectmen's budget recommendation of \$4,848 in 4316 STREET LIGHTS. Greg Fraize seconded the motion. Motion passed 6:0.*

4583 PATRIOTIC PURPOSES

*Greg Fraize recommended the Board of Selectmen's budget recommendation of \$2,185 in 4583 PATRIOTIC PURPOSES. Mike Nygren seconded the motion. Motion passed 6:0.*

4610 CONSERVATION COMMISSION

There was an increase of \$600 in Conservation Projects (forest management plan).

*Greg Fraize recommended the Board of Selectmen's budget recommendation of \$1,523 in 4610 CONSERVATION COMMISSION. Pat Martel seconded the motion. Motion passed 4 aye: 2 nay (M. Nygren, P. Martel)*

4711-4723 DEBT SERVICE/INTEREST ON TANS

*Pat Martel recommended the Board of Selectmen's budget recommendation of \$181,239 in 4711-4721 DEBT SERVICE. Greg Fraize seconded the motion. Motion passed 6:0.*

4723 INTEREST ON TAX ANTICIPATION NOTES

Ms. Carlson noted that the Town worked well with the School District last year and there was no need to borrow much.

*Greg Fraize recommended the Board of Selectmen's budget recommendation of \$2,000 in 4723 INTEREST ON TAX ANTICIPATION NOTES. Mike Nygren seconded the motion. Motion passed 6:0.*

Ms. Carlson would fix the math formula for the "balance remaining" column of the Town Budget vs. Actual spreadsheet that was distributed. A pink Town budget revenue sheet was distributed, showing the 2013 estimate of \$1,167,547; \$791,683 received as of 9/15/13; and the MS-4 2013 amount of \$1,250,907.

**VI. SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET REPORT**

Questions that Mr. Nygren proposed to ask the School Board included:

1. Full staffing by function and position for all Employees ending the 2012-2013 school year.
2. Proposed staffing submitted with the 2013-2014-school budget. Function and position.
3. Actual staffing by function and position the start of the 2013-2014 school year.

This request includes all SAU and Ellis School employees.

*Mike Nygren made a motion for the Budget Committee to vote to approve/ formalize Mike Nygren's requests to the School Board as outlined above). Pat Martel seconded the motion. Motion passed 6:0.*

Mr. Fraize would get the trust fund balances for the next meeting. He might not be at the next meeting but a replacement School Board representative should be present then.

**VII. NEXT MEETING DATE: WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 25, 2013****VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

*At 8:45 PM, Greg Fraize motioned to adjourn. Mike Nygren seconded the motion. Motion passed 6:0.*

Respectfully Submitted, Susan Perry, Recording Secretary

Committee approved on October 9, 2013

September 16, 2013