

# BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING – MARCH 3, 2016

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Approved

**BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING  
Hooksett Town Hall  
35 Main Street  
Thursday, March 3, 2016  
Public Hearing at 7:00 pm  
Meeting following public hearing**

**CALL TO ORDER**

D. Pearl called the public hearing to order at 7:00 pm.

Pledge of Allegiance

**ATTENDANCE**

D. Pearl, Chair, R. Boisvert, J. Hyde, C. Morneau, J. Pieroni, S. Perrotta, S. Peterson, B. Tilton, M. Miville, Town Council Rep. and A. Boilard, School Board Rep.

Excused: K. VanHorn

Absent: Hooksett Village Water Precinct and Central Water Precinct

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

February 18, 2016

*B. Tilton motioned to approve the minutes of February 18, 2016. Seconded by S. Peterson*

*Vote unanimously in favor 2 abstained*

February 25, 2016

*J. Pieroni motioned to approve the minutes of February 25, 2016. Seconded by C. Morneau.*

*Vote unanimously in favor*

*February 25, 2016 Non-public J. Hyde motioned to allow committee members not in attendance to have access to the minutes. Seconded by C. Morneau.*

*Vote unanimously in favor.*

*J. Pieroni motioned to approve the non-public minutes of February 25, 2016. Seconded by A. Boilard*

*Vote unanimously in favor 2 abstained*

**PUBLIC HEARING**

Warrant Articles

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**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 \$17,206,349.00. Should this article be defeated, the operating budget shall be \$17,154,480.00 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. Estimated tax rate impact \$6.39.

No public input

**Article 4**

To see if the town will vote to approve the reconstruction of the Town Roads at a cost not to exceed \$1,500,000.00 payable over a term of 5 years with an annual appropriation of \$300,000.00, and further to raise and appropriate \$300,000.00 for the first year's payment. In each of the following 4 years the appropriation of \$300,000.00 will be contained in the operating budget and the default budget. 3/5<sup>th</sup> majority vote required for passage. Estimated tax rate impact is \$0.19. Recommended by Town Council (8-0),

No public input

**Article 5**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$200,000.00 to be added to the Public Works' Vehicles Capital Reserve Fund previously established. Estimated tax rate impact is \$0.13. Recommended by Town Council (8-0),

No public input

**Article 6**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$194,293.00 for the salaries, overtime, benefits, including uniforms and equipment to hire two (2) new full-time police officers.

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Salaries</u>	<u>Benefits</u>	<u>Estimated Increase</u>
2016-2017	\$109,293.00	\$85,000.00	\$194,293.00

Estimated tax rate impact is \$0.12. Recommended by Town Council (7-1),

No public comment

**Article 7**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$170,000.00 to be added to previously established Capital Reserve Funds and to apportion the sum among several funds as listed below:

Automated Collection Equipment	\$ 30,000.00
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<b>Drainage Upgrades</b>	<b>50,000.00</b>
<b>Parks &amp; Recreation Facilities Development</b>	<b>15,000.00</b>
<b>Town Building Maintenance</b>	<b><u>75,000.00</u></b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 170,000.00</b>

Estimated tax rate impact is \$0.11. Recommended by Town Council (8-0),

No public comment

### **Article 8**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$70,000.00 to be added to the previously established Capital Reserve Funds and to apportion the sum among several funds as listed below:

<b>Fire Apparatus</b>	<b>\$ 50,000.00</b>
<b>Air Packs &amp; Bottles</b>	<b><u>20,000.00</u></b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 70,000.00</b>

Estimated tax rate impact is \$0.04. Recommended by Town Council (8-0),

No public comment

### **Article 9**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$60,000.00 to purchase a Live Bottom Trailer for the Recycling and Transfer Division of Public Works with said funds to come from the Solid Waste Disposal Special Revenue Fund. No amount to be raised from taxation. Recommended by Town Council (8-0),

No public comment

### **Article 10**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$40,000.00 to be added to previously established Capital Reserve Funds and to apportion the sum among several funds as listed below.

<b>Revaluation</b>	<b>\$ 30,000.00</b>
<b>Master Plan</b>	<b><u>10,000.00</u></b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 40,000.00</b>

Estimated tax rate impact is \$0.03. Recommended by Town Council (8-0),

No public comment

### **Article 11**

To see if the town will vote to establish a Sidewalk Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for installing and maintaining sidewalks and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000.00 to be placed in this fund. Further, to name the Town Administrator as the agent to expend from said fund. Estimated tax rate impact is \$0.02. Recommended by Town Council (7-1),

No comment

**Article 12**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000.00 to be placed in the Conservation Fund, said funds to come from the sale of timber on conservation land. No amount to be raised from taxation. Recommended by Town Council (5-3),

No public comment

**Article 13**

To see if the town will vote to establish a Conservation Land Improvements Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for infrastructure improvements on Conservation easements or property and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000.00 to be placed in this fund. Further, to name the Town Administrator as the agent to expend from said fund. Estimated tax rate impact is \$0.01. Recommended by Town Council (7-1),

No public comment

**Article 14**

To see if the town will vote to discontinue the following Capital Reserve Funds with said funds and accumulated interest to date of withdrawal, to be transferred to the town's general fund.

<u>Name of Capital Reserve</u>	<u>Established</u>	
<b><u>Balance</u></b>		
HVAC System Development (Library)	2003	\$ 15.04
Plow Dump Trucks	2012	0.00
Police Computer System Development	2003	13.91
Road Impact Fee Traffic Study	2009	33,046.68
Town Wide Computer Development	2006	23.79
Town Wide Opti-Com System	1996	0.00
Upgrading Diesel Tank & Fuel Dispenser	2012	9,531.67

Recommended by Town Council (8-0),

No public comment

The Board discussed whether to keep the hearing open for a possible Money Petition Warrant Article which was submitted to one Councilor.

Dr. Shankle: After speaking to our attorney, the Charter gives a deadline and the Budget Committee sets a hearing date and a deadline 7 days prior to that hearing. There are specific dates in state law that are in conflict with the Charter. This issue has come up in the past and in all cases, the decision has been to follow the Town Charter.

Dr. Shankle read a draft from the attorney which will be presented to Council on Wednesday. The Charter can specify all processes of the budget. The only issue may be that the resident got the wrong information from a town official.

M. Miville: I got a phone call on Tuesday, March 1<sup>st</sup> and wanted to get the petition in my hands by the end of the day. I was out of town so I told him to drop it at Town Hall. He then met me in my driveway and was first met by my daughter who with my permission, gave it to her. By that time it was after 5:00 pm and the town hall was closed.

B. Tilton: What is the RSA in question?

Dr. Shankle: RSA 40:13 II c

M. Miville: I told the petitioner that I believed the deadline had passed. He wanted it to go to me because I was the town Council rep to the Budget Committee and wanted me to add it to the warrant articles at the public hearing.

B. Tilton: Is the RSA advisory or mandatory?

Dr. Shankle: The town attorney's final argument was that we had a consistent practice since 1990 of following the Charter and he feels comfortable with that.

B. Tilton: Who does the Charter say it has to be submitted to?

Dr. Shankle: The State says the Selectman.

B. Tilton: The Budget Committee puts out the Articles for review prior to this hearing.

D. Pearl: I have seen it but I instructed Lee Ann not to distribute it to the members of the committee to prevent bias.

J. Pieroni: If RSA 40:13 is the governing statute, we have withdrawn from those provisions. We don't follow those provisions. Is it my understanding that the warrant is the prerogative of the governing body? These are the warrants of the governing body and we should not hold up anything or speculating on something that may come. I believe we should move forward.

Dr. Shankle: I don't disagree, but the last thing I want to happen is that someone will come back and ask what did you know and when did you know it. I want to be forthcoming and be as transparent as possible.

M. Miville: It is my understanding that all articles go through the Council and they, the Council has not seen this.

C. Morneau: If the Council does approve it, we can have a special meeting.

D. Pearl: We have two choices, conclude the Public Hearing and make our recommendations or recess until next Thursday. That said, we get all our Warrants from Council and since we have no articles, we have no other recourse.

Dr. Shankle and M. Miville cannot speak for the Council who has not met since this was submitted and will meet on Wednesday.

***R. Boisvert motioned to close the public hearing. Seconded by B. Tilton.***

***J. Hyde motioned to call the question. Seconded by C. Morneau.***

***Vote 8-2***

***Roll Call***

<b><i>J. Hyde</i></b>	<b><i>Yes</i></b>
<b><i>A. Boilard</i></b>	<b><i>Yes</i></b>
<b><i>S. Perrotta</i></b>	<b><i>Yes</i></b>
<b><i>C. Morneau</i></b>	<b><i>Yes</i></b>
<b><i>J. Pieroni</i></b>	<b><i>Yes</i></b>
<b><i>S. Peterson</i></b>	<b><i>Yes</i></b>
<b><i>B. Tilton</i></b>	<b><i>Yes</i></b>
<b><i>R. Boisvert</i></b>	<b><i>Yes</i></b>
<b><i>M. Miville</i></b>	<b><i>Abstain</i></b>
<b><i>D. Pearl</i></b>	<b><i>Yes</i></b>

***9:0:1 motion passed.***

**Final Recommendation on Budget and Warrant Articles**

**Article 4**

J. Hyde: Remember this commits us to a .19 tax increase for 5 years.

M. Miville: We have 89 miles of road that should be repaved every 7 years. The roads are in need of repair. Paving is expensive so it was the decision of the DPW Director and the administration to establish a warrant article to fund this over 5 years in order to catch up.

B. Tilton: We need to maintain our roads. This isn't enough to do everything and this is cheaper than a bond because you don't have to pay interest. It will be difficult to get a 3/5's majority. The town will have to sell this but I am in favor of this.

***J. Pieroni motioned to recommend Article 4. Seconded by J. Hyde***

***Roll Call***

<b><i>M. Miville</i></b>	<b><i>Yes</i></b>
<b><i>A. Boilard</i></b>	<b><i>Yes</i></b>
<b><i>J. Hyde</i></b>	<b><i>No</i></b>
<b><i>S. Perrotta</i></b>	<b><i>Yes</i></b>

*C. Morneau* Yes

*J. Pieroni* Yes

*S. Peterson* Yes

*B. Tilton* Yes

*R. Boisvert* Yes

*D. Pearl* Yes

*Vote 9:1 motion carried.*

#### **Article 5**

*C. Morneau motioned to recommend Article 5. Seconded by A. Boilard.*

This is for dump trucks and other apparatus. There is \$135,000 in the fund.

#### **Roll Call**

*R. Boisvert* Yes

*M. Miville* Yes

*A. Boilard* Yes

*J. Hyde* No

*C. Morneau* Yes

*J. Pieroni* Yes

*S. Peterson* Yes

*B. Tilton* Yes

*S. Perrotta* Yes

*D. Pearl* Yes

*Vote 9:1 motion carried*

#### **Article 6**

*S. Peterson motioned to recommend Article 6. Seconded by C. Morneau.*

J. Pieroni: Did the Council feel that these officers were needed or were they just passing this to the voters?

M. Miville: The sense of the Council was that we put the part time officers in the operating budget and felt new full time officers should go to a warrant with a 7-2 vote to recommend.

B. Tilton: I was impressed with Chief's Bartlett enthusiasm and ideas but I didn't hear an urgent need for this. I didn't hear about major crimes in particular. The one incident at the Firebird and everyone showed up including the SWAT and no one was taking care of the rest of the town. That is an on-site command issue. I didn't get the sense that it was urgent.

D. Pearl: I heard it would alleviate overtime.

#### **Roll Call**

**C. Morneau**    *Yes*  
**J. Pieroni**     *Yes*  
**A. Boilard**    *Yes*  
**J. Hyde**        *No*  
**B. Tilton**      *No*  
**S. Perrotta**    *Yes*  
**M. Miville**    *Yes*  
**S. Peterson**    *Yes*  
**R. Boisvert**    *Yes*  
**D. Pearl**        *No*  
**Vote 7:3 motion carried**

### **Article 7**

**J. Pieroni motioned to recommend Article 7. Seconded by C. Morneau**

J. Hyde: This is an all or nothing article.

M. Miville: This is an attempt to consolidate and shorten the ballot.

J. Hyde: I would like to see these items separate so I can support certain things.

D. Pearl: Regular things should be in budget. It is a strategy by the governing body.

M. Miville: The Park and Rec Facility is under capital improvement because the overall cost of the project is over \$50,000. This is for storage at Donati and to build bathrooms. The intent is to not have tax spikes and gain the money over several years. If we asked to spend \$75,000 to \$100,000 it would increase the budget. This is part of the CIP plan.

Dr. Shankle: Last year, this was \$160,000 and it passed by a vote of 314 to 110.

C. Soucie: Town Building maintenance fund has \$281,000. We need to finish paying the roof and the library and we will have \$30,000 left at the end of the year.

B. Tilton: I agree with Mr. Hyde that they should be split up. I also understand they are CIP items. I know the estimated tax impact is .11. Even though this has been in the budget, is this really going to be .11 higher than we are paying now?

Dr. Shankle: This is only a .01 impact.

### **Roll Call**

**S. Peterson**    *Yes*  
**B. Tilton**       *Yes*  
**C. Morneau**    *Yes*  
**J. Hyde**         *No*

*S. Perrotta*    *No*  
*J. Pieroni*    *Yes*  
*M. Miville*    *Yes*  
*R. Boisvert*    *Yes*  
*A. Boilard*    *Yes*  
*D. Pearl*       *No*

*Vote 7:3 motion carried*

### **Article 8**

*C. Morneau motioned to recommend Article 8. Seconded by A. Boilard*

Fund balance:

\$204,000 for Apparatus

\$177,000 for the air packs

J. Hyde: This is a deal where I can get behind some of it. For example the air packs, should be done on a rotating basis rather than all at once. You don't have to replace everything at once. To save up money and do it all at once is asking for something bad to happen.

J. Pieroni: I think we got behind on the Fire Apparatus and had to lease and pay interest. Sometimes there is an advantage to buying all at once because there is a price advantage and training and parts are the same. Actually in the end, the money is the same whether you buy at once or save a little at a time.

S. Peterson: Can we ask the Department if they have an explanation?

Jim Burkush: The air packs have an operational life of 15 years. The firefighters are certified to operate which saves money. It is also cheaper to buy all at once. They also change from year to year so it is better to buy all the same.

### **Roll Call**

*A. Boilard*    *Yes*  
*S. Perrotta*    *Yes*  
*R. Boisvert*    *Yes*  
*S. Peterson*    *Yes*  
*C. Morneau*    *Yes*  
*J. Hyde*        *No*  
*M. Miville*    *Yes*  
*J. Pieroni*    *Yes*  
*B. Tilton*     *Yes*  
*D. Pearl*       *Yes*

*Vote 9:1 motion carried*

### **Article 9**

*J. Pieroni motioned to recommend Article 9. Seconded by A. Boilard.*

M. Miville: This comes from a special revenue fund from transfer and therefore no amount from taxation.

***Roll Call***

***J. Hyde***        ***Yes***

***B. Tilton***      ***Yes***

***S. Perrotta***    ***Yes***

***R. Boisvert***    ***Yes***

***C. Morneau***    ***Yes***

***M. Miville***     ***Yes***

***J. Pieroni***      ***Yes***

***S. Peterson***    ***Yes***

***A. Boilard***     ***Yes***

***D. Pearl***        ***Yes***

***Vote unanimously in favor 10:0 motion carried***

**Article 10**

***C. Morneau motioned to recommend. Article 10. Seconded by A. Boilard.***

A. Boilard: Is this going to be the second year of this fund?

M. Miville: This is the second year of a three year plan.

Dr. Shankle: Last year they were separate; \$30,000 for revaluation and it passed and the Master Plan also passed as a separate article.

J. Hyde: Here again these have been put together. The revaluation has to be done so it is a need. The Master Plan is not needed because it changes as government changes. So here I have to vote no even though I would like to vote yes on one.

M. Miville: The revaluation has to be done every 5 years. The last revaluation was done without funds so we had to take over \$90,000 out of the operating budget. The Master Plan should be updated every 10 years and it now has been 12 years. There is \$22,000 in the Master Plan fund.

Dr. Shankle: We are doing it a little at a time. They did Economic development and they are doing facilities work. Last time the Regional Planning Commission did it for 90,000 and now we are trying to do it in house.

B. Tilton: Is the State mandating the Master Plan be updated every 10 years?

Dr. Shankle: It is not a mandate like the revaluation but without a master plan your zoning isn't valid. If you are going to do innovative planning, you need a master plan. The Conservation Commission did an excellent job with their part of the master plan and got all the parts they said they wanted in the master plan over the last 10 years.

J. Pieroni: Also don't you need a master plan to use impact fees?

Dr. Shankle: Yes

B. Tilton: These should be broken out. I agree with J. Hyde. It is difficult to vote on these tied together in one article. I think it should be noted that the "no" is opposed t

S. Peterson: I think some issues are that the town had too many warrant articles.

***Roll Call***

***R. Boisvert***     ***Yes***

***S. Peterson***    ***Yes***

***J. Hyde***         ***No***

***M. Miville***     ***Yes***

***J. Pieroni***     ***Yes***

***A. Boilard***     ***Yes***

***B. Tilton***       ***No***

***S. Perrotta***    ***Yes***

***C. Morneau***    ***Yes***

***D. Pearl***       ***No***

***Vote 7:3 motion carried***

**Article 11**

***A. Boilard motioned to recommend Article 11. Seconded by C. Morneau***

A. Boilard: This is the first request for these funds. How many years is this for? Is there a plan or goal?

M. Miville: There is no plan this is to see if the voters want to establish this to build sidewalks in the future.

A. Boilard: I don't think I can support this if it is only going to be good for 90 feet.

J. Pieroni: I'm opposed because there isn't enough information about where they are, if they will be maintained, what the cost will be. I would like to see a plan before I support this.

B. Tilton: I think we did see a rough plan. The Administrator will monitor the priorities and they discussed Martin's Ferry and walkers from SNHU. When I was on the Community Profile we heard that sidewalks were a desire. I think that is the will of the people.

***Roll Call***

***J. Hyde***         ***No***

**A. Boilard**     *No*  
**M. Miville**    *Yes*  
**S. Perrotta**    *No*  
**R. Boisvert**    *No*  
**S. Peterson**    *Yes*  
**C. Morneau**    *Yes*  
**J. Pieroni**      *No*  
**B. Tilton**       *Yes*  
**D. Pearl**        *No*  
**Vote 4:6 motion failed**

## **Article 12**

**J. Pieroni motioned to recommend Article 12. Seconded by C. Morneau.**

J. Hyde: To be consistent when I was on the Town Council, I have philosophical issues with this. I don't believe the town should own as much land as it should, and if it is to conserve it why are you going to log it. I am opposed to the Conservation Commission and how do they know they will be getting \$25,000 out in timber.

J. Pieroni: I think good management is to cut trees and allow new growth. Conservation is not being developed with houses and school children so it can be a saving.

A. Boilard: Why was there 5-3 vote by Council.

M. Miville: The Deliberation by Council was whether to put the money in the general fund or conservation. The timber will be cut and will be beneficial to the property. The person cutting the land will take his cut and the profits will come to town on a daily basis. The discussion was at the meeting, it was proposed by Conservation and they want the profit of the cut and put the money in Conservation rather than the town general fund. The money cannot be used to purchase more land but it can only be used to pay for more infrastructure. The \$25,000 is an estimate. The logger is estimating \$15,000. Five Councilors recommended giving it to Conservation. The three that voted no said it should go to town as it is town property.

Dr. Shankle: Comparing the two articles, Article 13 is for land improvements but the existing Conservation Fund can be used to purchase more land.

J. Hyde: How do they know it will be \$25,000? You said it will be \$15,000. It doesn't say up to \$25,000. If they only get \$15,000, where will the other \$10,000 come from?

Dr. Shankle: The operative phrase is after, said fund to come from the sale of timber on Conservation land only. Money can only come from that source.

The Conservation fund has \$473,000.

S. Perrotta: I support Conservation but there are more pressing needs in the town and there is a sizable amount in that fund.

***Roll Call***

***J. Pieroni***      *Yes*

***J. Hyde***        *No*

***A. Boilard***     *No*

***M. Miville***     *Yes*

***S. Perrotta***    *No*

***R. Boisvert***    *No*

***S. Peterson***    *Yes*

***C. Morneau***    *No*

***B. Tilton***       *Yes*

***D. Pearl***        *No*

***Vote 4:6 motion failed***

**Article 13**

***C. Morneau motioned to recommend Article 13. Seconded by B. Tilton.***

J. Hyde: Can they use the \$400,000 in that fund to do what they need?

M. Miville: No, they are looking to do improvements like Pinnacle Park which needed a parking lot. That came from this fund.

C. Soucie: This is a new fund.

Dr. Shankle: It has been on the CIP but never went on a warrant. They are planning trails and bridges and we will need to have a fund to maintain it. If we put money in this it has to be used for maintenance.

J. Hyde: Given what was said, there are other ways to fund those things rather than give money to conservation. There are Scouts, Kiwanis and my companies do these types of projects. I don't think we need to establish another fund.

J. Pieroni: If we look at what the Conservation Commission has done with acquiring property. There are expenses, like the trail. The people in the community like this and we need to maintain them. They have been able to get grants which require matching fund and that is why you need money to go into negotiations and get grants. The taxpayers spent 10% on the cost of the land that they acquired over the past 10 years because they had some seed money.

A. Boilard: How much did we receive in grant money for Conservation? Was it \$500,000?

C. Soucie: I don't know

Dr. Shankle: They didn't get everything they applied for. I think it was \$80,000.

A. Boilard: I think it is confusing for the people to have multiple separate funds. They shouldn't be dividing up all these little separate funds.

J. Hyde: If this is a new fund, how have they been paying for these things?

Dr. Shankle: The things they want to do will be controlled by the Administrator. We will use Kiwanis and other funds when possible.

***Roll Call***

***C. Morneau***    ***Yes***

***B. Tilton***     ***Yes***

***J. Pieroni***    ***Yes***

***A. Boilard***    ***No***

***S. Perrotta***   ***Yes***

***M. Miville***   ***Yes***

***R. Boisvert***   ***No***

***S. Peterson***   ***Yes***

***J. Hyde***       ***No***

***D. Pearl***      ***No***

***Vote 6:4 motion carried***

**Article 14**

***A. Boilard motioned to recommend Article 14. Seconded by C. Morneau***

J. Pieroni: The Road Impact Fee Study, was it done and does it need to be done?

Dr. Shankle: The first study was done and they have decided not to do the second study.

J. Hyde: If we have this money being discontinued, could we move this money to where it may be needed.

C. Soucie: No

S. Peterson: Was that money not used for the diesel tank?

D. Boyce: We went to bid and it was \$9000 less.

***Roll Call***

***M. Miville***    ***Yes***

***R. Boisvert***   ***Yes***

***B. Tilton***     ***Yes***

***S. Perrotta***   ***Yes***

***J. Pieroni***    ***Yes***

***A. Boilard***    ***Yes***

*S. Peterson Yes*

*C. Morneau Yes*

*J. Hyde Yes*

*D. Pearl Yes*

*Vote 10:0 motion carried*

### **Article 3**

*J. Hyde motioned to recommend Article 3. Seconded by C. Morneau.*

This budget is \$51,000 higher than the default and \$27,000 over last year's budget.

J. Pieroni: The budget is low but we have \$500,000 in warrant articles. I never heard anyone say in order to get these police officers you need to take it from somewhere else. We did that with the School District. I've never seen one governing body cut so hard another governing body's budget. I will vote against it because there is \$18,000 for fireman to get educated. We've increase volunteer night by 50% when we cut recognition night. Ammo is being bought out of town and we were trying to buy all school supplies in town. I don't think this committee treated both budgets equally. I'm speaking to the inequity with how the two budgets were handled.

M. Miville: As the Town Council Rep, I am required to support what the Council has approved. Each time, I never told anyone whether I approve the Council's decision or not. Regarding the school, I am required by Statute to be on this committee and look at the budgets and I did see access in the School budget. There is money that is mandated by the school but there was a lot that could be cut. You don't know what questions I asked on the town side. Now I must support that budget.

J. Hyde: The Town budget has been historically far more steady and deliberative and far more tight than the school has ever been. If there was a different approach it was probably from frustration. And you already won so brining this up now is over the top.

C. Morneau: The Town budget is transparent and we didn't see that with the School.

J. Pieroni: This is my last year and I hope next year the Committee looks at them all the same way.

S. Perrotta: I agree with Mr. Pieroni because I voted no last week because I would have like to see a consistent process.

D. Pearl: We have a Planning Meeting scheduled for the future.

M. Miville: In addition to transparency, in support of the taxpayer, I ask for restraint and that is the difference. An example is with the Council discussion, the Administrator and the Finance Director didn't want to add more to the computer fund because of the mandate to level fund.

S. Perrotta: I think the town could have shaved a little off but it is so little it isn't worth pursuing.

*A. Boilard Yes*

*J. Hyde Yes*

*S. Perrotta Yes*

*C. Morneau Yes*

*J. Pieroni Yes*

*S. Peterson Yes*

*B. Tilton Yes*

*R. Boisvert Yes*

*M. Miville Yes*

*D. Pearl Yes*

*10:0 motion carried.*

Dr. Shankle thanked the committee for the process. I will take into consideration you're comments.

C. Soucie: We have to sign the MS forms and the last day for Council to post is March 18<sup>th</sup>. After the Council meeting we will contact you to sign. A report for the Voters' Guide is needed by March 23<sup>rd</sup>.

A. Boilard: I would encourage you to listen to the information prior to forming your opinion. I totally understand your frustration and by playing the way you did you forced my hand. In the future, wait for the information before making your cuts like you did on the town side.

D. Pearl: We are scheduling a planning meeting and that would be a good topic to discuss.

D. Pearl thanked Mr. Pieroni for his service since this is his last year on the committee.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

#### **Future Budget Committee Meetings and Agenda Items**

D. Pearl: There are two ideas: a planning meeting before the election because I would like to take advantage of the current Board members and review the year we had and plan next year. General things like formatting and schedules could be discussed. If the warrant article passes to change the election date, we need another meeting on how we will achieve getting both budgets done. I also thought that in the off time, it would be good to set up tours with all the departments when we are not busy with the budgets. I don't think it would preclude us from touring or viewing specific buildings during the budget cycle.

**Next meeting scheduled for May 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:30**

*C. Morneau motioned to hold a planning meeting on May 19 at 6:30 pm. Seconded by J. Hyde*

*Vote unanimously in favor.*

*J. Pieroni motioned that the Town Rep call a Budget Meeting on July 14<sup>th</sup> to hold an organization meeting and elect officers. Seconded by C. Morneau.  
Vote unanimously in favor*

**ADJOURN**

*J. Hyde motioned to adjourn. Seconded by C. Morneau  
Vote unanimously in favor.*

Respectfully submitted,

Lee Ann Moynihan