

FREMONT BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING
Fremont Town Hall, 295 Main Street, Fremont, NH 03044
November 7, 2018 at 6:47PM

CALL TO ORDER

After the School District budget forum by the School Board (6 – 6:40 PM), Chair Mary Anderson called the November 7, 2018 Budget Committee meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 6:47 PM at the Fremont Town Hall. Present were: Mary Anderson, Gene Cordes, Mary Jo Holmes, Joe Miccile, Jonathan Starr, Brittany Thompson (arriving at 7:15 PM), and Josh Yokela. Also present were Heidi Carlson, Susan Perry, Gordon Muench and Greg Fraize (arriving at 7:20 PM).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mary Jo Holmes made a motion to approve the minutes as written of October 31, 2018. Gene Cordes seconded the motion. Motion passed 6:0:1 (abstention, P. Martel)

TOWN BUDGET REVIEWS**4155 PERSONNEL ADMINISTRATION**

Ms. Carlson reported that she had reviewed the disparity which was due to items such as special details. She tightened it up and she felt the line would be underspent this year. There is an increase from 2018 to 2019 of \$11,000, basically due to pay increases/different demographic. Medical insurance rates increased 10% but dental rates did not change for next year.

Mary Jo Holmes made a motion to recommend the Selectmen's recommendation of \$379,097 for line 4155 Personnel Administration. Gene Cordes seconded the motion. Motion passed 7:0.

This amount was added to the budget report spreadsheet and yielded a Budget Committee recommended budget grand total of \$3,111,094, which is \$145,623 more than this year.

2019 WARRANT ARTICLES**ARTICLE A: OPERATING BUDGET (\$3,111,094; default = \$3,033,728) – TABLED**

There was discussion about the importance for the Committee to feel comfortable with the budget being put forward to the voters. The default budget has to be presented to the public due to concerns of having default budgets that are higher than operating budgets. One time purchases are not included in the default budget but recurring purchases are. The Selectmen prepare the default budget now. Ms. Anderson and Ms. Carlson will compare lists of what should not be in the default budget.

ARTICLE B: HIRE AN ADDITIONAL FULL-TIME POLICE OFFICER – TABLED

Ms. Carlson will correct the cost for a full year of officer in 2020 due to the revised dental rate.

ARTICLE C: PAY FREMONT FOR RESCUE CALL MEMBERS AN HOURLY RATE TO PROVIDE EVENING & COVERAGE – TABLED**ARTICLE D: CREATE TOWN EXPENDABLE TRUST FUND FOR COMPUTER SERVER REPLACEMENTS (for two servers)**

Pat Martel made a motion to recommend article D: Create Town Expendable Trust Fund for Computer Server Replacements (\$4,000). Brittany Thompson seconded the motion. Motion passed 5:3.

ARTICLE E: CONTRIBUTION TO THE LIBRARY BUILDING EXPENDABLE TOWN TRUST FUND

The library is about seventeen years old and in need of maintenance (furnaces/AC systems). Currently, the trust fund totals \$12,166.

Brittany Thompson made a motion to recommend article E: Contribution to the Library Building Expendable Town Trust Fund (\$5,000). Gene Cordes seconded the motion. Motion passed 8:0.

ARTICLE F: AUTHORIZE A NEW TRASH & RECYCLING COLLECTION CONTRACT

There was concern about losing the current waste management contract if this article does not pass. It would need to go out to bid and money would need to be found within the budget. The Committee will get the word out about the importance of the passing of this article. Due to new law, multi-year contract increases may go in the default budget. The word "pickup" should be added to the verbiage, after "...Waste Management for the..."

Mary Jo Holmes made a motion to recommend article F: Authorize a New Trash & Recycling Collection Contract (5-year contract with Waste Management w/ annual increase of 3%/average annual increase of \$8,923; 2019 cost is \$284,370 and is included in the operating budget and no additional funds are raised for 2019). Joe Miccile seconded the motion. Motion passed 8:0.

ARTICLE G: CONTRIBUTION TO THE FIRE TRUCK CAPITAL RESERVE FUND

There is currently \$151,917 in this fund.

Brittany Thompson made a motion to recommend article G: Contribution to the Fire Truck Capital Reserve Fund (\$50,000). Gene Cordes seconded the motion. Motion passed 8:0.

ARTICLE H: CONTRIBUTION TO THE BRIDGE CAPITAL RESERVE FUND

There is currently \$116,000 in this fund. Ms. Carlson will add to the verbiage a list of bridges/status of work in town.

Joe Miccile made a motion to recommend article H: Contribution to the Bridge Capital Reserve Fund (\$25,000). Mary Jo Holmes seconded the motion. Motion passed 8:0.

ARTICLE I: CONTRIBUTION TO THE HIGHWAY EQUIPMENT CAPITAL RESERVE FUND

There is currently \$50,000 in this fund.

Mary Jo Holmes made a motion to recommend article I: Contribution to the Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund (\$25,000). Jonathan Starr seconded the motion. Motion passed 8:0.

ARTICLE J: FUNDING HIGHWAY PAVING AND IMPROVEMENTS TO CHESTER ROAD

Mary Jo Holmes made a motion to recommend article J: Funding Highway Paving and Improvements to Chester Road (\$279,388). Gene Cordes seconded the motion. Motion passed 8:0.

ARTICLE K: FUNDING THE MOSQUITO CONTROL PROGRAM

Up to two sprays are included in the program (mosquito larval treatment in wetlands, etc.)

Jonathan Starr made a motion to recommend article K: Funding the Mosquito Control Program (\$49,550). Joe Miccile seconded the motion. Motion passed 7:1.

ARTICLE L: CONTRIBUTION TO THE HISTORIC MUSEUM CAPITAL RESERVE FUND

Mary Jo Holmes made a motion to recommend article L: Contribution to the Historic Museum Capital Reserve Fund. Brittany Thompson seconded the motion. Motion failed 4:4

The Budget Committee recommendation text shall read: "The Budget Committee does not recommend this appropriation 4:4."

Backup information regarding the Chester Road reconstruction project was distributed (letter from Leon Holmes, Jr., Road Agent and list of 2019 Paving Projects. Also distributed was a NH RFP Pricing Comparison regarding waste management and an updated Revenue report showing an estimated total (2019) of \$1,539,221, which is \$18,513 less than the 2018 estimate of \$1,557,734. It was noted that this is a working document that is updated weekly. Committee members are encouraged to send any school budget questions to Ms. Anderson who will forward them to the SAU.

NEXT MEETING DATE: NOVEMBER 14, 2018 AT TOWN HALL**ADJOURNMENT**

Gene Cordes made a motion to adjourn at 9:05 PM. Brittany Thompson seconded the motion. Motion passed 6:0.

Respectfully submitted by Susan Perry, Recording Secretary