

WOLFEBORO BUDGET COMMITTEE

December 11, 2012

Minutes

Members Present: John MacDonald, Harold Parker, Bob Tougher, John Burt, Matt Krause, Frank Giebutowski, Members.

Members Absent: Chairman, Stan Stevens, Vice-Chairman, Dave Senecal, Selectmen's Representative, Robert Moholland (excused), Brian Black, Members.

Staff Present: Dave Owen, Town Manager, Pete Chamberlain, Finance Director, Lauren Hammond, Director, Libby Museum, Dean Rondeau, Wolfeboro Police Department, Lee Ann Keathley, Secretary.

Chairman MacDonald called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM at the Wolfeboro Inn Ballroom.

LIBBY MUSEUM

John MacDonald noted a reduction in the Libby Museum budget.

Dave Owen stated a structural engineer will be at the site by the end of the week to assess issues related to the ceiling.

Frank Giebutowski noted a discrepancy between the backup information and the requested funding for floors.

Lauren Hammond stated the request for funding is lower than the information provided because a private individual has donated funds towards such.

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Dan Coons, Chairman, stated the Commission will be closing on a property by the end of the year; noting the 45 acre parcel has been donated to the Town.

John MacDonald noted a 30.263% decrease in the budget.

Dave Owen stated a large deposit from the Current Use Change Tax has been made to the Conservation Land Fund and noted there was no need for the annual transfer from the General Fund to occur.

Dan Coons stated approximately \$29,000 has been transferred.

POLICE

Dean Rondeau reviewed crime data for the Wolfeboro Police Department for 2004-2012 which included an attorney/prosecutor comparison chart, number of phone calls to dispatch number of arrests, incidents, criminal offenses, statistics on DWI and criminal incidents and complicated high profile crimes. He stated the Alton Police Department contract an attorney for prosecution

(\$48/hour) and the Conway Police Department employs a full time attorney which includes benefits (\$32.41/hour, 40 hours/week). He stated the Police Department is requesting to employ the prosecutor for 34 hours/week at \$38.65/hour (\$66,027 for 2013).

John MacDonald asked whether consideration has been given to subcontracting an attorney.

Dean Rondeau replied yes, and reviewed the history of prosecutors who previously served for the police department. He stated the department is unable to keep an attorney due to the limitation in hours. He stated he does not want police officers getting involved with motions and suppression hearings; noting such is a waste of their time.

Bob Tougher questioned liability issues related to the prosecutor working forty hours and only getting paid for 34 hours.

Dean Rondeau stated Tim Morgan submitted a letter to the Chief stating he is not interested in benefits. He stated the request is for additional hours and not an increase in the rate of pay.

Bob Tougher stated he sees consistency in the materials presented to the Committee.

It was moved by Bob Tougher and seconded by Frank Giebutowski to increase Part Time Wages, 42100.117, specifically Prosecutor, to \$66,027.00.

Discussion of the motion:

John MacDonald stated benefits do not concern him rather, his issue is related to the hourly wage. He stated he did the same job with the State Police therefore, understands what the job entails. He stated he doesn't feel there is a need to pay an attorney to prosecute speeding tickets; noting the police officers should be able to handle such.

Matt Krause questioned whether the data includes such violations.

Dean Rondeau replied no, the data includes Class A & B Misdemeanors and Class A & B Felonies. He stated typically speeding tickets that are challenged are dealt with prior to court. He stated the officers have dealt with their own ALS hearings and violations however; he wants the officers on the road and not in court.

Frank Giebutowski asked whether the prosecutor handles cases now that were formerly handled by police officers.

Dean Rondeau replied yes. He stated the Police Commission, 12-13 years ago, wanted to remove the officers from prosecutorial duties and hire an attorney.

John MacDonald stated he recalls the prosecutor being hired for 24 hours/week. He stated the prosecutor is making close to the lieutenant and deputy county attorney who supervises two other attorneys and two support staff; noting he doesn't agree with such.

It was moved by Bob Tougher and seconded by Frank Giebutowski to increase Part Time Wages, 42100.117, specifically Prosecutor, to \$66,027.00. John Burt, Bob Tougher, Matt Krause, Frank Giebutowski, Harold Parker, voted in favor. John MacDonald abstained. The motion passed.

ESTIMATED REVENUES

It was moved by John MacDonald and seconded by Bob Tougher to review Estimated Revenues on 12/13/12. All members voted in favor. The motion passed.

DEFAULT BUDGET

Pete Chamberlain reviewed such.

Referencing page 26, Highway & Streets, line 210, Bob Tougher stated such shows a reduction.

Pete Chamberlain stated he would revise such.

Referencing page 9, Assessing, Frank Giebutowski questioned the increase relative to abatements requests.

Pete Chamberlain stated such is related to the contract for the assessor; noting the Town had to retain the previous assessor to complete 2012 changes.

Referencing page 15, Police, Hourly Wages, Frank Giebutowski stated the report reflects a positive adjustment on the default budget and a negative adjustment on the budget detail; noting there should be a deduction from summer salaries. Referencing page 43, Library, line 210, Group Health Insurance, he stated the report reflects a positive adjustment in the default budget and the detail reflects an increase.

Referencing page 27, Highway, line 380, John MacDonald stated \$103,091 was approved for such.

It was moved by John MacDonald and seconded by Frank Giebutowski to adjourn the December 11, 2012 Budget Committee meeting. All members voted in favor.

Budget Committee meeting scheduled for December 13, 2012 at the Wolfboro Inn Ballroom, 6:00 PM.

There being no further business before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 7:45 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lee Ann Keathley
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