

**TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14, 2001**

The meeting was called to order at 6:30pm.

PRESENT: Chairman R. Dion, S. Sheidow, T. Young, D. Pichette-Volk, P. Rueppel, R. Holley, M. Jolin, P. Ganley, D. Duford.

S. Sheidow moved at 6:33pm to enter into nonpublic session under RSA 91-A:3,II,a,b. Motion seconded by T. Young. **Roll call vote carried unanimously.**

T. Young moved at 8:22pm to exit nonpublic session. Motion seconded by S. Sheidow.

Roll call:	S. Sheidow	yes	T. Young	yes
	D. Pichette-Volk	yes	P. Rueppel	yes
	R. Dion	yes	R. Holley	yes
	M. Jolin	yes	P. Ganley	yes
	D. Duford	no		<u>Roll call vote carried.</u>

Chairman Dion announced that action was taken in nonpublic session in which Michael Farrell has an approved and ratified contract with the Town. The Chairman congratulated M. Farrell.

WARRANT ARTICLES: D. Pichette-Volk, thanked all of the department heads for their hard work during the budget process and their continued hard work. The Department Heads have been at every meeting and she needed and appreciated their help to answer questions appropriately. She thanked Mike Farrell – Town Administrator, Diane Savoie - Finance Director and the Council members who attended the sessions. The Department heads were very professional and very prepared. The Budget Committee's response was that everyone did an excellent job. There were very few questions because the background information was detailed and complete. The Budget Committee consisted of professional people with varied backgrounds who asked excellent questions, took the process very seriously and were committed. The first Budget Committee public hearing is March 15, 2001 with a second public hearing on March 29, 2001. The Budget Committee is waiting for a fully endorsed warrant, results of the Town Administrator's contract, the Town Engineer position and the T.I.F.

D. Pichette-Volk explained the Budget Summary (**See Attachment #1**) which shows an increase in Budget Committee, Police and Administration. Budget Committee increased because of the resignation of Elizabeth Stewart, the Secretary. Elizabeth did not charge for all of the time she put in and in order to hire someone new, the new secretary will have to be paid for all of her/his work thus the \$1,000 increase. The Police budget increased because the request for three police officers was placed into the budget where it belonged instead of in a warrant article. The SAU puts new teachers into their operating budget and in order to keep continuity, the same was done for the Town. The Administration budget increased because of the benefits associated with the three police officers.

D. Pichette-Volk explained the Warrant page. (**See Attachment #2**) Article #4 is the three police officers, which will show as zero because they've been removed from the warrant and placed into the budget. Article #5 remains as is. Article #6, police vehicles, was strongly suggested by the Budget Committee that they be placed into the budget because it's a consumable item yearly, which is used up and appropriate to be in the operating budget. They strongly urge it be in the budget next year. Article #16 and #17, Highway vehicles, one could be supported but not both. Article #24, the Transfer Station pickup truck, could be foregone this year and the Building Department truck could be given to Transfer. Article #7 the Fire Department quint truck, the need was agreed upon but the Budget Committee felt the issue was how to pay for it. The future users of it should pay for it as they would benefit from it and would have the opportunity to pay for it

through a lease arrangement. The \$55,000 annual payment vs. \$575,000 purchase was attractive.

D. Pichette very pleased with the support from the Budget Committee on the items the Council wrestled with. We should align ourselves with the Budget Committee.

R. Dion agreed and stated it's better when everyone can agree on the proposals. Historically it's proven that when that happens, the budgets pass. The Town can't live with another default budget. We need to be unified.

D. Pichette-Volk explained the budget pie chart as a very useful tool in picture form. **(See Attachment #3)** This will be presented to the Budget Committee at the March 15th public hearing.

T. Young moved to align the Town Council recommendations with the Budget Committee by placing the three police officers in the budget; their benefits in administration, and the \$1,000 increase in Budget Committee. Motion seconded by P. Ganley. **Roll call vote carried unanimously.**

T. Young moved to delete Warrant Article #4, three police officers. Motion seconded by R. Holley. **Roll call vote carried unanimously.**

R. Dion addressed Article #7 the Fire Department quint truck. **(See Attachment #4)** The Budget Committee's recommendation was to lease at \$55,000 for 15 years rather than purchase at \$575,000.

D. Duford stated that the quint truck would save interest if purchased rather than leased.

S. Sheidow asked for the Town Administrator's opinion.

M. Farrell answered he supports a lease. The municipal interest is low around 5% and might be lower in June.

D. Pichette-Volk stated the Budget Committee felt that Articles #8, 9, 10 and 11 should not be collapsed but remain as potential starting money for lease payments in future years.

S. Sheidow moved that the Town Council accept the Budget Committee's recommendation and change Article #7 to a lease/purchase. Motion seconded by R. Holley.

T. Young stated we are giving a false pretense on a deflated CIP this year and that next year we will have a CIP request of \$500,000 - \$600,000.

R. Dion stated he would explain why the Council cut back on a lot of things for the quint fire truck purchase rather than what would normally be proposed.

M. Jolin moved to amend the motion to a five-year lease instead of a 15-year lease. Motion seconded by T. Young.

M. Jolin explained that this would be more in the range of what the Council was talking about and he would feel more comfortable with the interest payment in a five-year lease/purchase.

D. Pichette-Volk that a non-appropriation clause is needed.

M. Farrell stated that anything over \$100,000 would need a 66% voter approval but with a non-appropriation clause only a 51% majority is needed.

Roll call on amendment:

M. Jolin	yes	T. Young	yes
P. Ganley	no	S. Sheidow	yes
P. Rueppel	no	D. Pichette-Volk	no
D. Duford	yes	R. Holley	no
R. Dion	yes		

Roll call vote carried on amendment.

Roll call on original motion as amended:

T. Young	yes	P. Ganley	no
S. Sheidow	yes	P. Rueppel	no
D. Pichette-Volk	yes	D. Duford	yes
R. Holley	no	M. Jolin	yes
R. Dion	yes		

Roll call vote on original motion as amended carried.

T. Young moved to recommend Article #5. Motion seconded by R. Holley. **Roll call vote carried unanimously.**

S. Sheidow moved to extend the meeting in order to finish the warrant articles. Motion seconded by D. Duford. **Roll call:**

S. Sheidow	yes	P. Rueppel	no
D. Pichette-Volk	yes	D. Duford	no
R. Holley	yes	M. Jolin	no
T. Young	yes	P. Ganley	yes
R. Dion	yes		

Roll call vote carried.

S. Sheidow moved to recommend Article #6. Motion seconded by T. Young. **Roll call:**

S. Sheidow	yes	T. Young	yes
D. Pichette-Volk	yes	P. Rueppel	yes
R. Dion	yes	R. Holley	yes
M. Jolin	yes	P. Ganley	no
D. Duford	yes		

Roll call vote carried.

T. Young moved to delete Article #8, 9, 10, 11 and include their references in Article #7. Motion seconded by D. Duford. **Roll call:**

S. Sheidow	no	T. Young	yes
D. Pichette-Volk	yes	P. Rueppel	yes
R. Dion	yes	R. Holley	yes
M. Jolin	yes	P. Ganley	yes
D. Duford	yes		

Roll call vote carried.

T. Young moved to recommend Article # 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, & 28. Motion seconded by M. Jolin.

D. Duford moved to amend to not recommend Article #14. Motion seconded by M. Jolin.

After much discussion of the best procedure in which to do this, **M. Jolin withdrew his second and D. Duford withdrew his amendment. M. Jolin withdrew his second and T. Young withdrew his motion.**

T. Young moved to recommend Article #12, 13, 15, 18, 19, 20, 21, 23, 25, 26. Motion seconded by D. Pichette-Volk. **Roll call vote carried unanimously.**

T. Young moved to recommend Article #14. Motion seconded by R. Holley.

D. Duford stated this piece of equipment is not necessary. It sits around doing nothing even though the Town is in the middle of a public safety crisis.

M. Farrell stated there were 79 forest fires last year.

T. Young urged that it be recommended. The vehicle in question is a 1981 model and every year it's put it off until the following year.

<u>Roll call vote:</u>	S. Sheidow	yes	T. Young	yes
	D. Pichette-Volkyes		P. Rueppel	no
	R. Dion	yes	R. Holley	yes
	M. Jolin	yes	P. Ganley	no
	D. Duford	no		

Roll call vote carried.

D. Pichette-Volk moved to delete Article #16. Motion seconded by D. Duford. **Roll call:**

M. Jolin	yes	T. Young	no
P. Ganley	no	S. Sheidow	no
P. Rueppel	yes	D. Pichette-Volkyes	
D. Duford	yes	R. Holley	no
R. Dion	no		

Roll call vote failed.

T. Young moved to recommend Article #16. Motion seconded by R. Holley. **Roll call:**

S. Sheidow	no	P. Rueppel	no
D. Pichette-Volkno		D. Duford	no
R. Dion	yes	R. Holley	yes
M. Jolin	yes	P. Ganley	yes
T. Young	yes		

Roll call vote carried.

P. Ganley moved to recommend Article #22. Motion seconded by M. Jolin. **Roll call:**

S. Sheidow	yes	P. Rueppel	yes
D. Pichette-Volkyes		R. Dion	yes
R. Holley	yes	M. Jolin	yes
P. Ganley	no	D. Duford	yes
T. Young	yes		

Roll call vote carried.

P. Rueppel moved to recommend Article #24. Motion seconded by S. Sheidow. **Roll call:**

S. Sheidow	yes	D. Pichette-Volkno	
T. Young	no	P. Rueppel	yes
R. Dion	yes	R. Holley	yes
M. Jolin	yes	P. Ganley	yes
D. Duford	yes		

Roll call vote carried.

D. Duford moved to not recommend Article #27. Motion seconded by P. Ganley. **Roll call:**

D. Pichette-Volkno		R. Holley	no
T. Young	no	P. Ganley	no
S. Sheidow	no	R. Dion	no
D. Duford	yes	P. Jolin	yes
P. Rueppel	yes		

Roll call vote failed.

T. Young moved to recommend Article #27. Motion seconded by P. Ganley. **Roll call:**

D. Duford	no	R. Holley	yes
M. Jolin	no	T. Young	yes
P. Ganley	yes	S. Sheidow	yes
P. Rueppel	no	D. Pichette-Volk	yes
R. Dion	yes		

Roll cal vote carried.

D. Pichette-Volk moved to recommend Article #28. Motion seconded by T. Young. **Roll call:**

S. Sheidow	yes	T. Young	yes
D. Pichette-Volkyes		P. Rueppel	yes
R. Dion	yes	R. Holley	yes
M. Jolin	yes	P. Ganley	yes

D. Duford no **Roll call vote carried.**

Chairman Dion announced the Council would have a Special Council Meeting on Thursday, March 22, 2001, 6:30pm, to discuss the T.I.F. amendment, Town Engineer position, and warrant finalization. There will be two public hearings on March 28, 2001 for the T.I.F. bond and Sewer bond. Town Meeting on Friday, April 13, 2001 will be at 7pm.

Chairman Dion adjourned the meeting at 10:00pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Elizabeth D. Dinwoodie
Acting Administrative Assistant

Denise Pichette-Volk
Town Council Secretary