WOLFEBORO BUDGET COMMITTEE January 13, 2012 Minutes

<u>Members Present:</u> John MacDonald, Chairman, Stan Stevens, Vice-Chairman, Dave Senecal, Selectmen's Representative, Robert Moholland, Brian Black, John Burt, Allan Bailey, Frank Giebutowski, Bob Tougher, Members.

Member Absent: Harold Parker, Member.

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

Chairman MacDonald called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM at the Wolfeboro Inn Ballroom.

Correction of Minutes

November 30, 2011

Corrections: Page 4, Wastewater Treatment, 4th paragraph; change "600" to "600,000"

It was moved by John Burt and seconded by Bob Moholland to approve the November 30, 2011 Budget Committee minutes as amended. All members voted in favor. The motion passed.

December 8, 2011

Corrections: Page 2, Police, 1st paragraph; add "medical insurance plans"

<u>It was moved by Brian Black and seconded by Bob Tougher to approve the December 8, 2011 Budget Committee minutes as amended.</u> All members voted in favor. The motion passed.

December 9, 2011

Corrections: Page 1; strike 15th paragraph

<u>It was moved by Brian Black and seconded by Bob Tougher to approve the December 9, 2011 Budget Committee minutes as amended. All members voted in favor. The motion passed.</u>

December 19, 2011

Corrections: Page 4, motion; change "Gibentowski" to "Giebutowski"

Page 10, 1st paragraph; change "can" to "can't",

Page 10, motion; change "8-0" to "8-1" Page 7, Article K; include "Town roads"

It was moved by Brian Black and seconded by Bob Tougher to approve the December 19, 2011 Budget Committee minutes as amended. All members voted in favor. The motion passed.

It was moved by Brian Black and seconded by Bob Tougher to approve the December 28, 2011 Budget Committee minutes as submitted. All members voted in favor. The motion passed.

2012 OPERATING BUDGET

John Burt expressed concern for the arrears in the sewer fund. He stated he has spoken to Dave Senecal, Linda Murray and Sarah Silk about his concern; noting that he does not have a good feeling as to the amount of arrears the fund is at. He recommended keeping the transfer level at \$808,412 rather than reducing the transfer amount in order to begin reducing the deficit; noting the funds would be applied to the deficit and not the debt service.

It was moved by John Burt and seconded by Bob Tougher to increase 49131.940 by \$61,103 from \$747,309 to \$808,412.

Discussion of the motion:

Pete Chamberlain stated the need to watch the rate so that it offsets the operating costs. He stated the default budget reflects \$808,412.

John MacDonald stated he likes Mr. Burt's idea however, doesn't feel it should be done this year. He questioned how long it would take to decrease the deficit by keeping the transfer level.

John Burt replied 8-10 years.

Dave Owen stated he understands Mr. Burt's rationale; noting the BOS did not recommend such because of their concern for a default budget.

Bob Tougher questioned whether the Committee could change the budget after last night's public hearing.

It was moved by John Burt and seconded by Bob Tougher to increase 49131.940 by \$61,103 from \$747,309 to \$808,412. John Burt, Bob Tougher, Bob Moholland, Allan Bailey voted in favor. John MacDonald, Brian Black, Stan Stevens opposed. Frank Giebutowski abstained. The motion passed (4-3-1).

Pete Chamberlain stated the 2012 Operating Budget is \$25,663,524 (General Fund and Enterprise Funds); noting a total increase in the General Fund and Enterprise Funds of \$145,959.

John MacDonald questioned the total debt of the sewer fund.

Peter Chamberlain replied \$9,680,324.00.

John Burt guestioned the anticipated surplus funds to offset taxes on the MS-7.

Pete Chamberlain stated the surplus is not put on the forms until after the tax rate is determined.

It was moved by Stan Stevens and seconded by Bob Moholland to recommend the Town of Wolfeboro's 2012 Operating Budget in the amount of \$25,663,524.00. All members voted in favor. The motion passed (8-0).

OTHER BUSINESS

- Deliberative Session scheduled for February 7, 2012.
- Town Manager requested to put a press release in the newspaper regarding the change to the budget.
- Member appointment expirations; Harold Parker, Allan Bailey, John Burt (formerly Jim Eisenhower's appointment)

<u>It was moved by John MacDonald and seconded by Allan Bailey to adjourn the January 13, 2012 Budget Committee meeting.</u> All members voted in favor.

There being no further business before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 7:47 PM.

Respectfully Submitted, Lee Ann Keathley Lee Ann Keathley

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