

North Hampton Budget Committee  
MINUTES  
November 17, 2004

Chairman Robbie Robinson called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. in Old Town Hall.

Present: Terry Conklin, Mary Pat Dolan, Paul Fitzgibbons, Don Gould, Henry Marsh, Robbie Robinson, Peter Simmons

Absent: Larry Miller, Sue Spencer

1. Review minutes 11-10-04

Several changes were made; motion by Henry Marsh to accept the amended minutes, seconded by Mary Pat Dolan. Passed 7-0.

2. Review proposed North Hampton Public Library budget for FY 2005-06

Proposed library budget was presented by Library Director Pam Schwotzer, Rich Goeselt, chairman of the library trustees, and Emily Creighton, treasurer of the library trustees and selectman.

Mr. Goeselt noted a 3-3.5% increase in the overall library budget. This year a column has been added showing other income, including fines, book sales, gifts, copier income and non-resident fees, estimated at \$14,100.

There will be a 3% increase for salaried employees and 3.5% for part-time. Health insurance is estimated to increase 15%. The library uses the same carrier as the town. Terry Conklin informed the committee he is working with TA Mike Pardue seeking creative options to manage health care costs.

An increase in the proposed Program account will fund attendance at a Public Library Association conference in Boston. In operations, it was noted there are 10 computers and utilization by the public is up roughly 200% in the past year. Subscription databases are a popular, useful feature. They are paid for by the library. Most are accessible by residents remotely by password.

Maintenance is minimal due to the anticipated long-range plan of a new library and renovation of the existing facilities for town offices. Library trustees may place a warrant article on the ballot in March for an architectural survey of the new site.

There was a review of the status of the Municipal Facilities Committee (a subcommittee of the Planning Board) by Rich Goeselt and Don Gould. A preliminary report is scheduled to be released early next week. The budget committee would like copies when published.

### 3. Review proposed budget for the Planning Board, Conservation Commission

There were no representatives present from the Planning Board or Conservation Commission. Disappointment was expressed by members of the committee, as there were questions concerning an increase in the proposed Planning Board budget over the current year, from \$25,728 to \$55,178.

There was discussion of the purpose of the Master Plan. Some of the Planning Board increase was presumed to be due to updating the Master Plan. Henry Marsh noted that some of the line items, for postage and newspapers, would be offset by applicant fees. There was question about the \$5,000 for administrative fees.

Henry Marsh asked how the committee would like the school district budget presented. Increases and justifications should be noted and the committee would like to see the same information that will be presented to the public at the deliberative session. Don Gould also asked for a comparison over the past few years of the budget vs. what was spent and how leftover funds were used, what purchases were made.

Terry Conklin made a motion for two more amendments to the 11-10-04 minutes; seconded by Paul Fitzgibbons. Motion passed 7-0.

Motion to adjourn by Don Gould, seconded by Terry Conklin. Meeting adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Kane  
Recording Secretary

(Minutes were approved by the budget committee 11/18/04.)