

Town of Jaffrey, NH Budget Committee Minutes

May 13, 2009

Attendance: Bob Bussiere, Chair; Jake Jalbert, Norm Langevin, Sarah Cournoyer, Bill Gilson, Sue Greenough, Mike Hartman

Absent: Frank Sterling

Guest: Selectman Don MacIsaac

Meeting opened at 7:00pm

Bob introduced Sue Greenough as the newest member to the Budget Committee. Bob explained to her the process of the meetings and its function.

Minutes: Bill questioned paragraph 2 on page 2 concerning Selectman's Articles. It was requested and agreed upon to remove the second sentence. **Motion was made, seconded and passed to accept the minutes from previous meeting as amended.**

Old Business: Bill asked if there was any training by the state for members on the budget committee. Don and Mike will look into this. Norman will also check his records for the course he took a few years ago with the state.

Bill commented that he was reviewing the Charter 32 Budget Municipal Act with it stating that the committee should see the revenues as well as the costs. It was mentioned to Bill that Mike made the promise to do this for the committee on a quarterly basis. Website link on this is: www.gencourt.state.nh.us/rsa/html/iii/32

New Business: Capital Improvement Committee requested to have a member representative from the Budget Committee. Mike mentioned who currently was on this committee. This would be a full voting member. Bill Gilson volunteered and was supported by the Budget committee.

Ice storm costs were discussed. \$192,824.96 is the calculated cost to date with FEMA paying for 75% of this. It is unclear if the state will pay for any portion of the remaining 25%. The state has not committed to this at this time. Approximate cost breakdown: \$22,900 for debris removal in December, \$103,600 for DPW and Police emergency response and \$66,200 for Fire Department and shelter.

Ongoing costs have been factored into the total. This was done by a "Windshield Survey" with the town department heads. Overtime hours for the dump included in these costs as well. Brush being chipped on site and then delivered to the dump for residential and or town use.

Bill asked why the Budget Committee members and the minutes were not displayed on the town's website. He felt and was supported by other members that the committee's role and importance was underplayed. **A motion was made, seconded and passed to have the Budget Committee be included on the town's website.**

Mike mentioned that the towns Building Inspector is back on a part time basis. This line on the budget is still over due to paying for two salaries until Dave is ready to be back on a full time basis.

Recapitulation of Budget:

Line 4130-2-750: Over due to the printer needing to be replaced. This was an unanticipated purchase.

Line 4152-2-312: Abatements, etc are still ongoing. The bidding has not gone out yet for an assessment company.

Legal: Minimum case still on-going at this time.

4191-1-561: Numbers incorrect due to a coding error. Cost for this should be in line 4191-1-560.

Cemeteries: Have a new local contractor doing this work.

Police department is down two officers. The Chief and Detective willing to take shifts to help keep the budget in line.

Fire department water budget over due to the pumps are now being filled from a metered line. All municipal buildings and the fire department now have to be metered per the state. State wants to see only a 5% loss on water. Jaffrey was at 22% and is currently at 15% approximately. The question was asked if the town gets a different rate and Mike said no.

DPW's crew wages and overtime will go up due to tree removal around town.

Street lighting. This program was delayed until Junes meeting.

4321-1-140: Transfer station part time and overtime wages to be over due to debris cleanup and being open on Sundays for a period of time.

Economic Development: It was mentioned that Printegra will be closing.

4909-1-730: This line is the \$60,000 as recommended by the Budget Committee plus the \$140,000 that was voted in by the residents at town meeting.

4332-2-610: Mis-coding error. Dollars should go into line 4332-2-681.

The new meters were discussed for water and comment made that this program was just completed.

4326-3-440: A new generator was purchased during the ice storm. The waste treatment generator died during the 2nd day of the storm. Mike is hoping that this will be reimbursed by FEMA.

The new effluent system is started handling the waste on April 26, 2009. Mike offered to give the group a tour if so desired.

Agenda for the upcoming meeting for the year was attached to minutes.

Next meeting June 10, 2009.

Meeting adjourned at 8:18 PM.

Norman Langevin, secretary pro-tem