

Unofficial

BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES Hooksett Town Hall - Council Chambers 35 Main Street Thursday, September 24, 2009 7:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER

Council Rep. B. Gahara called the meeting order at 7:00 PM.

ATTENDANCE

J. Pieroni, J. Danforth, K. Hughes, M. Miville, D. Pearl, S. Doyon, JR Ouellette, D. Argo, N. Comai, B. Gahara, J. and S. Doyon
Staff: Christine Soucie, Finance Director

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

June 11, 2009

J. Danforth motioned to approve the minutes of June 11, 2009 as presented. Seconded by K. Hughes

Vote unanimously in favor B. Gahara abstained

NEW BUSINESS

Election of Chair

JR Ouellette nominated J. Pieroni as Chairman. Seconded by D. Pearl.

Vote unanimously in favor J. Pieroni abstained.

Election Vice Chair

N. Comai nominated J. Danforth as Vice Chairman. Seconded by JR Ouellette.

Vote unanimously in favor J. Danforth abstained

Election of Secretary

N. Comai nominated M. Miville as Secretary. Seconded by JR Ouellette.

Vote unanimously in favor

Public Input

None

Review of End of Year Reports

Municipal

The Committee reviewed the June Municipal Final Unaudited Report and the Police Department's report of expenditures.

M. Miville thanked the department heads for coming in at 95% of the budget.

C. Soucie explained Precincts. Under RSA 52:1, they are allowed to form as a community within a community. They are funded through fees and not through taxes. They have to follow the Municipal Budget Act but are a separate entity from the Town. The only way there is tax impact is if there is an error. They are supposed to generate enough revenue to cover their costs. They can roll money over from year to year. They have their own Board and hold an annual meeting. Sewer and Police are part of the Town. The Town has decided that they will operate those under two sets of laws. RSA allows them to operate their parts of the government as they see fit. The Sewer is different from the Police because they have offsetting revenue to not impact the tax rate.

If they needed to come to the tax base they have that option. The Sewer is allowed to roll over funds. The Library is the same as the Sewer and they can accumulate funds on an annual basis. They don't have an offsetting revenue source and the town must raise their funds through taxation. The Sewer funds are managed by the Sewer Department. We only report their federal wages and make their tax payments and report their taxes. We allow the Precincts, Sewer, and Library to be part of our benefits to get the savings of a larger group. We have carved them out so they pay direct to the provider. We really don't see their claims.

Everybody is audited. Sewer and Library are audited with the town. The districts can have an independent audit or they can do a self-audit.

For bonds, the PD, Sewer, and Library are part of the town. The Water Precincts are independent.

The administrative rules for purchasing do not apply to the water precincts. The Library and Police Department generally follow our administrative rules.

School District

D. Argo stated that the last number was \$750,000 to be returned to the Town. We were able to do some additional items including the Language Arts Curriculum and lighting at Memorial.

We had a good year. If you add everything we did to the \$750,000 it was about \$1 million, which is 4% of the budget.

The report states \$915,000. The committee would like to know why the numbers are different.

J. Hyde asked how we could be so far under?

D. Argo: Based on a 25 million dollar budget, it isn't that much. It represents 4%. A lot of the money was due to health insurance estimates and High School tuition based on anticipated students. We budgeted for a 19% increase in insurance but it came in at 13%.

J. Pieroni pointed out that the big item is Special Ed. (page 8)

Dr. Littlefield was shooting for a 10% savings and per the report, which was reached.

JR Ouellette: How many students attend H.S.?

D. Argo will get that number for the committee.

D. Argo requested that all questions be sent to him in advance so he can get the appropriate information prior to the meeting.

Budget Workshop

M. Miville reported that there were no changes in the laws and they reviewed how the budgets are to be presented.

Right To Know Workshop is planned for September 30th.

MISCELLANEOUS

Next meeting scheduled meeting is October 22nd at 6:30 pm.

J. Pieroni requested that the Chairman of CIP present the CIP recommendation.

Agenda Items

Dr. Littlefield – School philosophy

Calendar

D. Argo report on answer to expenditure questions

ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Lee Ann Moynihan