

Unofficial

**BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES
HOOKSETT MUNICIPAL OFFICES
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
35 Main Street
Thursday, March 7, 2013**

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Miville called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

Pledge of Allegiance

ROLL CALL

M. Miville, F. Bizzarro, N. Haas, J. Hyde, C. Morneau, S. Peterson, T. Young, T. Jennings

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

February 7, 2013

F. Bizzarro motioned to table the minutes of February 28, 2013. Seconded by C. Morneau.

NEW BUSINESS

Municipal Budget Discussion

***J. Hyde motioned to reconsider the budget. Seconded by F. Bizzarro.
Vote unanimously in favor***

J. Hyde motioned to reduce line 1-454-01-433 by \$800 to \$1000. Seconded by F. Bizzarro.

J. Hyde stated that he knows from his business experience that is savings to be had there.

C. Soucie: We are under a telephone contract with OTT for voice over internet from 2011-2012 which is why they are lower than budget with a 20% savings with the voice over. The community development went up because they wanted a cell phone.

T. Young: Page 461-01-433- the telephone went from \$34,035 to \$879 which would highlight a significant savings.

C. Soucie: I'm not sure if that one fits in the same mold because of the emergency management line.

Vote 1:7 motion fails

J. Hyde motioned to amend line 454-02-110 public officials by \$1499 to \$1. No second. Fail to receive a second.

J. Hyde motioned to amend line 404-1-110 by \$1799 to \$1. No second. Fail to receive a second.

J. Hyde motioned to amend line 437-11-433 telephone by \$610 to \$4000. Seconded by T. Young.

D. Shankle stated it is the same phone system with four phone lines. There is cell phone form the director and crew chief. We reimburse for personal phones rather than have people carry two phones.

J. Hyde: Are there four lines or four extensions?

C. Soucie: We don't pay for extensions, we pay for DID. There are no copper lines but we pay for a DID. We pay for the internet and all the DID's.

Vote 2:6 motion fails

J. Hyde motioned to amend 437-36-951 street lights reduce by \$10,000 to \$50,000. Seconded by S. Peterson.

J. Hyde stated that if we managed when the lights turn off and on we can reduce costs.

D. Shankle stated that these are street lights and if they chose to turn off lights, anyone is welcome to be on the committee to decide which lights are turned off and which neighborhoods.

Vote 1:7 motion fails

J. Hyde motioned to reduce Fleet maintenance line 437-52-713 by \$11,499 to \$1. Seconded by C. Morneau.

J. Hyde stated he fears we are in for hard times and I he is trying to save taxpayers money and make things last longer.

D. Shankle stated public works and fleet management has started working on the police equipment and may require equipment so they can do the work and save the police department money.

J. Hyde: We were repairing the police equipment before and then it stopped. What happened to that equipment they were using then?

Vote 1:7 motion failed

T. Young motioned to amend the budget 424-01-311 fuel for the police commission to reduce by \$15,000. Seconded by J. Hyde.

T. Young stated that the commission needs to look at fuel efficiency.

J. Hyde stated he knows there are ways to save fuel by tracking the fuel expense rather than going by empirical data.

M. Miville stated that the bid price for three months was \$3.09 but that cost will increase for the remainder of the year with an additional car on the road.

T. Young: We do get our fuel from the State pump which doesn't include tax. There is a possibility that the price will be under \$3.

Vote 2:6 motion failed

T. Young motioned to amend line 424-01-443 training and dues to reduce by \$15,000 to \$20,600. Seconded by N. Comai.

N. Comai stated that she believes that line is contractual and therefore cannot be changed.

T. Young: Looking at the back up lists includes Blue Book and other publications that are available on line. There is no justification for this.

Vote 2:6 motion failed

J. Hyde motioned to reduce line 424-01-481 vehicle and related purchases by 33,408 to \$1. Seconded by T. Young.

J. Hyde stated in speaking to a Police Commissioner off line, he did not receive the justifications warranted for the purchase of an additional vehicle. If we can better maintain vehicles, we can make them last longer.

T. Young: I don't believe the car is needed.

M. Miville: There were 11 vehicles in the fleet and this was reduced to 8 vehicles. There were 2 vehicles in need of major repair and on vehicle traded in (van) which was never used and traded for a cruiser. Currently there is an used cruiser that has a broken transmission. The original request was for 2 vehicles and they compromised for one vehicle this year.

***J. Hyde motioned to call the question
Vote 2:6 motion failed***

N. Comai motioned to call the question

Vote unanimously in favor

Vote on the original question

2:6 motion failed

J. Hyde motioned to amend line 401-71-102 Economic Development to 0. Seconded by F. Bizzarro.

J. Hyde: They only ever spend \$500 per year. I have never received a justification for giving that committee any money. Beyond that, I guess the EDC didn't have anything to do with Bass Pro coming to town. Government should not be managing businesses and they should be getting out of the way by reducing fees.

D. Shankle stated that when they had a meeting at the Library to bring someone from the State to speak, it was very positive.

Vote 1:7 motion fails

J. Hyde motioned to amend line 444-01-713 new equipment for a new sod cutter to \$1. Seconded by F. Bizzarro.

J. Hyde stated that this is again the issue of do we need a new sod cutter. We need to make choices.

D. Shankle stated that although he didn't put it in the budget, Councilor Downer felt that in an effort to maintain the fields, they will be doing this work by hand and it will be needed for the new fields at Peters Brook.

Vote 2:6 motion fails

J. Hyde motioned to reduce line 444-02-811 by \$2000 to \$8400. Seconded by C. Morneau.

J. Hyde stated that Old Home Day will happen and there are plans in place to raise more money than in the past. It will happen and do we need to spend all that money. If we reduce that budget to 0, it will be funded by private funds.

T. Young: Being active in the non-profits in the community, I disagree that private money will fund this. I am hearing that businesses in town are frustrated with the solicitation. To do a fine job as was done in the past, the funding is needed. They spent \$9000 last year and they are looking for \$10,000 this year.

Vote 2:6 motion fails

F. Bizzarro motion to reduce line 424-01-311 by \$3464 to \$86,000. Seconded by J. Hyde.

F. Bizzarro stated that he support Mr. Keach's motion at a previous meeting to increase the fuel with the understanding that reductions would be found elsewhere. We did reduce two lines for \$6000. I don't believe the budget committee should be increasing the Council's budget.

Vote unanimously in favor

J. Hyde motioned to amend line 441-11-529 fuel for the collection by \$20,000 to \$44,000. Seconded by F. Bizzarro

J. Hyde stated that this is a 33% increase from last year. They have spent \$24,000 to date and if double they will spend \$50,000.

N. Comai asked D. Boyce to speak to this.

D. Boyce: We have the second truck this year and the diesel cost is astronomical. The State contract is only a guaranteed amount for one year and the costs are changing and the State is not a guaranteed price. We are budgeting for \$4.00/gl. I think what we have budgeted is right on. The trucks follow the routes and return to the station.

Vote 1:7 motion fails

J. Hyde motioned to reduce animal control operations by \$500 to \$710. Seconded by C. Morneau.

Vote 2:6 motion failed

F. Bizzarro motioned to approve the Final Budget number of \$17,388,572. Seconded by T. Young.

Vote 6:2 motion passes.

PUBLIC HEARING- 7:00 PM

Presentation of Municipal Budget and Warrant Articles

M. Miville opened the public hearing at 8:04.

Article 3

Shall the Town raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant, for the 388,572.00 set forth therein, and other appropriations voted separately totaling \$16,.00. Should this article be defeated, the operating budget shall be \$16,022,113.00, which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town meeting, or by law or the Town Council may hold one special meeting, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only. Note: This article does not include special warrant articles 4 through 20.

No public comment

Article 4

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$100,000.00 to be placed in the Town Building Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund already established. Recommended by the Town Council (7-0),

No public comment

Article 5

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$80,000.00 to be placed in the Plow Dump Trucks Capital Reserve Fund already established. Recommended by the Town Council (7-0),

No public comment

Article 6

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$50,000.00 to be placed in the Fire Apparatus Capital Reserve Fund already established. Recommended by the Town Council (7-0),

No public comment

Article 7

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$50,000.00 to be placed in the Emergency Radio Communication Development Capital Reserve Fund already established. Recommended by the Town Council (7-0),

No public comment

Article 8

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$50,000.00 to be placed in the Drainage Upgrades Capital Reserve Fund already established. Recommended by the Town Council (7-0),

No public comment

Article 9

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$38,000.00 to purchase a Pickup Truck for the Recycling and Transfer Department and to authorize the withdrawal from the Solid Waste Disposal Special Revenue Fund. No amount to be raised from taxation. Recommended by the Town Council (7-0),

No public comment

Article 10

To see if the Town will vote to approve the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Hooksett Town Council and the Public Works\Recycling Union Local 1580, AFSCME Council 93 which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits at the current staffing level:

Estimated increase over prior year

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>Salaries</i>	<i>Benefits</i>	<i>Estimated Increase</i>
<i>2013-14</i>	<i>\$29,209</i>	<i>\$8,220</i>	<i>\$37,429</i>
<i>2014-15</i>	<i>\$22,783</i>	<i>\$6,412</i>	<i>\$29,195</i>

and further to raise and appropriate the sum of \$37,429.00 for the current fiscal year, such sum represents the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits required by the new agreement over those that would be paid at current staffing levels. Recommended by the Town Council (6-0),

No public comment

Article 11

Shall the Town, if article 10 is defeated, authorize the governing body to call one special meeting, at its option, to address article 10 cost items only?

No public comment

Article 12

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$30,000.00 to be placed in the Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund already established. Recommended by the Town Council (7-0),

No public comment

Article 13

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$30,000.00 to purchase a new Fire Prevention utility vehicle for the Fire-Rescue Department. Recommended by the Town Council (7-0),

No public comment

Article 14

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$30,000.00 to purchase a Bobcat for the Recycling and Transfer Department and to authorize the withdrawal from the Solid Waste Disposal Special Revenue Fund. No amount to be raised from taxation. Recommended by the Town Council (7-0),

No public comment

Article 15

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000.00 to be placed in the Upgrading the Diesel Tanks and Fuel Dispenser Capital Reserve Fund already established. Recommended by the Town Council (7-0),

No public comment

Article 16

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$24,000.00 to purchase personal protective equipment for firefighters. Recommended by the Town Council (7-0),

No public comment

Article 17

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$20,000.00 to be placed in the Air Pack and Bottles Capital Reserve Fund already established. Recommended by the Town Council (7-0),

No public comment

Article 18

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$15,000.00 to be placed in the Parks and Recreation Facilities Development Capital Reserve Fund already established. Recommended by the Town Council (7-0),

No public comment

Article 19

To see if the Town will vote to establish a Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the purpose of Infrastructure Improvements on Conservation Land and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000.00 to be placed in this fund, and to name the Town Administrator as the agent to expend. Recommended by the Town Council (7-0),

No public comment

Article 20

To see if the Town will vote raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000.00 to be placed in this Automated Collection Equipment Capital Reserve Fund already established. Recommended by the Town Council (7-0),

No public comment

D. Pearl thanked everyone and having returned to the original budget does not take away from you effort and you didn't cut just to cut. The amendments did bring discussion that was good.

M. Miville closed the public hearing at 8:14 pm

BUSINESS

Budget Committee Recommendation on Warrant Articles

Article 3

Shall the Town raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant, for the purposes set forth therein, and other appropriations voted separately totaling \$16,388,572.00. Should this article be defeated, the operating budget shall be \$16,022,113.00, which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town meeting, or by law or the Town Council may hold one special meeting, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only. Note: This article does not include special warrant articles 4 through 20.

***N. Haas motioned to recommend. Seconded by C. Morneau
Vote 6:2***

Article 4

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$100,000.00 to be placed in the Town Building Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund already established. Recommended by the Town Council (7-0),

***S. Peterson motioned to recommend. Seconded by N. Haas.
Vote 6:2***

Article 5

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$80,000.00 to be placed in the Plow Dump Trucks Capital Reserve Fund already established. Recommended by the Town Council (7-0),

***C. Morneau motioned to recommend. Seconded by F. Bizzarro
Vote 6:2***

Article 6

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$50,000.00 to be placed in the Fire Apparatus Capital Reserve Fund already established. Recommended by the Town Council (7-0),

***S. Peterson motioned to recommend. Seconded by C. Morneau
Vote 6:2***

Article 7

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$50,000.00 to be placed in the Emergency Radio Communication Development Capital Reserve Fund already established. Recommended by the Town Council (7-0),

F. Bizzarro motioned to recommend. Seconded by N. Haas.

Vote 6:2

Article 8

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$50,000.00 to be placed in the Drainage Upgrades Capital Reserve Fund already established. Recommended by the Town Council (7-0),

N. Haas motioned to recommend. Seconded by F. Bizzarro.

T. Young: Understanding we have older roads the Planning Board should be working to eliminate these systems and working to eliminate that exposure. They should set it up so the developers set it up so we never have to do the repairs.

Vote 6:2

Article 9

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$38,000.00 to purchase a Pickup Truck for the Recycling and Transfer Department and to authorize the withdrawal from the Solid Waste Disposal Special Revenue Fund. No amount to be raised from taxation. Recommended by the Town Council (7-0),

S. Peterson motioned recommend. Seconded by C. Morneau.

J. Hyde stated that we just motioned to increase the budget 3% and if we recommend all these articles, my income doesn't go up to meet the increase in the taxes. If all this goes through my personal income will be going down. The State is looking at taxing the gas which will cause my income to go backward. I am asked to sacrifice at all levels for my government. The services remain static but the costs increase. There is waste at all levels. Please keep that in mind when you are making your recommendations.

C. Soucie: The budget increase is 3.5% increase over last year's budget and 1.5% increase over default.

Vote 8:0

Article 10

To see if the Town will vote to approve the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Hooksett Town Council and the Public Works\Recycling Union Local 1580, AFSCME Council 93 which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits at the current staffing level:

Estimated increase over prior year

Fiscal Year	Salaries	Benefits	Estimated Increase
2013-14	\$29,209	\$8,220	\$37,429
2014-15	\$22,783	\$6,412	\$29,195

and further to raise and appropriate the sum of \$37,429.00 for the current fiscal year, such sum represents the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits required by the new agreement over those that would be paid at current staffing levels. Recommended by the Town Council (6-0),

**C. Morneau motioned to recommend. Seconded by F. Bizzarro
Vote 7:1**

Article 11

Shall the Town, if article 10 is defeated, authorize the governing body to call one special meeting, at its option, to address article 10 cost items only?

Article 12

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$30,000.00 to be placed in the Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund already established. Recommended by the Town Council (7-0),

**T. Young motioned to recommend. Seconded by C. Morneau.
Vote 5:3**

Article 13

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$30,000.00 to purchase a new Fire Prevention utility vehicle for the Fire-Rescue Department. Recommended by the Town Council (7-0),

**S. Peterson motioned to recommend. Seconded by N. Haas
Vote 6:2 motion carries**

Article 14

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$30,000.00 to purchase a Bobcat for the Recycling and Transfer Department and to authorize the withdrawal from the Solid Waste Disposal Special Revenue Fund. No amount to be raised from taxation. Recommended by the Town Council (7-0),

**S. Peterson motioned to recommend. Seconded by N. Haas.
Vote 8:0**

Article 15

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000.00 to be placed in the Upgrading the Diesel Tanks and Fuel Dispenser Capital Reserve Fund already established. Recommended by the Town Council (7-0),

**C. Morneau motioned to recommend. Seconded by F. Bizzarro
Vote 7:1**

Article 16

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$24,000.00 to purchase personal protective equipment for firefighters. Recommended by the Town Council (7-0),

**N. Haas motioned to recommend. Seconded by S. Peterson
Vote 7:1**

Article 17

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$20,000.00 to be placed in the Air Pack and Bottles Capital Reserve Fund already established. Recommended by the Town Council (7-0),

F. Bizzarro motioned to recommend. Seconded F. Bizzarro

There is \$122,660 in the account currently and the need is \$300,000 in the year 2020.

Vote 7:1

Article 18

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$15,000.00 to be placed in the Parks and Recreation Facilities Development Capital Reserve Fund already established. Recommended by the Town Council (7-0),

**C. Morneau motioned to recommend. Seconded by N. Haas
Vote 7:1**

Article 19

To see if the Town will vote to establish a Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the purpose of Infrastructure Improvements on Conservation Land and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000.00 to be placed in this fund, and to name the Town Administrator as the agent to expend. Recommended by the Town Council (7-0), N.

**N. Haas motioned to recommend. Seconded by S. Peterson
Vote 6:2**

Article 20

To see if the Town will vote raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000.00 to be placed in this Automated Collection Equipment Capital Reserve Fund already established. Recommended by the Town Council (7-0),

**C. Morneau motioned to recommend. Seconded by F. Bizzarro
Vote 7:1**

The MS form will be available to sign in the Administration office
A letter should be drafted for the meeting guide.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Miville adjourned the meeting at 9:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Lee Ann Moynihan