

Budget Committee Draft Minutes

Monday, September 19, 2016 7:00pm Town Hall

1. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance;

Chair Schmitz called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Those in attendance were Chuck Gallant, Kathy Kilgore, Anne Ambrogi, Jonathan Pinette, Rick Stanton, James Sununu, Dickie Garnett and John Anthony Simmons.

Chair Schmitz led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Economic Review – James Sununu

Mr. Sununu presented an Economic Review to the committee members. He noted the following regarding New Hampshire's economic competiveness:

- No income tax, No sales tax
- Educated workforce
- High Quality of life
- High business taxes (corporate, unemployment insurance)
- High health insurance costs
- High workers compensation costs
- High and volatile energy prices
- Demographics

Mr. Sununu further noted the municipal budget pressures include downshifting from State; increasing health insurance costs; impending Cadillac Tax (delayed until 2020) and an unfunded pension liability (2012=56.1%; 2015=63.4%)

A full copy of Mr. Sununu's report will be attached to these minutes.

The committee engaged in questions and comments regarding health care costs and the impending Cadillac Tax.

Chair Schmitz discussed philosophies of the Budget Committee regarding budget percentage increases, and suggested giving the town and the school the chance to present their budgets, and then give budget committee feedback at a future meeting.

Mr. Simmons requested to have Mr. Sununu's report sent to all departments.

Mr. Gallant stated there have been changes in the dynamics for police and fire departments that might cause increases to their budgets.

Mrs. Kilgore asked if there would be any revenue information presented.

Motion by Mr. Stanton to ask the Town Administrator for a five year history of revenues by general source. Seconded by Mr. Garnett. Motion carries 9-0.

3. Old Business

3.1 Draft Rules of Procedure for Committee Review

Chair Schmitz asked that committee members review the first and second drafts, and she and Mr. Simmons will then propose the final copy at the October 19 meeting for the committee's approval.

4. New Business

Mr. Simmons stated he had called the Town Administrator regarding the motion he made at the August 1 meeting in regards to what appointments the budget committee has on other committees. He further stated the Town Administrator would be completing this information request.

Mr. Stanton asked to "float a trial balloon" and asked if the committee would like to propose putting all charities the town supports into a warrant article.

The majority of the members were not in favor, and a suggestion was made to invite those charities requesting funds to the Town Deliberative Session.

5. Approve minutes of 05/11/2016 and 08/01/2016

Motion by Mrs. Kilgore to strike lines 27, 28 and 29 in the May 11 minutes and insert: "Mr. Simmons would appreciate it if there's more than one, and I don't know that there will be, but if there's more than one nomination I just would prefer that we vote for somebody, and not against somebody." Strike lines 77, and part of line 78 to read: "Mr. Simmons suggested the committee adopt their own Rules of Procedure. He further stated he would like to write a draft for the committee. His draft work product will be distributed to the Town Administrator and the Town Administrator will forward to the committee members." A request to check the accuracy of lines 41 and 42 to check the correct vote. Seconded by Mr. Simmons. Motion carries 8-1-0.

Motion by Mr. Sununu to approve the minutes of August 1, 2016. Seconded by Mr. Stanton. Mr. Garnett asked to change line 28 to "August 31." Mr. Stanton asked to change line 110 to "8-0." Motion carries 9-0.

Chair Schmitz asked that all committee members work together and that all are being heard the right way.

6. Adjourn

Motion by Mr. Garnett to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 PM. Seconded by Mr. Sununu. Motion carries 9-0.

Respectfully submitted, Janet Facella