

**TOWN OF WOLFEBORO
BUDGET COMMITTEE
December 8, 2015
Minutes**

Members Present: John MacDonald, Chairman, Frank Giebutowski, Vice-Chairman, Luke Freudenberg, Selectmen's Representative, Brian Black, Bob Moholland, Steve Johnson, John Burt, Matt Krause, Members.

Members Absent: Bob Tougher (excused), Harold Parker, Members.

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

Others Present: Pat Waterman, Town Clerk, Phil Morrill, Fire Chief.

Chairman MacDonald called the meeting to order at 6:04 PM at the Wolfeboro Public Library.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT ~ TOWN CLERK

Pat Waterman stated her revenue is up \$80,000 and thanked Goodhue and Hawkins Navy Yard for promoting boat registrations at the Town rather than renewing through the State (\$22,000 boat registration revenue).

Frank Giebutowski questioned the number of elections in 2015.

Pat Waterman replied two, Deliberative Session and Town Meeting. She noted five elections are scheduled for 2016.

John Burt questioned postage; noting such is under expended both last year and this year.

Pat Waterman stated she did a mass mailing on 12/7/15.

Pete Chamberlain stated he believes there is an error and would review such.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Emergency Management

Dave Owen stated the increase in part time wages is related to reallocating the recording secretary wages from the Executive budget to the Emergency Management budget.

John Burt questioned the under expenditure of professional development.

Phil Morrill stated he attended the Emergency Management Conference and another conference at no cost to the Town; noting the conferences were offered by Homeland Security.

Brian Black asked if there are any necessary changes to the budget due to his upcoming retirement.

Dave Owen stated the current arrangement that the Fire Chief serves as the Emergency Management Director will continue. He stated an assessment center has been contracted and 23 applications have been received. He stated the funding of such is being paid for by the 2015 budget; noting the buyout is also being paid for by the 2015 budget.

Public Safety Building

No changes.

Fire/Rescue

Frank Giebutowski noted an increase in outside services (hydrant fee) and a decrease in the water budget.

Dave Owen stated the increase is to get to 20% of the water operating budget.

John MacDonald asked Chief Morrill how much input he has with regard to the outside services line item.

Phil Morrill stated the fee is provided to him annually; noting he has previously requested the fee be placed in the BOS budget.

Dave Owen stated Chief Morrill is a neutral party.

It was moved by John MacDonald and seconded by Frank Giebutowski to decrease Outside Services 01-42200-380 from \$360,000 to \$345,000.

Discussion of the motion:

John Burt questioned the justification of the motion.

John MacDonald questioned the justification of the increase.

Dave Owen stated the goal has been to reach 20% of the water operating budget; noting the methodology for such has been used since prior to his arrival.

Brian Black asked that if the motion passes, would another area of the budget increase.

Pete Chamberlain stated revenue in the Water Fund is reduced and noted the unrestricted net position of the Water Fund is \$1,664,033.

Dave Owen stated the water rates may be affected however, the rates are not being reviewed prior to summer 2016.

Brian Black verified that if the motion passes, the amount raised by taxes is reduced.

It was moved by John MacDonald and seconded by Frank Giebutowski to decrease Outside Services – Hydrant, 01-42200-380, from \$360,000 to \$345,000. John MacDonald, Frank Giebutowski, Bob Moholland, Brian Black voted in favor. Matt Krause, John Burt opposed. The motion passed.

Brian Black stated the motion falls in line with the BOS mandate to keep the budget level funded.

6:33 PM; Steve Johnson arrived.

John MacDonald asked how the mutual aid membership fee is based.

Phil Morrill replied by vote of the Ossipee Valley Mutual Aid which consists of all departments within Carroll County.

Public Safety Capital Outlay

01-49616-762

Supplemental Jaws of Life; \$24,455

Phil Morrill stated the current jaws of life only has a 5,000 lb. spreading capacity; noting some vehicles, such as a BMW require a 10,000 lb. spreading capacity. He stated his priority #1, request for a new jaws of life, was zeroed out by the BOS.

It was moved by Steve Johnson to decrease 01-49616-762 Supplemental Jaws of Life from \$24,455 to \$0. There being no second, the motion failed.

01-49616-763

Replace Radio Headsets in Apparatus; \$12,700

Phil Morrill stated the existing headsets are not compatible with the new equipment.

Steve Johnson asked if the request could be put off one year.

Phil Morrill stated he would not recommend such.

It was moved by Steve Johnson and seconded by John Burt to decrease 01-49616-763 Replace Radio Headsets in Apparatus from \$12,700 to \$0.

Discussion of the motion:

Phil Morrill stated he contacted Motorola and inquired about changing the connection ends however, it isn't possible. He stated the apparatus were installed with David Clark headsets in the early 1990's; noting Motorola is not compatible with such.

John Burt asked if the department is currently without headsets.

Phil Morrill replied yes and noted such is a safety issue that he is not comfortable with.

Brian Black confirmed that such is a safety issue.

It was moved by Steve Johnson and seconded by John Burt to decrease 01-49616-763 Replace Radio Headsets in Apparatus from \$12,700 to \$0. Steve Johnson voted in favor. Frank Giebutowski, John MacDonald, Bob Moholland, Matt Krause, John Burt opposed. The motion failed.

John MacDonald thanked Chief Morrill for his years of service.

Other Business

- **Electric Budget**

Dave Owen noted a decrease in the electric budget (to be presented on 12/9/15). He stated the budget originally included funding for a one month contract with NH Electric Coop however, since a new line crew has been recruited the funding can be removed. He stated the line crew consists of one supervisor, two First Class linemen and two apprentices. He noted there is a capital outlay request for a vehicle for the supervisor that was previously provided by NH Electric Coop.

- **Agencies**

Dave Owen stated the Dinner Bell has withdrawn their funding request; noting the agency has a surplus of funds.

John MacDonald stated Restorative Justice is closing the program and asked if the agency had requested funding.

Dave Owen replied yes.

The Budget Committee has requested additional information for the following;

- Town Clerk, Postage, 41401.625; confirm year to date expenditure

It was moved by John Burt and seconded by Frank Giebutowski to adjourn the December 8, 2015 Budget Committee meeting. All members voted in favor.

There being no further business before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 6:55 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lee Ann Keathley
Lee Ann Keathley

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