

2016 BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING

January 12, 2016

At the Gorham Town Hall at 6:00 pm

Members Present: Mike Waddell, Diane Bouthot, Glen Eastman,, Robert Demers, Patrick Lefebvre, Terry Oliver, Town Manager, Robin Frost, Denise Vallee, Finance, Austin Holmes, Public Works Director, Michelle Lutz, Assessing Department

Excused: Dennis Arguin, Dan McCrum

Absent: Terry Rhoderick

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

First on the agenda approve the Meeting Minutes of January 5, 2016 & January 7, 2016. A Motion to accept Minutes as written was made by Patrick, with a 2nd from Terry. All were in favor.

HIGHWAY/CEMETERY/RECYCLE:

Presentation of 2016 proposed budget by Austin Holmes, Public Works Director. Buddy stated that there were no major changes and that his budget was level funded. The Salt line is up due to the increase in the salt price from last year. He reported that at the time of this presentation there had been very minimal OT used due to the good weather. He stated that he was requesting a \$5,000.00 increase be made to the paving projects line as he would like to complete a few much needed projects this spring. The paving request will be a Warrant Article. He told the committee that there was no new information to report on the Tinker Brook project at this time. TM Frost stated the project was scheduled to begin in the spring of 2016. TM Frost stated she had a PDF of the Town of Gorham Street Improvement Report recently received from Horizons Engineering that she would email to the committee members for their review. Public Works Director Holmes told the Committee he was looking to lease/ purchase a new backhoe regarding his 10 year plan and that this would be a Warrant Article. The Chair then asked Mr. Holmes if there was any new information to report on the Eversource purchase of the "snow-dump" area? TM Frost stated nothing new to report at this time.

OLD BUSINESS:

The committee had comments regarding the Fire/EMS possible merger and the overlapping of employees and when the hiring process was going to begin for Chief Eichler's position? TM Frost stated that a committee had been formed to discuss the possible merger of the Fire & EMS Departments and the upcoming issues. The Chair expressed his concerns to the TM regarding enough funding in the budget to support the said merger.

ACTION ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS:

1. Electronic copy of Great Lakes Hydro Settlement document from Robin – Received
2. Benefits breakdown by Department – Received.
3. Fire/EMS Report – Received
4. Quotes from Jeff for new plow truck and fencing at Libby Recreational Facility

ACTION ITEMS FROM THIS MEETING:

1. Engineering Reports & Costs PDF form from TM Frost
2. Spring Road estimates costs
3. Electronic copy of the proposed Software Contract from TM Frost

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

None

MOTION TO ADJOURN: A Motion to Adjourn was made by Glen with a second from Terry, all were in favor. The meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm

The next scheduled Budget Committee Meeting is Thursday, January 14, 2016 at 6:00 pm with presentation and review of the Gorham Police Department and Dispatch Budget along with Finance review.

APPROVED AS IS 1/19/16