

WOLFEBORO BUDGET COMMITTEE

July 13, 2011

Minutes

Members Present: John MacDonald, Chairman, Stan Stevens, Vice-Chairman, Dave Senecal, Selectmen's Representative, Jim Eisenhower, Frank Giebutowski, Harold Parker, Robert Moholland, Bob Tougher, Members.

Members Absent: Brian Black, Allan Bailey, Members (excused).

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

Chairman MacDonald opened the public hearing at 6:09 PM at the Wolfeboro Public Library.

Consideration of Minutes

April 27, 2011

It was moved by Bob Tougher and seconded by Robert Moholland to approve the April 27, 2011 Wolfeboro Budget Committee minutes as submitted. All members voted in favor. The motion passed.

STATUS OF 2011 BUDGET & EXPENDITURE REPORT

Pete Chamberlain stated the year to date expenditure of the budget is 48%; noting the Town has not received the State's payment of interest and dividends.

Jim Eisenhower stated at the last Budget Committee meeting it had been noted that due to the deficit created by an increase in fuel costs it would be necessary to take from capital funds and questioned if such remains necessary.

Dave Owen replied yes. Referencing the State's retirement system, he stated employer and employee contribution rates increased; noting the contribution rates for police and fire increased more than anticipated (\$23,000 for police and \$18,000 for fire). He stated both departments were instructed to find the money within their budgets to absorb the additional costs. He stated the Police Department is sitting on a couple of vacancies and will hold one position vacant until the end of the year. He stated the employees are also seeing a decrease in take home pay by 3% and noted litigation has been filed.

Frank Giebutowski questioned workers compensation over expenditure of 84%.

Pete Chamberlain stated such is a onetime payment.

Frank Giebutowski questioned the under expenditures in Agencies.

Pete Chamberlain stated the Town pays half the appropriated money in July.

Frank Giebutowski noted inconsistencies with the figures for Wastewater Contract Services.

Pete Chamberlain stated he would review such and report back to the Committee.

CIP COMMITTEE REPORT

No report.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

Dave Owen stated the budget guidelines were adopted by the BOS however; such has not yet been distributed to department heads. He stated the departments are being asked to submit budgets at least 1% less than 2011 budgets; noting contractual, legal and fuel costs are an exception. He stated budgets are to be submitted to the Town Manager by 8/31/11 and the BOS will begin their review of the budgets on 10/1/11.

Jim Eisenhower questioned whether a 1% decrease is enough when reviewing the bottom line to offset contractual obligations, salary increases, retirement, etc.

Referencing the vacancies at the police department, John MacDonald stated that if the department functions as for 6-8 months without personnel to offset budget costs then why it is necessary to fill that position.

Dave Owen stated such becomes a level of service issue.

Stan Stevens agreed with Mr. MacDonald.

Bob Tougher recommended scaling back on warrant articles.

Dave Owen stated Forest Road is due to be refinished on 7/14/11 and the Lehner Street project is due to go out to bid in the fall.

It was moved by Bob Tougher and seconded by Bob Moholland to adjourn the July 13, 2011 Budget Committee meeting. All members voted in favor.

Next meeting scheduled for September; date and location to be determined.

There being no further business before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 7:09 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lee Ann Keathley
Lee Ann Keathley

*****Please note these minutes are subject to approval and amendments at a later date.***