

**2016 BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING**

**January 7, 2016**

**At the Gorham Town Hall at 6:00 pm**

**Members Present:** Mike Waddell, Dennis Arguin, Diane Bouthot, Glen Eastman, Dan McCrum, Robert Demers, Patrick Lefebvre, Terry Oliver, Reuben Rajala, Town Manager, Robin Frost, Denise Vallee, Grace LaPierre, Selectman, Jeff Stewart, Recreation and Parks Dept., Michelle Lutz, Assessing Department

**Absent:** Terry Rhoderick

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

**PARKS AND RECREATION BUDGET 2016:**

Presentation of 2016 proposed budget by Jeff Stewart, Parks and Recreation Director. Jeff told the committee he recently purchased a new bus with the help of a donation made to the revolving fund from the Dagesse Corporation. Jeff brought the Committee up to date regarding improvements that were made to the information booth which included new windows, paint, and carpeting. A detailed list of improvements was presented to the Board.

Discussion was had over handicapped accessibility and whether or not the information booth meets current code. The Board was informed it does not due to inadequate space. A Handicapped accessibility bathroom sign will be added to the information booth directing patrons to the Town Hall bathrooms. Jeff then went on to tell the committee that he had several projects planned for 2016 for which he would like to get approval on; some of these improvements include purchasing a new work truck & plow, new bathrooms and changing rooms that would be handicapped accessible at Libby pool, and new up to date fencing at the Libby pool complex. He stated that the appropriation for such improvements would come out of the "revolving fund" and no warrant articles would be necessary. The only warrant article for the Parks and Recreation Department at this time is the new Cascade playground equipment.

Concerns were raised about the Revolving Fund which is still an issue for some members as well as the quoted figures for the Libby Pool fencing and truck and plow amounts. Jeff stated those numbers were preliminary and will be get more definitive numbers soon.

**OTHER:**

The Chair raised the issue of the Budget Committee's budget. He noted that the 750.00 in this line will not cover the number of meeting we are currently scheduled to have. Also, he would like to put some money in the budget for education of Budget Committee members at the Municipal Association Training Conference. After some discussion the consensus was to raise the Budget Committee's budget from 750.00 to \$1500.00.

**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

**ACTION ITEMS FROM THIS MEETING:**

Quotes from Jeff for new plow truck and fencing at Libby Recreational Facility

**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 Tuesday, January 12, 2016 at 6:00 pm with presentation and review of the Public Works Department 2016 proposed Budget.