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BUDGET COMMITTEE

PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES January 16th, 2008

A business meeting of the New Durham Budget Committee was called to order at 6:14 PM in the Town Hall located off Main Street.

Present:

David Curry, Budget Committee member Dean Stimpson, Budget Committee member Ann Brady, Budget Committee member Ron Gehl, Selectmen's Representative

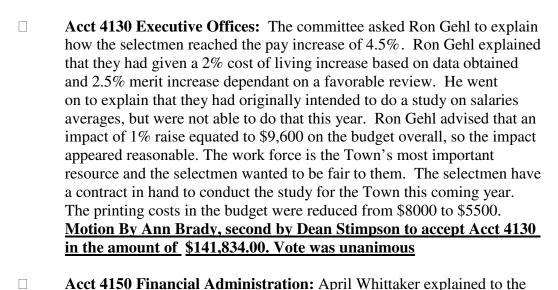
Also Present:

Vickie Blackden, Financial Assistant April Whittaker, Town Administrator

Excused Absences:

Cecile Chase, Budget Committee Chairman Cathy Orlowicz, Budget Committee member Lois Parker, Budget Committee member

Approval of Minutes: The Committee reviewed the minutes of January 7, 2008. Minutes could not be voted on due to a lack of a quorum of eligible voters.



committee that this account needed to be revisited by the Selectmen

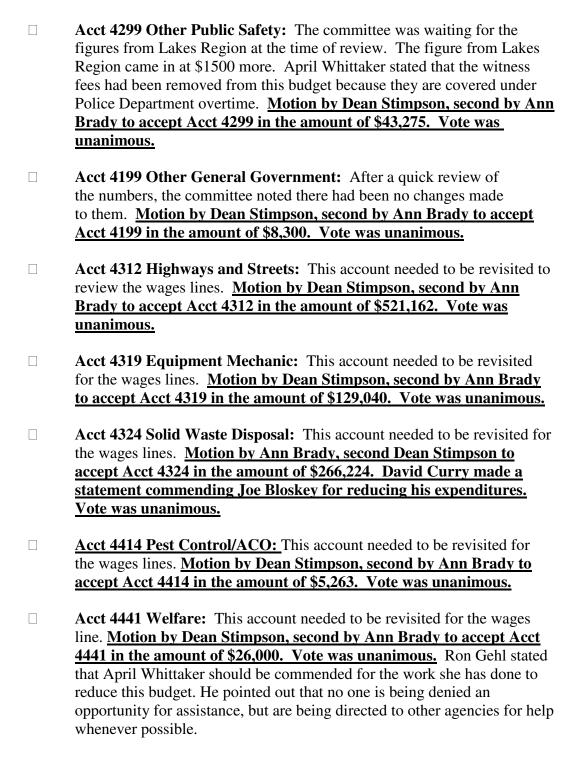
because the cost for auditoring was going to increase by about \$5000. The committee chose to add the \$5000 extra into the budget. **Motion by Dean**

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Stimpson, second Ann Brady to accept Acct 4150 in the amount of \$99,646.

Acct 4191 Planning Board: This Acct is still under review by the selectmen. Rescheduled to Jan 23 rd .
Acct 4194 General Government Building: April Whittaker explained that there had been cuts made to this budget by the selectmen. The solid waste building project has been reduced by \$3800, \$500 from Highway electricity, \$250 from the ball field electricity, and the retaining wall from the library ground maintenance. Dean Stimpson offered to abstain from this vote. Because of the lack of quorum, the remaining committee members advised that they were comfortable with Mr. Stimpson's participation in the vote. Motion by Ann Brady, second Ron Gehl to accept Acct 4194 in the amount of \$61,779. Vote was unanimous.
Acct 4220 Fire: David Curry asked a question about the 100 point wage system the Fire department was looking into to use for compensation. Ron Gehl explained that once it was put in place they realized that it would be less expensive on the Town if they paid an hourly wage instead. This is still under review by the selectmen. Motion by Dean Stimpson, second Ann Brady to accept Acct 4220 in the amount of \$154,032. Vote was unanimous.
Acct 4240 Building Inspection: April Whittaker explained that because of a health issue with the building inspector, the wages were less than budgeted for. She has made an estimated guess at what the requirement would be for this year. Ron Gehl explained that the selectmen thought the hours factored in might be high, but they expect an increase in code enforcement. April Whittaker also informed the committee that the off setting revenue from this department was \$25,091 from building permits, which means the department came out revenue neutral for the year. Motion by Dean Stimpson, second by Ann Brady to accept Acct 4240 in the amount of \$22,070. Vote was unanimous.
Acct 4290 Emergency Management: When the committee first reviewed this account, The Emergency Management Director was in the process of getting a grant for a lap top computer. At this time he has received the grant. The committee removed the \$800 budgeted for supplies and food because of this grant acquisition. The budget was reduced to \$10,840. Motion by Dean Stimpson, second by Ann Brady to accept Acct 4290 in the amount of \$10,840. Vote was unanimous.

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April Whittaker requested Ron Gehl to update the committee on where the selectmen are with the capital costs. Ron started with an explanation of the operating budget. He stated there is no <u>fluff</u> in the budget. Personnel costs are hitting the Town hard because of the cost of insurance, retirement funds, etc. He stated that because of the extra costs in this area the capital projects have had to be cut back. The selectmen are stilling working on

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these issues to figure out the best course for the Town to take. Ron Gehl has asked the budget committee to review the capital items and give their recommendations of where they feel cuts could be made.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 23rd, 2008 at 6:00 PM.

A motion to Adjourn was made by Dean Stimpson, second by Ann Brady. Vote was unanimous. The meeting was adjourned at 8:03 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Laura Zuzgo

Next Meeting: 6 PM Wednesday, January 23rd in the Upstairs Conference Room at the Town Hall.