

Official

BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING

Hooksett Town Hall

35 Main Street

Thursday, February 10, 2011

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:32 pm

ATTENDANCE

Chair M. Miville, Vice Chair T. Keach, J. Hyde, D. Lizotte, JR Ouellette, D. Sorel, N. Comai, D. Sorel, V. Lembo Council Rep, and D. Argo School Board Rep.
D. Pearl arrived at 6:45 pm

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

January 20, 2011 –
Tabled

February 5, 2011
Tabled

NEW BUSINESS

Library budget presentation – Mary Farwell, Library Trustee and H. Shumway, Librarian
A narrative was presented with the budget submitted by the Library Trusted. The proposed budget meets the 1% reduction requested by Council by making the following cuts:

\$5500 reduction in

\$511 new equipment

\$2650 information technology

\$500 staff and trust

\$2200 books and material (promoting business donation of magazine subscriptions)

\$425 program and services

J. Hyde asked about \$1200 for telephone and did not see a line for internet costs.

H. Shumway: Because we are a public library our public internet is free from Comcast. The gmlac office is in our building and pay rent for our T1 line. (Internet). We have a public internet system which is separate from the staff system. We have 4 phone lines, two (2) of which are the alarm systems. We were included on the Town bid.

JR Ouellette asked how this year's utility costs compare to last year's at this time.

H. Shumway: Weve spent \$21,000 this year compared to \$19,459 expended at this time last year.

M. Farwell: There is a change in health benefits for a current employee from a two person plan to a family plan that will result in a \$5000 increase in cost.

N. Comai motioned to increase the insurance line by \$5000. Seconded by T. Lizotte.

T. Keach motioned to table. Seconded by D. Pearl.

Review of Municipal Warrant Articles

A

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,538,000 for the reconstructive renovations of the Safety Center, and to authorize the issuance of not more than \$1,538,000 of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33) and to authorized the Town Council to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon; furthermore, to raise and appropriate the sum of \$56,000 for the purposes of paying the first year's bond issuance costs and interest payments on the bond. (3/5 ballot vote required)

Note: Estimated tax increase is \$.034 for the first year

15 year bond with principal payments of \$101,600 plus interest of \$80,000 (estimated tax impact is \$0.11 each year)

Requires bond hearing per Charter 5.4.c between Feb 9th and April 26th

B

Shall the Town raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amount set forth on the budget posted with this warrant or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling \$9,589,886? Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$_____, which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of Town Meeting or by law; or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only. Note: This Article does not include special warrant articles #X through #XX.

E

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$16,500 (Sixteen Thousand Five Hundred Dollars) to be placed in the Town Wide Computer Development Capital Reserve Fund already established.

F

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$62,000 (Sixty-two Thousand Dollars) to be placed in the Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund already established.

G

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$6,250 (Six Thousand Two Hundred and Fifty Dollars) to be placed in the Town of Hooksett's Master Plan Capital Reserve Fund already established.

H

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$12,250 (Twelve Thousand Two Hundred and Fifty Dollars) to be placed in the Road Impact Fee Traffic Study Capital Reserve Fund already established.

J

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Town Council to enter into a seven year lease agreement for \$375,000 the purpose of leasing a tanker for the Fire-Rescue Department, and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$62,550 (Sixty-two Thousand Five Hundred Fifty Dollars) for the first year's payment for that purpose. This lease agreement contains an escape clause.

L

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 (Ten Thousand Dollars) to be placed in the Air Pack and Bottles Capital Reserve Fund already established.

M

To see if the Town will vote to establish a capital reserve fund under the provision of RSA 35:1 for the purpose of purchasing Plow Dump Trucks for Public Works and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$37,500 (Thirty-Seven Thousand Five Hundred Dollars) to be placed in this fund, and to name the Town Administrator as the agent to expend.

N

To see if the Town will vote to establish a capital reserve fund under the provision of RSA 35:1 for the purpose of purchasing 1-Ton Dump Trucks for Public Works and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$12,500 (Twelve Thousand Five Hundred Dollars) to be placed in this fund, and to name the Town Administrator as the agent to expend.

O

To see if the Town will vote to establish a capital reserve fund under the provision of RSA 35:1 for the purpose of purchasing Backhoes and Loaders for Public Works and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$37,500 (Thirty Seven Thousand Five Hundred Dollars) to be placed in this fund, and to name the Town Administrator as the agent to expend.

P

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 (Five Thousand Dollars) to be placed in the Parks and Recreation Facilities Development Capital Reserve Fund already established.

Q

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 (Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars) to be placed in the Town Building Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund already established.

R

To see if the Town will vote to establish a capital reserve fund under the provision of RSA 35:1 for the purpose of purchasing Pickup Trucks for Public Works and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$7,500 (Seven Thousand Five Hundred Dollars) to be placed in this fund, and to name the Town Administrator as the agent to expend.

S

To see if the Town will raise and appropriate the sum of \$920,000 to purchasing equipment for an automated trash collections/curbside recycling program; of this amount \$700,000 (Seven Hundred Thousand Dollars) is to be withdrawn from the Solid Waste Disposal Fund and \$220,000 (Two Hundred Twenty Thousand Dollars) to be raised from general taxation.

Budget Review

Transfer and Recycling

JR Ouellette motioned to recommend the Transfer and Recycling budget for \$1,150,260. Seconded by N. Comai.

JR Ouellette motion to amend to add the non-union wage increase for a bottom line of . . . Seconded by K. Hughes.

Vote unanimously in favor

Vote on the amended motion.

Unanimously in favor.

Wage increase

N. Comai motioned to distribute the ½ percent wage increase from Administration to the appropriate departments as presented by the Finance Director. Seconded JR Ouellette.

Vote unanimously in favor

Administration

JR Ouellette requested clarification on the Workman's Compensation line. LGC's recommendation was a 9% increase from the actual. Which calculates to \$151,000 vs. \$155,000 budgeted.

C. Soucie stated that the increase was an estimate based on a 1% salary increase.

JR Ouellette motioned to reduce the Workman's Compensation (401-26-925) \$1933.00 for a total \$153,067. Seconded by T. Lizotte.

Vote 9:2 motion carries

C. Granfield stated that mileage under 411-11-528 is reimbursement for use of her personal vehicle when traveling on town business.

Volunteer Appreciation Night

Volunteer Appreciations Night was increased from \$500 to \$2500.

C. Granfield stated that there is still an opportunity to receive a donation for this event but the money in the budget would still be needed to make for a better event.

J. Hyde motioned to reduce the Volunteer Appreciate Night (401-61-918) from \$2499 to \$1. Seconded by D. Argo.

Vote 10:1

Amoskeag Rowing Club

T. Keach motion to zero out Amoskeag Rowing Club. Seconded by J. Hyde.

C. Granfield stated there is an agreement with the town that the club will pay the town \$5000 per year for the use of the launch. If they request a scholarship, it will be paid by the town. They have never requested a scholarship.

J. Hyde we need that \$1 in the line to accept the revenue and we have an agreement with the club which we have never paid.

C. Soucie: We have profited \$20,000 since this contract was signed and we would void that agreement if this motion is passed.

Vote 2:9 motion fails

Economic Development

J. Hyde motion to reduce Economic Development (401-01-71-102) from \$1500 to 0. Seconded by D. Argo.

J. Hyde stated that he did not feel this was a function of government.

Vote 5:5:1 abstain

J. Hyde motion to reduce Economic Development (401-0171-102) from \$1500 to \$500. Seconded by T. Lizotte

Vote 8:3 motion carries

Administration

T. Lizotte motioned to approve the Administration budget for \$923,854. Seconded by K. Hughes

Vote 10:1 motion carries

Assessing

407-01-541 correction

K. Hughes motioned to reduce line (407-01-541) from \$3700 to \$2740. Seconded by T. Lizotte.

Vote unanimously in favor.

Assessing

J. Hyde motioned to approve the Assessing Department budget for \$160,498. Seconded by T. Lizotte

Vote 10:1

Budget Committee

K. Hughes motion to approve the Budget Committee budget for \$5814. Seconded by T. Lizotte.

Vote unanimously in favor.

Building

J. Hyde motioned to reduce the printing from \$1725 to \$1000. Seconded by D. Argo.

Vote 10:1

N. Comai motioned to reduce ZBA mileage \$1000. Seconded by J. Hyde.

Vote 10:1

Building

JR Ouellette motioned to approve the Building Department budget for \$160,148.

Seconded by T. Lizotte

Vote 10:1 motion carries

ADJOURN

V. Lembo motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 pm. Second by J. Hyde.

Vote unanimously in favor

Respectfully submitted,

Lee Ann Moynihan