

1 DRAFT
2 BUDGET COMMITTEE MINUTES
3 TOWN OF SANDOWN, NH
4

5 **Meeting Date: January 5, 2011**

6 **Type of Meeting: Regular Meeting/Review of Warrant Articles**

7 **Method of Notification: Public Posting at Town Hall**

8 **Meeting Location: Town Hall**
9

10 Chairwoman Mindy Salomone-Abood called the meeting to order at 6:35pm.
11

12 **Members Present:** Mindy Salomone-Abood, Brenda Copp (selectwoman ex-
13 officio), Ralph Millard, Robert Millard, Jonathan Goldman, Gail Cerva
14 Office Manager Lynne Blaisdell and Office Assistant Paula Gulla

15 **Recording Secretary:** Sue Reynolds
16

17 Mindy Salomone-Abood asked the Committee to review the minutes of
18 December 8, 2010. Selectwoman Copp stated lines 60-62 states the money
19 does not go into the General Fund, and it should say they money goes back
20 into the General Fund and if there are smaller items that can be purchased the
21 money can be encumbered to do so. Line 97 should read reliable and
22 knowledgeable...., also lines 265-266 states that Selectwoman Copp voted
23 against the Health and Human Services account and she feels that she voted in
24 favor of it. The minutes are changed to reflect that Selectwoman Copp voted
25 in favor of the Health and Human Services budget. Robert Millard stated that
26 line 244 & 245 should read not defending CART.....

27 **Motion by** Selectwoman Copp to accept the minutes of December 8, 2010 as
28 amended.

29 **Second by** Robert Millard

30 **In Favor** Mindy Salomone-Abood, Brenda Copp, Ralph Millard, Robert Millard,
31 Jonathan Goldman, Gail Cerva

32 **Motion passes unanimously.**
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36 Mindy Salomone-Abood stated there are two budgets that need to be revisited
37 before reviewing the Warrant Articles.

38

39 ***Motion by Selectwoman Copp to discuss the Benefits Account 4155.0.***

40 ***Second Jonathan Goldman***

41 Mindy Salomone-Abood states there were changes in the Benefits line as one
42 employee has changed to a family plan and one buyout has been removed.

43 Motion by Selectwoman Copp to amend the Benefits Account budget with

44 Gross Expenses of \$346,731.62, Revenue of \$0.00 and Net Expenses of

45 \$346,731.62 pending further review, with the increase to the Health

46 Insurance line by \$2,559.89.

47 Second by Jonathan Goldman for discussion.

48 ***In Favor*** Mindy Salomone-Abood, Brenda Copp, Robert Millard, Jonathan

49 Goldman, Gail Cerva

50 ***Opposed*** Ralph Millard

51 ***Motion passes 5-1-0***

52

53 Ralph Millard states he feels the Town is paying too much for the insurance
54 and the employees should be paying a bigger percentage. He compared what
55 he is paying, which is \$400.00 a month for a family plan to a Town Employee
56 that is only paying \$140.00.

57

58 ***Motion by Jonathan Goldman to discuss the Library Account 4455.0***

59 ***Second by Robert Millard***

60 Mindy Salomone-Abood stated there is a deduction in the Benefits line that
61 needs to be adjusted.

62 ***Motion by*** Mindy Salomone-Abood to reduce the Gross Expenses to

63 \$270,472.98, Revenue of \$108.00 and Net Expenses of \$270,364.98 pending
64 further review.

65 ***Second by*** Jonathan Goldman.

66 ***In Favor*** Mindy Salomone-Abood, Brenda Copp, Ralph Millard, Robert

67 Millard, Jonathan Goldman, Gail Cerva

68 ***Motion passes unanimously.***

69

70 Selectwoman Copp stated she will not be voting on any Warrant Articles
71 unless there is a tie and her vote is needed to break it as she will be voting as a
72 Selectman.

73

74

75 **Warrant Article for Police Station for \$176,000.00.**

76 Chief Gordon is here to discuss this article. Chief Gordon stated this is the
77 second installment for the new Police Station. He stated last year the article
78 passed with 618 yes, and 587 no and both the BOS and Budget Committee
79 recommended the article. Robert asked about plans being drawn up and
80 when is it expected to be built. Chief Gordon said the plans are done and the
81 expected build date is 2014.

82 **Roll Call Vote** – Robert- yes, Ralph – yes, Gail – yes, Mindy – yes, Jonathan –
83 yes.

84 **The Budget Committee recommends this article 5-0-0**

85

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87 The next 4 Articles A-D are for discussion purposes for the Police Department.
88 Chief Gordon is present to discuss these articles.

89

90 **Article A HORV's for \$3,000.00.**

91 Chief Gordon Explains last year he put forth a warrant article for \$3,000.00 for
92 gear and things for the HORV. He wanted to put it on the ballot again should
93 all the other articles fail.

94 Chief explains that he tried to draft warrant article to keep the same
95 procedures as he is currently doing it. Diane Gorrow, the Town's attorney
96 said article C is the way it has to be written. He says that because Concord has
97 changed some things they have now come up with article D, which says the
98 Chief can purchase what is needed and submit the invoice to the BOS. Chief
99 said he'd like to buy a new 4 wheeler this year and pass one of his to the Fire
100 Department. He also stated if he can purchase a new machine then he won't
101 need article A. If he is able to change the warrant article to a revolving fund
102 then article C will not be needed either and the money will be transferred into
103 article D. There was a lot of discussion in regards to changing the order of the
104 articles and whether the Budget Committee should recommend all of them of
105 just some of them. Chief Gordon said that he would like the Budget
106 Committee to recommend all of them and he will work on getting the word
107 out to the public and explaining the difference. Chief Gordon said he will think
108 about the order some more before it is presented to the BOS as well.

109 **Article A**

110 **Roll Call Vote** – Robert- yes, Ralph – yes, Gail – yes, Mindy – yes, Jonathan –
111 yes.

112 **The Budget Committee recommends this article 5-0-0**

113

114 **Article B**
115 **Roll Call Vote** – Robert- yes, Ralph – yes, Gail – yes, Mindy – yes, Jonathan –
116 yes.

117 **The Budget Committee recommends this article 5-0-0**

118 **Article C**

119 **Roll Call Vote** – Robert- yes, Ralph – yes, Gail – yes, Mindy – yes, Jonathan –
120 yes.

121 **The Budget Committee recommends this article 5-0-0**

122

123 **Article D**

124 **Roll Call Vote** – Robert- yes, Ralph – yes, Gail – yes, Mindy – yes, Jonathan –
125 yes.

126 **The Budget Committee recommends this article 5-0-0**

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129 **Warrant Article for the Tanker Truck - \$75,350.00**

130 Chief Tapley is present to discuss this article.

131 Gail Cerva asked how much a new truck would cost and Chief Tapley said
132 about \$300,000.00. Chief Tapley stated every time the truck is moved it leaks
133 and the expectancy of the tank is 20 years and this one is well over 40 years.

134 Gail Cerva asked about recycling and Chief Tapley said that is worked into the
135 price he received.

136 **Roll Call Vote** – Robert- yes, Ralph – yes, Gail – yes, Mindy – yes, Jonathan –
137 yes.

138 **The Budget Committee recommends this article 5-0-0**

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141 **Warrant Article 2 – Operating Budget - \$3,235,885.02**

142 Mindy Salomone-Abood stated this amount would change because of the
143 changes the Budget Committee made to the accounts tonight. Selectwoman
144 Copp said the amount may change a little more depending on the outcome of
145 the final hearing too.

146 **Roll Call Vote** – Robert- abstain, Ralph – no, Gail – yes, Mindy – yes, Jonathan –
147 yes.

148 **The Budget Committee recommends this article 3-1-1**

149 Jonathan Goldman asked why someone would abstain or vote no on a budget
150 that has been worked on all year. Robert Millard said there are items in the
151 budget that he does not agree with and he will bring them up at the final
152 meeting and Ralph Millard did not respond to the question.

153 ***Special Warrant Article for Expendable Trust Fund for Old Home Days -***
154 ***\$6,000.00***

155 Selectwoman Copp explains that this is article is to create an Expendable
156 Trust Fund which means if there is any money left over the money would stay
157 in this account and be used for next year, instead of going into the General
158 Fund. Then the following year the OHD committee would not have to ask for
159 as much money. As the fund stands now, any money not used would go back
160 into the General Fund and the whole amount needed would have to go into a
161 Warrant Article. Gail Cerva asked if the amount can ever go higher than
162 \$6,000.00. Lynne said she would not hold a future Board to that decision, but
163 the BOS are the ones that approve the amount of the article. Paula Gulla states
164 the committee is striving to keep the costs down for the Town. It is a guess as
165 to how much is needed because you don't know what will be donated and
166 what it will cost to run the event.

167 ***Roll Call Vote*** – Robert- yes, Ralph – yes, Gail – no, Mindy – yes, Jonathan –
168 yes.

169 ***The Budget Committee recommends this article 4-1-0***

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172 ***Warrant Article for Old Home Days - \$6,000.00***

173 This article is the way Old Home Days Committee presents the article on the
174 ballot now.

175 ***Roll Call Vote*** – Robert- no, Ralph – no, Gail – yes, Mindy –no, Jonathan – no.

176 ***The Budget Committee does not recommend this article 4-1-0***

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179 ***Special Warrant Article – Road Improvement Capital Reserve Fund -***
180 ***\$241,200.00***

181 Selectwoman Copp explains this is part of a 10 year plan and there is
182 \$100,000.00 in the Highway budget in case this article does not pass Artie can
183 still to repairs to the road. If this article passes then the \$100,000.00 in the
184 budget will put towards the Road Improvement plan too. Robert Millard
185 asked if the block grant money can be used for this purpose. Selectwoman
186 Copp doesn't suggest it because the block grant money is usually used to help
187 to offset the cost of snow or ice storm expenses.

188 ***Roll Call Vote*** – Robert- no, Ralph – no, Gail – yes, Mindy –yes, Jonathan – yes.

189 ***The Budget Committee recommends this article 3-2-0***

190
191

192 **Warrant Article for Highway Block Grant - \$156,266.00**

193 This article is just to accept the funds that are being given to the Town from
194 the block grant.

195 **Roll Call Vote** – Robert- yes, Ralph – yes, Gail – yes, Mindy –yes, Jonathan –
196 yes.

197 ***The Budget Committee recommends this article 5-0-0***

198
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200 **Warrant Article for Mosquito Surveillance and Control - \$25,000.00**

201 Selectwoman Copp said this is the most this article will be. She said there is
202 some money left over from last year because some spraying was not done.
203 Lynne Blaisdell stated the requested amount will be \$24,000.00. Gail Cerva
204 asked where this is done and Lynne said there are cameras all over Town and
205 all public areas are sprayed. She also suggested to call the company if they
206 want their private property sprayed to see if they can do it.

207 **Roll Call Vote** – Robert- yes, Ralph – yes, Gail – yes, Mindy –yes, Jonathan –
208 yes.

209 ***The Budget Committee recommends this article 5-0-0***

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212 **Special Warrant Article for Town Disaster Management - \$16,078.00.**

213 Lynne Blaisdell explains this article and said it came about after the Dec. 11,
214 2008 ice storm. When there is disaster the money comes from the Town’s
215 Operating Budget, so the Town created this fund 2 years ago and it allows the
216 Town to save money in a separate account solely for disaster purposes. There
217 is \$7,500.00 in the account at this time and they are asking to appropriate
218 \$16,078.00 this year. Jonathan Goldman wants to be sure this is only allowed
219 to be used for emergency situations.

220 **Roll Call Vote** – Robert- no, Ralph – no, Gail – yes, Mindy –yes, Jonathan – yes.

221 ***The Budget Committee recommends this article 3-2-0***

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224 **Petitioned Warrant Article – Sandown Planning Board (advisory only)**

225 Selectwoman Copp states she will not be recommending this article as a BOS
226 member. She states if only 1 property is affected notices need to be sent out
227 and there are no departments that have money in their budget for the cost of
228 the mailings or research. Jonathan Goldman suggested that the Budget
229 Committee could abstain so they are not in favor or against the article and let
230 the voters make the decision without the Budget Committee’s influence. Paula

231 Gulla said this article is advisory only as the Town is already following LCG's
232 rules and the voters can't mandate the Town do more than LGC requires.

233 **Roll Call Vote** – Robert- yes, Ralph – no, Gail – abstain, Mindy –abstain,
234 Jonathan – abstain. After this vote the total is 1-2-3 so Selectwoman Copp
235 voted no to break the tie.

236 ***The Budget Committee does not recommend this article 2-1-3***

237

238 Lynne Blaisdell stated the final day for the BOS to receive warrant articles is
239 Tuesday, January 11th so they will forward any articles they receive to the
240 Budget Committee for review on the 12th at their meeting. She also stated
241 there may be some changes in the articles that were reviewed tonight as they
242 are going before the BOS on Monday evening and she will also forward any
243 changes to the Budget Committee for their review.

244

245 Mindy Salomone-Abood said the Budget Committee has a new P&L that she
246 would like them to review prior to the hearing next week. Selectwoman Copp
247 said she requested new P&L's prior to next week as well. Mindy also stated
248 the final hearing will be at 7pm, if the meeting needs to be continued it will be
249 done on January 18th.

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252 ***Motion by*** Gail Cerva to adjourn

253 ***Second by*** Jonathan Goldman

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256 Meeting adjourned at 8:10

257 *Respectfully Submitted*

258 *Sue Reynolds*