



***Town of Plaistow ♦ Budget Committee***  
*145 Main Street ♦ Plaistow ♦ NH ♦ 03865*

**BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

**DATE:** Tuesday, January 12, 2010

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:** 6:35 pm.

**PRESENT:** Kristin Lewis Savage – Chair, Martha Sumner, Vice Chair - late,  
Norman Bouchard, Michele Conte, Gayle Hamel, Ron Hayes,  
Tricia Holt, Dan Hooper, Joyce Ingerson, Neal Morin,  
Ben Sadewicz, Catherine Willis, John Sherman–Selectmen Rep.

Additional Attendee: Sean Fitzgerald, Town Manager

**MINUTES:**

*Motion by M. Sumner to approve Minutes of December 29, 2009 as written.*

*2nd by B. Sadewicz.*

*Vote 11-0-2*

*Abstain: N. Bouchard and J. Ingerson.*

*Motion passes.*

**AGENDA:**

**REVIEW of Revenues, Budgets and Warrant articles**

S. Fitzgerald noted there were no changes to the Revenue.

Warrant Articles

Operating Budget

*Motion by M. Sumner to recommend the Operating Budget for \$7,298,045.*

*2nd by T. Holt*

*Vote 13-0-0.*

*Motion passes.*

Cell Tower

S. Fitzgerald discussed the Cell Tower Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund Warrant Article changes in location of wording of article and the addition of a sentence to the article.

M. Conte inquired why one Selectman voted down the article.

J. Sherman noted the Selectmen who voted no on this article wanted to know more information regarding the total cost but was in favor of the project.

K. Lewis Savage and J. Sherman held a discussion regarding the article and the voting down of this article by one Selectman.

M. Conte inquired if the SFC Engineering Report was available.

S. Fitzgerald noted the report was available. He discussed maintenance requirements and cost estimates associated with the tower.

Committee members held discussions regarding their opinions on the Cell Tower Warrant Article.

G. Hamel inquired for a reminder of how the cell tower came about.

J. Sherman noted the tower was originally a water tower that was taken off line 10 years ago and converted to a cell tower which brings a lot of money in to the Town.

J. Ingerson inquired how the Town had previously been maintaining the cell tower.

S. Fitzgerald noted it had previously not been taken care of.

***Motion by B. Sadewicz to recommend the Cell Tower Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund for \$10,000.***

***2nd by M. Sumner.***

***Vote 11-2-0.***

***Opposed: R. Hayes and K. Lewis Savage.***

***Motion passes.***

#### Conservation Fund

S. Fitzgerald discussed the Conservation Fund Deposit Warrant Article was changed by having language added regarding the amount in the Forestry Fund.

***Motion by M. Sumner to recommend Warrant Article P-10-G Conservation Fund Deposit for \$5,000.***

***2nd by T. Holt.***

***Vote 13-0-0.***

***Motion passes.***

#### Fire Suppression

S. Fitzgerald discussed no change to the Fire Suppression Warrant Article and looking toward the original warrant article for the current Warrant Article wording.

***Motion by R. Hayes to recommend the Fire Suppression Water Capital Reserve Fund Warrant Article in the amount of \$58,400.***

***2nd by J. Ingerson.***

***Vote 13-0-0.***

***Motion passes.***

K. Lewis Savage and S. Fitzgerald held a discussion regarding the Town Hall Generator.

**Review of any petitioned articles, as needed**

S. Fitzgerald noted no new articles were presented. He discussed 148 Main Street going up for auction and the BOS looking at this property as potential property for the Town and indicated that the Committee may see information coming up regarding this location.

**Continued recommendations of Warrant Articles**

Nothing discussed.

**REVIEW draft of MS-7**

K. Lewis Savage discussed three budgets being off by \$1 and not posted to last year's MS-7. She noted if you add them up then the bottom line is off by a \$1.

S. Fitzgerald discussed last year's budget was itemized down to the penny. As part of the efforts to round the budget they rounded a few numbers. He discussed rounding errors in the budget and the bottom line of the budget was approved in a warrant for \$7,382,500.

K. Lewis Savage noted some numbers on the MS-7 are combined budgets. She advised the Committee members to be careful when comparing actuals from last year to what is needed this year.

M. Conte inquired why Other General Government is \$300 over from what was approved last year.

S. Fitzgerald noted there may be other expenditures in there.

**Discuss upcoming meetings/schedule and handouts**

K. Lewis Savage noted the Committee's next meeting, Public Hearing, was at 6:30 on Thursday at Town Hall and they will meet immediately following the Public Hearing if required. After that they will not meet until January 30 for the Deliberative Session (snow date: February 6), then at the Town Vote on March 9 and then to reorganize the Tuesday after the Town Vote on March 16 at 6:30 pm.

**Old Business:**

No Old Business discussed.

**New Business:**

No New Business discussed.

J. Sherman thanked the Budget Committee for their participation this year.

Meeting adjourned at 7:25 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Audrey DeProspero