

**MINUTES**  
**NORTH HAMPTON BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2006**

**Attendance**

Attendees: (1) Terence Conklin - chair; (2) Emily Creighton; (3) Henry Marsh; (4) Andrew Hart; (5) David Peck; (6) Paul Marston; (7) Peter Simmons.

Absent – (1) Larry Miller; (2) Sue Spencer;

Mr. Conklin called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM

**Approval of Minutes**

The draft of the minutes for the Bud Com meeting held on August 9, 2006 was reviewed. Mr. Hart made a motion to accept the minutes as drafted. Vote was unanimous to accept minutes as drafted.

**Fire Department Budget Presentation**

Chief Lambert presented the 2007/2008 Proposed Budget for the department and answered various questions from Committee members. Discussion focused on existing staffing, pay rates, and department costs as compared to other like communities in NH. Mr. Peck shared an analysis of the Police Department he had prepared from the 2005 Compensation Survey, and requested that Chief Lambert prepare a similar analysis for the Fire Department. Lengthy discussions followed regarding proposed overtime pay which represents 23.4% of payroll. Mr. Conklin will forward a schedule to Chief Lambert analyzing the overtime paid for the last two years for his completion. The Chief also indicated that he would be submitting a Warrant Article for vehicle/equipment to the BOS and would provide information to the BudCom supporting the request. The Committee indicated their desire to meet again with the Chief once the requested information was provided.

**Recreation Department Budget Presentation**

Ms. Wheeler presented the 2007/2008 Proposed Budget for the department and answered various questions from Committee members. Ms. Wheeler and Mr. Pardue commented on the comparison of the projected budget to prior year's budgets and actual expenditures. It was noted that the proposed budget was "net" of certain expenses totaling \$37,089 representing revenues generated by the Rec Dept. and deposited into a separate Recreation Revolving Fund. Mr. Conklin requested that the budget be reformatted and resubmitted to the BudCom to reflect the actual gross expenses of the department with a separate line item for budgeted reimbursements from the Revolving Fund shown

separately. Mr. Pardue was also asked to confirm the balance in the Rec Revolving Fund as of June 30, 2006.

### **Highway Department Budget Presentation**

Mr. Stroud presented the 2007/2008 Proposed Budget for the department and answered various questions from Committee members. Discussions focused on the block grants received from the State for paving and asphalt work, and how the department managed this work. It was noted that the hydrant rental / maintenance cost was increasing due to a recent rate increase submitted by Aquarion and approved by the PUC. Inquiries were made regarding the Town's purchase of these hydrants separately, and maintaining them accordingly. Mr. Conklin will follow up with Water Commissioners regarding this proposal.

### **Other Business**

Mr. Gould (BOS) provided a publication to the BudCom, published by the New Hampshire Local Government Center, summarizing the applicable laws (RSA's) surrounding the budget process for towns and school districts in which an official Budget Committee has been established. Mr. Gould read from the publication (RSA 32:3) which stated that the town and school budgets are "a statement of recommended appropriations and anticipated revenues submitted to the legislative body by the budget committee, as an attachment to, and as part of the warrant for, an annual or special meeting". He further cited the publication (RSA 32:5) which states "The governing body (*BOS, School Board*) shall post certified copies of the budget with warrant for the meeting. The operating budget warrant article(s) shall contain the amount as recommended by the budget committee".

Mr. Conklin acknowledged receipt of the publication and the responsibility of the Budget Committee as the governing body to generate and submit the final budgets which will appear in the Warrant Articles.

### **Other Items**

Motion by Mr. Marston to adjourn the meeting at 9:25 PM , seconded by Mr. Hart. Vote was unanimous.