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12 **Budget Committee Draft Minutes**
13 **Monday, November 2, 2015**
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15 1. Call to Order

16 a. Introduce Budget Committee Members
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18 Chair Hamilton called the meeting to order at 7:00PM.
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20 In attendance Bob Hamilton, Terry Belluche, Dickie Garnett, Casey O'Kane, Jonathan Pinette, Rick
21 Stanton, James Sununu, Town Administrator Paul Apple. Absent: Kari Schmitz and John Anthony
22 Simmons.
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24 b. Pledge of Allegiance
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26 Chair Hamilton led the Pledge of Allegiance.
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28 2. Workshop Items

29 a. Economic Outlook for New Hampshire – James Sununu
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31 James Sununu gave an economics growth overview of conditions, and a forecast of what
32 conditions might be in the future.
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- 34 • Unemployment rates in New Hampshire has picked up; down to 3.5% ;
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- 36 • New Hampshire is about average compared to rest of country;
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- 38 • Wage growth is low in the public sector and benefits have grown;
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- 40 • Lack of job growth in New Hampshire;
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- 42 • Consumer price increases last year has been zero across the country;
- 43 • Inflation has come to a halt;
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- 45 • Interest rates have come down to historical lows due to the recession, and is of
46 interest to the town for building the town campus as in future years the rates will
47 continue to climb;
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- Flat on medium income on New Hampshire;
- Population trends in New Hampshire for age 65 and over growing dramatically by 2040 in Rockingham County;
- Municipal Challenges we face are costs downshifting from the state; unfunded pension liability; increasing insurance costs; impending Cadillac tax in 2018

b. Structure of Wage Schedules for School and Town, part 2

Mr. Hamilton explained all of the ideas on wage scales were his own, and all examples presented were hypothetical.

3. Town Year End Review and Default Budget

Town Administrator Apple presented year end expenditures for Fiscal Year 2015/2016, as well as a review of revenue for Fiscal Year 2015/2016.

Town Administration Apple gave a detailed review of the proposed default budget for Fiscal Year 2016/2017.

Mr. Belluche questioned Town Administrator Apple on the health insurance increase of 11% when rates are "dropping like a stone."

Mr. Sununu questioned the high increases for contractual employees.

4. Any new business that comes before the committee

Mr. Garnett asked to have the Budget Committee meeting schedule circulated as he has not seen one yet.

Discussion ensued regarding whether members of the committee would like budgets presented to them electronically or paper copy.

Mr. Hamilton and Mr. O'Kane stated they would like them in both electronic and hard copy format.

Mr. Stanton discussed the overlay account and its effect on the tax rate. He asked if the members of the committee would give their opinion on what they felt the overlay should be.

Mr. Sununu stated \$100,000; Mr. Belluche, Mr. Pinette and Mr. Garnett stated \$135,000 and Mr. Hamilton stated \$110,000.

5. Approve minutes for April 22, 2015, August 12, 2015, September 21, 2015 and October 19, 2015

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Motion by Mr. Garnett to approve the minutes of April 22, 2015. Seconded by Mr. Stanton.
Motion carries 5-0-1.

Motion by Mr. Stanton to approve the minutes of August 12, 2015. Seconded by Mr. Garnett.
Motion carries 5-0-1.

Motion by Mr. Sununu to approve the minutes of September 21, 2015. Seconded by Mr. Garnett.
Motion carries 4-0-1.

Motion by Mr. Sununu to approve the minutes of October 19, 2015. Seconded by Mr. Pinette.
Motion carries 5-0.

6. Adjourn

Motion by Mr. Garnett to adjourn the meeting at 9:05 PM. Seconded by Mr. Pinette.
Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Janet L. Facella
Administrative Assistant

DRAFT