

Amended MINUTES

8/5/03

Budget Committee Meeting

The Chair, Robbie Robinson called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Present were Paul Fitzgibbons, Sharon Halle, Larry Miller, Katherine Southworth Little Boar's Head Alternate), Susan Spencer (Little Boar's Head Representative) Lloyd Sullivan (Board of Selectmen Representative), Cynthia Swank. Guests were: North Hampton School Principal Peter Sweet and Fred Engelbach from the SAU. Absent was Homer Johnson.

Larry Miller questioned an item from the July 8, 2003 meeting regarding the refunding of the school's 1996 Series C bond in the amount of \$47,183.89. It was suggested that the money be used to pay towards the principal of the bond. Mr. Sullivan explained that the money goes into a cash account and the DRA subtracts this amount when figuring the tax rate for the upcoming year. Mr. Miller requested that he be given a copy of the check once it is received.

Mr. Miller inquired as to whether the Durso property was being considered for the Town garage/storage. Mr. Sullivan explained that it was a pricing problem and that the Town had made an offer but the offer was refused.

Mr. Robinson made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 8, 2003 meeting. The minutes were approved by a vote of 6-0. Mr. Sullivan abstained from the vote.

Katherine Southworth presented and reviewed the proposed Little Boar's Head budget of \$21,152 for September 1, 2003 to August 31, 2004. She explained to the Committee the differences in the 2002 budget and actual costs. She discussed the proposed sidewalk project and explained that it was not done because it was cost prohibitive. Mr. Robinson made a motion to approve the Little Boar's Head budget. The budget was approved by a vote of 6-0. Mr. Sullivan was absent for this vote.

Peter Sweet and Fred Engelbach answered questions raised at a previous meeting about the School Department 2002 budget differences. There was also discussion on the audit being performed. Mr. Engelbach explained that it was in progress and should be completed by the end of the week and a report should issue in September. Mr. Robinson asked that the Committee be given a copy of the audit report once it was received.

Mr. Sullivan reviewed the Town 2002 budget and actual costs. Ms. Swank asked Mr. Sullivan about the Town Administrator's salary and hours. Mr. Sullivan explained that Mr. Pardue was working at least 3 days a week and was on call. He explained that there has never been a problem getting in touch with the Town Administrator at any time. Ms. Halle asked about a possible increase in the Richey McFarland Fund (an early intervention program). Mr. Sullivan explained that funds needed to be requested and that Jan gets all the requests and forwards them to the Board of Selectmen. Mr. Sullivan also discussed the upcoming union negotiations with respect to the Police and Highway Departments. Ms. Swank requested figures for the Warrant Articles and Mr. Sullivan stated that he would get them for her.

Mr. Robinson asked that the Committee be given copies of the School Department and Town budgets in advance of any future meetings so that they could be reviewed prior to discussion.

Mr. Robinson discussed the proposed Committee candidates. Mr. Paul Thomas offered to serve on the Committee. He informed the Committee that he has a Masters in accounting and is the Treasurer of Centennial Hall. Mr. Robinson suggested that they post the position opening on the website and then schedule a meeting to have candidates attend and discuss their qualifications and be voted on.

The next meeting is scheduled for September 11, 2003 at 7 p.m.