



Budget Committee

Margaret Allen
Dickie Garnett
Michael Golden

Robert Hamilton
Victoria Kilroy
Larry Miller

David Peck
Richard Stanton
Michael Walzak

Joint Meeting

*Select Board and Municipal Budget Committee
Minutes*

Wednesday, December 12, 2012 at 7:00 pm

Where: Town Hall

Pledge of Allegiance

Attendance: All Budget Committee Members present

Joint Meeting with North Hampton Select Board

Chair Stanton introduced Chair Maggiore. Mr. Maggiore opened his meeting to introduce a new warrant article that would place the Governor Dale property into conservation. \$150.0K would need to be raised through taxation and \$350.0K would be provided by the Conservation Commission Reserve Fund. Mr. Maggiore adjourned the Select Board meeting.

Recess

Review of FY13-14 North Hampton Town Budget with Town Administrator and Department Chiefs/Managers

Merit Pool: Mr. Caron reiterated that he would construct a formalized Merit Pool process.

Highway Department Budget: Corrected expenditures from FY2011.

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Police Department Holiday Pay: Expense has been reclassified to its own account.

Highway Department Overtime: A discussion of what overtime is controllable/uncontrollable. Messrs. Peck and Caron agreed Winter Maintenance is not controllable but that Construction and Spring Clean-up could be.

Telephone Expenses: Mr. Peck calculated FY12 expenses were \$31.4K and the 12 month run rate was \$29.7. The proposed budget is \$34.9K up 17%. He also detailed Heating Oil has a total proposed budget of \$37.5K up 63% over actual expended. Electricity accounts had a proposed \$29.1K with a 12 month rolling expended of \$21.1K. Mr. Caron said he would look into all of these accounts.

Solid Waste: FY14 proposed budget should be \$97.3K, \$73.34 per ton.

Recycling Electricity Cost: \$1.0K could be deleted from this budget as the bill was being paid out of the General Government electricity line. It was also noted that with the third party provider, we should have decreasing electricity costs. Messrs. Caron and McCormick said they would go over all of the billing. Mr. Stanton thought that all of the electricity lines should add up to a proposed budget closer to \$23.0K.

Highway Department On-Call: \$1.0K per year is part of the Town's CBA.

Warrant Articles

Mr. Caron stated there were no other monetary changes to the warrants. There is a language adjustment to warrants dealing with the Ambulance Fee Revolving Fund.

Messrs. Golden and Hamilton asked for clarification of terminology in the warrants for better understanding for the voters. Mr. Caron agreed.

Mr. Hubbard discussed the Highway Department paving warrant.

Discussion of the Library warrant article to raise \$100.0K and whether they might be in danger of raising zero funds with the new Conservation warrant on the table. The discussion also involved whether the Budget Committee could suggest a different amount on a warrant to the Select Board. Mr. Peck felt that the Budget Committee could not make any request but could vote yes or no on a warrant.

77 Mr. Miller stated the Select Board might be in favor of a reconsideration of the
78 Library warrant.

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80 Mr. Walzak moved to decrease the Library warrant to \$50.0K, second by Mr.
81 Garnett. Discussion.

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83 Mr. Golden revised the motion to decrease the Library warrant to zero, Mr. Miller
84 second. Discussion.

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86 Mr. Golden revised his motion to a dollar range of \$0-50.0K.
87 Discussion.

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89 Mr. Golden revised his motion back to the original motion to have the Library
90 warrant article raise \$50.0K. Discussion.

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92 Motion passed 8-0-1

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94 Dearborn Park warrant article discussion took place. Mr. Hubbard felt the project
95 could be moved to next year without a great increase in cost and moving it gave
96 his department time to rebuild the road leading into the park.

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98 Ms. Kilroy made a motion to defer the Dearborn Park warrant into the next fiscal
99 year. Mr. Walzak, second. Motion passed 8-0-1.

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101 A discussion of what is the Budget Committee Role in reviewing budgets was led
102 by Messrs. Peck and Miller.

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104 Mr. Stanton asked for an informal poll from the Committee to see if anyone would
105 cut the Town Budget by more than \$25.0K. Mrs. Allen calculated a decrease of
106 \$25.0-30.0K. Mr. Garnett felt nothing more should be cut. Mr. Walzak stated that
107 multi-year contracts with automatic increases were the real culprits to budgetary
108 inflation. He also stated that future negotiations and the number of people hired
109 needs to be thought through carefully.

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111 Messrs. Hamilton and Peck suggested a working session with the Select Board one
112 year before a contract expires.

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114 Mr. Golden asked what has the town and the school done to increase productivity
115 in the last five years. Ms. Kilroy stated that good expenditures get missed in a

116 scrubbed down budget. Mr. Garnett said that there has been too much deferred
117 maintenance over the years and now we have to get it done.

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119 Mr. Stanton summarized that townspeople are focused on their tax rate. He felt
120 the percent increase was not unreasonable given the passage of the CBA's and
121 the NHRetirement System pushdown.

122

123 **Minutes of December 5, 2012**

124 Ms. Kilroy amended line 98-99. She agreed with Mr. Hickey.

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126 **New Business**

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128 **Adjourn:** Moved by Mr. Garnett, second Mr. Peck. Meeting adjourned at
129 10:40pm.

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