

Town of North Hampton **Budget Committee**

Robert Copp
Michael Coutu
Michael Golden
Don Gould
Jim Maggiore
Larry Miller
David Peck
Kari Schmitz
Peter Simmon

North Hampton Budget Committee Minutes of June 18, 2007 Mary Hebert Room- Town Offices

Attending committee members: Robert Copp, Michael Coutu, Michael Golden, Don Gould, Larry Miller, David Peck, Kari Schmitz, Peter Simmons

Others in attendance: Emily Creighton, Phil Monk, Hampton Budget Committee member DeMarco. State Department of Revenue Administration staff, Don Borror and Jeane Samms.

Meeting called to order at 6:03

1. DRA presentation.

Jeane Samms and Don Borror made a power point presentation reviewing the responsibilities, state regulations, budget timelines and how to access the DRA. An information packet was given to those in attendance. Those items include: power point presentation, budget form MS-7, supplemental schedule, Glossary of terms, format for minutes of deliberative session, timeline sheet (yellow), various funds and their use (blue), appropriations warning sheet (green), and Chapter 32 Municipal Budget Law (pink)

Don explained special warrant articles and the use of budget committee recommendations. He went on to say that money appropriated for a warrant article can only be used for that warrant article.

Jeane described the process of setting the tax rate by the local governing body in response to a question by Mike Coutu. Jeane also answered questions about timeline and referred to the handouts.

2. Discussion and approval of May 1 Budget Committee meeting minutes

A correction was made on page 3, item 6. The committee approved the minutes by a 8-0 vote

- 3. Don Gould presented to the committee a letter from Mason and Rich Professional Association referencing the need for additional staff to assist in timely preparation and maintenance of financial records. Some of the reasons cited for the lag in financial reporting were the loss of an intern, changes in town administrators, new software and no decrease in the workload. Don pointed out that money for the recycling center was appropriated twice. Peter Simmons pointed out that hiring new staff with money earmarked for another purpose does not gain voter support. Dave pointed out that money could be found in other locations within the budget without using the recycling funds. Members seemed to agree, however, no vote was taken
- 4. Phil Monk presented to the committee copies of the 2004-2005 town financial statements. No action taken
- 5. Peter Simmons Presented a copy of the Precinct budget. Dave was going to email a copy to the committee members.
- 6. Kari asked about the tour of the school and should she make arrangements. Larry suggested that we tour prior to our meeting at the school in September.
- 7. Dave appointed Mike Coutu as the budget committee representative to the negotiation committee which is for the upcoming fire department contract.

Respectfully Submitted, Robert Copp