

# WOLFEBORO BUDGET COMMITTEE

## Public Hearing January 13, 2011 Minutes

**Members Present:** John MacDonald, Chairman, Scott Smith, Vice-Chairman, Dave Senecal, Selectmen's Representative, Brian Black, Jim Eisenhower, Allan Bailey, Frank Giebutowski, Bob Tougher, Robert Moholland, Harold Parker, Members.

**Staff Present:** Dave Owen, Town Manager, Pete Chamberlain, Finance Director, Lee Ann Keathley, Secretary.

*Chairman MacDonald called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM at the Wolfeboro Inn Ballroom.*

### 2011 BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING

*Chairman MacDonald opened the public hearing.*

#### **Article 15: Petition Warrant Article for New Town Office Facilities**

Josephine Amatucci stated she has a letter from a lawyer saying the master deed doesn't give the library exclusive use or right of occupancy therefore, her proposal is a viable proposal.

John MacDonald questioned the square footage of the building.

Josephine Amatucci replied 7,000 SF (60'x100'); noting expansion in the future on the second floor. She stated once the McBride property is bought the Town could build a duplex with the library on one side and the Police Department on the other. She stated the Fire Department could have the Public Safety Building.

John MacDonald stated the Town has a moral and ethical responsibility to Ida Glidden; noting the deed specifically states the intent of the property was for use as a library.

Josephine Amatucci stated it is not the Committee's job to determine intent; noting a judge should decide the intent and stated Mr. MacDonald is giving a biased opinion.

John Sandeen read the Library Board of Trustees position on Article 15, see attached.

#### **It was moved by Allan Bailey and seconded by Harold Parker to not recommend Article 15.**

*Discussion of the motion:*

Dave Senecal stated the BOS voted to not recommend the Article 15 (4-0).

Bob Tougher read excerpts of the deed; noting the property cannot be used for anything other than library purposes.

John Sandeen reviewed Attorney Santuccio's letter; noting the letter states she has not been retained to represent Ms. Amatucci.

Frank Giebutowski stated there is not sufficient detail to back up the cost estimates in the proposal.

Dave Senecal stated the proposal lacks floor plans, energy efficiency study and engineering plans.

Linda Murray stated the BOS have posted the Petition Warrant Article on the warrant despite Town Counsel's determination that it is illegal due to statutory requirements.

**It was moved by Allan Bailey and seconded by Harold Parker to not recommend Article 15. All members voted in favor. The motion passed (9-0).**

#### **Article 34: Petition Warrant Article**

John MacDonald read Article 34.

Suzanne Ryan stated she is in favor of Article 34; noting that when the Town Hall was purchased use of the second and third floor was never intended. She stated the intent of the warrant article is to give people a choice to move forward in a phased / incremental fashion rather than renovating the Town Hall in total at one time. She stated the warrant article doesn't interfere with Article 12. She stated CCI submitted the cost estimates and it would be less of a tax impact.

Bob Tougher stated he believes the Petition Warrant Article will be a distraction to the voters.

Suzanne Ryan stated that is not the intent and doesn't expect the Committee to recommend the article.

Allan Bailey and Harold Parker stated they are in favor of Article 12.

Bob Moholland stated he agrees with what Ms. Ryan is trying to do.

Joyce Davis, Friends of Wolfeboro Town Hall, stated they are not in favor of Article 34.

Dave Senecal stated the BOS voted to not recommend the article (4-0).

**It was moved by Allan Bailey and seconded by Harold Parker to not recommend Article 34. John MacDonald, Scott Smith, Jim Eisenhower, Allan Bailey, Bob Tougher, Brian Black, Harold Parker, Frank Giebutowski voted in favor. Bob Moholland opposed. The motion passed (8-1).**

#### **Article 32: General Wolfe Memorial**

John MacDonald read Article 32.

Dave Owen stated the Town appropriated \$10,000 to the Town's 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration fund; noting the committee didn't expend all the funds and gave back \$4,224.00. He stated the committee would like to establish a permanent memorial to the Town's namesake to be located in a prominent location in Town and is seeking an appropriation for such. He stated the committee and the Historical Society will do additional fundraising.

Suzanne Ryan stated it is not a necessity and doesn't recommend the article.

**It was moved by Harold Parker and seconded by Bob Tougher to recommend Article 32. John MacDonald, Scott Smith, Jim Eisenhower, Allan Bailey, Bob Tougher, Brian Black, Harold Parker voted in favor. Bob Moholland, Frank Giebutowski opposed. The motion passed (7-2).**

### **2011 BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING**

Chairman MacDonald opened the public hearing.

Suzanne Ryan stated the budget book at the library doesn't have the Committee's changes. Referencing the Cable Channel, she questioned who Wolfeboro shares the expense with and questioned the capital reserve for \$1,500.

Allan Bailey replied New Durham.

Peter Pijoan stated the station is ten years old and the equipment is failing due to its age; noting \$2,000 of unexpected failures occurred this past year.

Suzanne Ryan questioned the percentage increase for salaries.

Dave Owen replied 1%.

Suzanne Ryan questioned the status of the health insurance.

Pete Chamberlain stated the total premium increase over last year is 7%.

Dave Owen stated there was no settlement with the Firefighter's union.

Suzanne Ryan questioned the decrease in Assessing by \$85,000.

Pete Chamberlain stated such is related to the completion of the cyclical reval.

Dave Senecal stated the BOS voted to approve the 2011 budget in the amount of \$25,498,128.

**It was moved by Harold Parker and seconded by Jim Eisenhower to adjourn the Wolfeboro Budget Committee to January 13, 2011. All members voted in favor. The motion passed.**

*There being no further business before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM.*

Respectfully Submitted,

*Lee Ann Keathley*

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