

LONDONDERRY BUDGET COMMITTEE
Minutes of the Meeting of
1/2/08

The regular meeting of the Budget Committee was held in the Sunnycrest Conference Room, Town Hall, 268B Mammoth Road, Londonderry.

Committee Members Present: Tom Freda – Chairman, Mike Brown, Tom Dolan, Jay Hooley

Other Officials Present: Ben Parker – School Board, Peter Curro – School District Business Administrator

I. CALL TO ORDER : The meeting was called to order at 7:10 by Mr. Freda.

II. COMMITTEE WORK

A. Approval of Meeting Minutes of **December 27, 2007**

A motion was made by Tom Dolan to approve the minutes of December 27, 2007, second by Jay Hooley.

The vote on the motion was as follows:

Member	For	Against	Abstain	Absent
Tom Freda, Chairman	x			
Sean O’Keefe, Vice Chairman				x
Mike Brown			x	
Tom Dolan	x			
Jay Hooley, Secretary	x			
John Robinson				x
Totals	3		1	2

There was discussion on protocol relative to abstention on approval of minutes if the party had missed the meeting. Mr. Brown felt that any members not present for a meeting should not vote to approve the minutes of said meeting. Mr. Dolan felt that this was not necessary, that the content of the minutes could be reviewed. It was noted that meetings were available for video review if a member missed on. It was also questioned whether or not a “quorum” was required to vote on approval, or whether fewer than a quorum could vote if a quorum was present and a member abstained. Since a quorum was in attendance, and an member chose to abstain, the vote was honored.

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. Final Review of School Budget recommendations for Superintendent and School Board

There was discussion of a variety of subjects relative to the School operating budget. Mr. Freda questioned Mr. Curro about copier leases and variation in costs between facilities. Mr. Curro explained that volume and other uses of a copier (i.e. printer) would affect pricing.

There was a discussion about options relative to the capital lease and the potential to avoid interest costs.

There was discussion about potential savings for bus routes with reduced population. Mr. Curro explained that mileage as well as population played a role, and that we were down to a minimum number of bus routes now.

Mike Brown questioned the need for the “reserve” teaching position for North School as a contingency and expressed his preference to “capture” this savings now and adjust to student increase if and when it happens. Mr. Parker explained Mr. Greenburg’s rationale. The question was raised if this is a “typical” strategy. It was noted that this was anomalous.

Mr. Brown questioned the \$10,000 placeholder for IT consulting in light of an IT Director being hired. Mr. Curro noted that this was for unusual or “catastrophic” failure contingencies and most years is not fully expended.

Mr. Hooley noted that if the budget lines over ‘default’ were in line with default, this would further reduce the budget \$237,000.

There was lively discussion regarding the proposed generator for the HS Gymnasium. Mr. Dolan felt that the Town side of the budget should fund this. It was noted that as a separate warrant article, this would be voted for as a “standalone” item, whether on the School or Town Ballot. Mr. Curro noted that “community services” is something that the School System already provides in addition to education.

The South School proposal was discussed. The South School Space Needs Committee will meet Saturday Morning, Jan 6 at 08:00 a.m. to present to the School Board. This will also be discussed Jan 8. Mr. Brown stated that he felt the S. School and North Fire Station might “compete” if voted on the same year. Mr. Curro indicated that the South School had been in the same place in CIP for some time. Mr. Parker indicated that he did not see the current board entertaining options other than brick and mortar, even if the bond were defeated this year. Mr. Curro indicated that repairs as needed would be affected to existing facilities if the bond did not pass.

- B. Continued review of Town Budget and recommendations for to Town Council and Town Manager.

Brief discussion of Town Budget. Budcom is waiting to see Town Counsel direction to Town Manager. There was some discussion of possible reduction in services to accomplish savings.

V. ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business, a motion was made by Mr. Dolan to adjourn, second by Mike Brown.

The vote on the motion was as follows:

Member	For	Against	Abstain	Absent
Tom Freda, Chairman	X			
Sean O'Keefe, Vice Chairman				X
Mike Brown	X			
Tom Dolan	X			
Jay Hooley, Secretary	X			
John Robinson				X
Totals	4			2

VI. UPCOMING MEETING SCHEDULE:

- A. Please review Town Budget Workshop Schedules on Town Website
- B. Please review School Budget Workshop Schedules on School Website

X. RECORD OF MEETINGS HELD:

1. Organizational Meeting **March 22, 2007 – 7:00 PM**
2. Second Meeting, **April 19, 2007 – 7:00 PM**
3. Third Meeting, **May 24, 2007 – 7:00 PM**
4. Fourth Meeting - Joint Meeting of the Town Council, School Board and BC, **June 12, 2007**
5. Fifth Meeting, **July 26, 2007 – 7:00 PM**
6. Sixth Meeting **August 23, 2007 – 7:00 PM**
7. Seventh Meeting, **September 27, 2007 – 7:00 P.M. (Budget Workshop with Town Council)**
8. Eighth Meeting, **October 25, 2007 – 7:00 P.M.**
9. Ninth Meeting, **November 26, 2007 – 7:00 P.M.**
10. Tenth Meeting, **December 27, 2007 – 7:00 P.M.**
11. Eleventh Meeting **January 2, 2008 – 7:00 P.M.**

RSA: 91-A:2 Meetings Open to Public. –

II. All public proceedings shall be open to the public, and all persons shall be permitted to attend any meetings of those bodies or agencies. Except for town meetings, school district meetings and elections, no vote while in open session may be taken by secret ballot. Any person shall be permitted to use recording devices, including, but not limited to, tape recorders, cameras and videotape equipment, at such meetings. Minutes of all such meetings, including names of members, persons appearing before the bodies or agencies, and a brief description of the subject matter discussed and final decisions, shall be promptly recorded and open to public inspection within 144 hours of the public meeting, except as provided in RSA 91-A:6, and shall be treated as permanent records of any body or agency, or any subordinate body thereof, without exception.
