

# TOWN OF HAMPSTEAD

## **BUDGET COMMITTEE**

## MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

July 10, 2014

PRESENT: Jorge Mesa-Tejada, Steve Londrigan, Ann Howe, Proc Wentworth, Jack Thomas

VISITORS: Brian Goode, Recreation Commission

## 1. CALL TO ORDER; PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Jorge Mesa-Tejada at 7:01 PM in the Selectmen's Office

Jack Thomas led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. VISITORS COMMENTS: None

#### 3. DISCUSSION: RECREATION COMMISSION - Brian Goode

Mr. Brian Goode—delegated by Kim Colbert to represent the Commission even though he was no longer a member—expressed the Commission's concern about the continuing refusal of the Budget Committee to support warrant articles proposed over the last three years. The Committee refused to speculate on the actions of previous members. Instead, the Committee addressed the concerns expressed during the 2014 Deliberative Session vote, namely, lack of clear source for funding, iffy price, and lack of a site plan, which led to the "not recommended" vote.

Mr. Goode insisted that the Commission had followed normal practice and presented the basketball court issue to the Selectmen and Planning Board and had explained the source of funding. He pointed out that none of the Budget Committee members present raised any objections or asked any questions at the time. He also stated that the differences in the three bids the Commission received were of no concern because the Commission would choose the one judged to be most appropriate.

After a long discussion, the Budget Committee stated that bygones are bygones and that going forward, the Recreation Commission must prepare a plan, have a final bid, clearly show the funding source(s) for the project and present that information to the Committee as early as possible so that any questions/problems can be resolved before the Public Hearing and Deliberative Session in January/February.

Mr. Goode will bring that information to the Recreation Commission.

#### 4. DISCUSSION: 2013-2014 SURPLUS AND 2014-2015 SCHOOL BUDGET

The Committee reviewed the 2013-2014 year-end School Budget and Surplus reports.

As of June 24, 2014, the approved operating budget of \$24,274,725.86 showed expenditures balance of \$3,558,227.86 of which \$2,154,739.52 were encumbered, leaving a balance of \$1,403,488.34 or 5.78%.

The 2013-2014 Budget Surplus was \$1,035,843. Jorge cautioned the Committee that \$26,000 had been earmarked by the School Board for the Access Road and should be subtracted from the total.

- The Committee received the first restatement of the approved 2014-2015 School Operating Budget incorporating the Default amounts. The approved operating budget for 2014-2015 is \$24,115,711.12. This represents the \$23,793,424 budget default amount plus \$322,187 SAU default.
- The **Town's Monthly Expenditures Report** was also discussed. As of July 9, 2014, expenditures were \$11,251,783.70, leaving a balance of \$14,670,163.88. **Posted Revenue** through May 14, 2014 is \$1,980,538.02 with \$8.8 million yet to be posted for June.

## 5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: JUNE 12, 2014

Motion: Steve moved, seconded by Proc, to approve the revised draft of the minutes for April 8, 2014.

VOTE: YES 4; NO 0; ABSTAIN 1 (Jack Thomas)

#### 6. LIAISON REPORTS

#### PROC:

None

## STEVE:

POLICE:

The Building Committee is revisiting the Antenna Tower specs with the contractor. No problems or delay anticipated.

#### ANN:

- Ann inquired why copies of the letters sent by Jorge to the School Board and Selectmen about frequency of financial reporting were not included in the package. Jorge replied that it was an inadvertent oversight, that the letters communicated the actions of the BudCom in the previous meeting, and that he would email copies to the members at the end of the meeting.
- Together with Steve, they'll collaborate and present a proposal to "tighten up the budgets" at the September meeting.

#### JORGE:

 Attended 6/24 School Board meeting and delivered letter requesting periodic financial reports

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- Informed the Committee that the School Board was selecting HMS Assistant Principal that night
- Informed the Committee that a Renovations Options Work Session has been scheduled for September 16<sup>th</sup> at HMS Library and encouraged the members to attend
- Informed the Committee that the annual Budget and Finance Workshop is scheduled for September 18<sup>th</sup>, at the Radisson Hotel, Manchester. He strongly encouraged members to attend. If interested, they should submit their request to Tina who will make the arrangements.

## 7. SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING DATE

September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2014

## 8. NEXT MEETING AGENDA ITEMS

Budget analysis report - Steve and Ann

School and Town Expenditures reports

#### 9. VISITORS COMMENTS

None

#### 10. ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Proc, the meeting adjourned at 7:46 PM.

For the Committee,

Jorge Mesa-Tejada, chairman

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