

Budget Committee
November 15th, 2017
7:00PM
Town Office/Police Station Conference Room
Approved: December 13, 2017

Budget Committee Members: Judy Brotman, Chair, Susan J. MacKenzie, Erik Colberg, Wilkes McClave, Richard Jones, Charles Ragan, Scott May, Greg Lange, Cybele Merrick, Elizabeth Glenshaw and Eric Furstenberg.

Excused:

Select Board members Charles Smith & Bradford Keith. Administrative Assistant Dina Cutting.

Community member: Rich Brown.

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 PM by Chair Brotman.

1. The minutes of November 8, 2017 were reviewed:
 - Mr. Jones moved to approve the minutes of November 8th, 2017. Seconded by Mr. May. Minor changes were offered. Voted in favor with 2 abstentions (Mr. Lange and Ms. Merrick were not present).
2. Ms. Brotman announced that Greg Lange would be stepping down from the Budget Committee due to increased commitments elsewhere. He was thanked for his commitment and contributions to the work of the committee.
3. The Budget Committee reviewed the Selectmen's proposed 2018 budget with a department by department review.
4. The Budget Committee reviewed the departments' wish list items. Some of the items on the list will be purchased with 2017 funding and some of the items may be included in the upcoming operating budget. Larger cost items will need to be considered in future years and/or from the use of Capital Reserve Funds.
5. The Budget Committee expressed a desire to see the Highway Emergency Fund replenished.
6. It was noted the Town will be looking at some large funding projects in the future years - Transfer Station, Fire Station, and major road rehabilitation at 10 different locations.
 - a. The potential impact of these major projects to the tax payer is something this committee will be considering.
 - b. Bonding of the road repairs and other ways of funding for the road projects were briefly discussed.

- c. It was the consensus of the committee that until the information concerning specific costs for these road projects was presented, options for paying for them could not be fully considered.
- 7. At this time, without having the Money Warrant Articles to consider, budget committee members expressed reluctance to take an advisory vote on the proposed budget. However, when polled individually, each Budget Committee member expressed support for the 2018 Operating Budget as presented by the Select Board.
- 8. Public Comment: Rich Brown thanked everyone for their hard work.
- 9. Mr. Keith reviewed a spreadsheet concerning the tax rate.
- 10. Mr. Lange thanked the members for having him as a part of the committee and said that he had very much enjoyed being a part of this town's budgeting process.
- 11. At 8:55 PM Mr. Jones moved to adjourn. Seconded by Mr. Ragan. Voted unanimously in favor.

Sincerely,

Dina Cutting