

TOWN OF HAMPSTEAD

BUDGET COMMITTEE

MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

May 14, 2015

Approved June 11, 2015

PRESENT: Steve Londrigan, Emily Reschberger, John Skidmore, Bill Keating, Jorge Mesa-Tejada

VISITORS: Priscilla Lindquist

The meeting was called to order by past chairman, Jorge Mesa-Tejada at 7:02 PM in the Selectmen's Office, Hampstead Town Hall.

1. Call to Order; Pledge of Allegiance:

Bill Keating led the Pledge of Allegiance

2. Welcome new members:

Jorge welcomed Bill Keating. Bill wanted to know what role the individual liaison were expected to perform with their assigned departments. Jorge gave a brief explanation of those duties in the context of the overall budget responsibilities.

3. Approval of Minutes: April 8, 2015

Motion: John moved to approve the minutes of April 8, 2015 as written; Emily seconded.

Steve requested the insertion of omitted language on page 3- School Warrant—after “no means no”

Steve mentioned that the bond issue received well below the average number of yes votes compared to previous spending articles.”

Motion: John moved to approve the minutes of April 8, 2015 as amended; Steven seconded.

VOTE: YES 5; NO 0; ABSTAIN 0

4. Review of Liaison Assignments

Bill expressed a desire to fill the two unassigned positions: Conservation and Planning Board. Jorge asked if anyone would like to change his/her assignments: no one did.

Final liaison assignments for 2015-2016 1are:

LIAISON ASSIGNMENTS					
	John	Bill	Emily	Jorge	Steve
Selectmen	X			X	
School Board			X	X	
Police				X	
Fire/ Rescue	X				
Highway					X
Library	X				
Capital Needs					X
Recreation			X		
Planning Board/ZBA		X			
Conservation Commission		X			
Solid Waste			X		

5. Discussion: Topics for meeting with School Board/ Meeting date

Jorge informed the committee that the School Board responded to our request to address the board and had scheduled our presentation for June 23rd. Jorge asked whether each member would like to present his/her topics or let Jorge be the sole presenter.

It was decided that Jorge should be the speaker.

A round-robin discussion ensued as to which topics should be included. The committee agreed on the following topics:

- Bond issue recap (capacity expansion in view of declining demand?)
- Impact of Chrome Book deployment: how will it improve efficiency of educational process (large class sizes –more students/less teacher load?)
- Benefits buffer – explain statistical probability of every employee signing up for full benefits
- Access Road proposal: how is it going to be furthered (via budget or warrant article?)
- Physical Plant maintenance (must be on-going regardless of other initiatives)
- Food account deficit: collecting overdue accounts
- Separating from SAU

Jorge asked the members to email more detailed statements, if possible.

With regard to SAU separation, Jorge provided the committee with procedural and historic summaries. He also discussed his experience as chairman of the SAU Study Committee, formed by the State Board of Education, in 1993 that concluded that SAU's only made sense for districts with 5 or more schools. That study was the basis for the new RSA194-C.

6. Members comments

John: informed the Fire Chief that he is their liaison and will discuss the forthcoming budget; attended the library trustees meeting.

Steve: no comment

Emily: watches School Board meetings; will visit her Solid Waste and Recreation in the future. In the meantime, she has notified committees to bring any issues to her attention.

Jorge: reported that he keeps current by watching or attending school board and Selectmen's meetings. He praised the Cable TV facility which provides a record and simplifies the monitoring of committee meetings at convenient times.

7. Next meeting agenda items

- Review School Board presentation
- Review school and town chart of accounts

8. Schedule next meeting date

June 11th

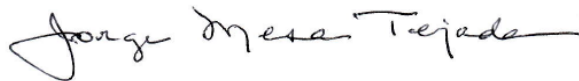
9. Visitors Comments

None

10. Adjournment

On a motion by Emily, seconded by Steve, the meeting adjourned at 7:45 PM

For the Committee,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Jorge Mesa-Tejada". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jorge" being more prominent.

Jorge Mesa-Tejada, chairman