

Town of Jaffrey, NH Budget Committee Minutes

June 10, 2009

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

Guest: Selectman Don MacIsaac

Meeting opened at 7:09pm

Minutes: Under New Business it was requested to replace "25%" with "or any portion of" concerning the state paying any balance of the ice storm costs. **Motion was made, seconded and passed to accept the minutes from previous meeting as amended.**

Old Business:

Bill Gilson is now a member of the Capital Improvement Committee.

Bob reiterated the importance of the Budget Committee being on the town's website. Mike will make sure that this happens.

Ice storm update by Frank and Mike. \$212,000 total to date in bills. \$160,000+ received from FEMA. Sunday openings at the dump for the public were very successful. The dump will now take wood over 5" in diameter if the resident gets it there.

Jake asked about the completion of the new waste treatment center and suggested a possible tour for the committee. It was mentioned that there will be an open house, dedication, of the facility at the end of June or beginning of July. Jake also suggested a tour of the courthouse if it could be arranged.

New Business:

Handout of the "Proposed Paving List 2009" was discussed by the Selectman on Monday, 06/08/2009. Estimated costs currently at \$212,298. No final decisions have been made to date. To be updated as it proceeds.

For discussion sake only, should we possibly have Randy review for next years budget putting zero dollars in the line item for road repairs and replace it with a Warrant Article. The town has for the last nine years had \$160,000 for road repairs. This is good but still not enough money to keep up with needed repairs. This was not recommended by Mike and Frank.

Much discussion was had concerning the Pro's and Con's of warrant Articles.

Bill attended his first CIP meeting. Felt this was a very good committee and may be a helpful resource for the Budget Committee to make better decisions on projects.

Jake mentioned that over the years we have been neglectful on the Capital reserve Account. We should keep this in mind for the upcoming year. This should be brought up for discussion for future meetings.

Revaluation process coming due for 2010 starting with the bid process.

Bob mentioned that if a special meeting is ever cancelled, especially if it involves budget committee approval on monies, that the administration sends the committee a letter of cancellation. Mike said that with the absence of Phyllis, it would be helpful to have all the members email address. Emailing the committee members would be the best way to communicate necessary information.

Recapitulation of Budget:

Most departments still have about 59% to 60% of their budget left.

Water / Sewer / Taxes are done on an accrual basis – booked when received. Everything else is done on a cash basis – booked when paid.

Energy committee is meeting concerning the street lights. Proposal is to shut off 70 to 71 lights with an approximate savings of \$5,000. Seventeen lights were kept from list. Savings is mainly the bulbs and fixtures with approximately \$22,000 savings annually. There are over 260 lights that need to be replaced except for the 70 being shut down. Fire Chief Chamberlain was not in favor of shutting any lights off. Police Chief Oswalt okay with the recommended 70. It will take 3 years to recoup the savings. **Motion was made, 2nd and passed to send a letter from the Budget Committee to the Energy Committee thanking them for their efforts.** Mike to draft the letter and have Bob come to the office for his signature.

Judicial, okay for now but eventually we will be hit with the costs for the current on-going case.

Police is still short two officers and one officer is on light duty.

Mike reiterated that we still save money by having outside contractors doing the lawns instead of the public works employees.

Line 4195-1-430: Entry error.

Question was raised if we have negotiated price of oil for up-coming year? Not at this time.

Open invitation to have any of our meetings at the Meeting House in Jaffrey Center. Suggested that we have our September 9th meeting there. Agreed by group to do this.

Sewer rental line item was high due to renting a generator during the ice storm.

Motion was made, 2nd and passed to order for each committee member a copy of the “Budget Law Book”.

Next meeting September 9, 2009.

Meeting adjourned at 8:41 PM.

Norman Langevin, secretary pro-tem