

TOWN OF GILFORD
BUDGET COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
October 11, 2018
6:30 PM

Members present: Joseph Wernig, Tracie Corbett, Thomas Chase, Kristin Snow, Richard Grenier (arrived at 7pm) Sean Murphy, S. Peter Karagianis, Chris McDonough, Susan Greene, Jack Kelley and David "Skip" Murphy

Members Absent: Timothy Sullivan (excused).

Chairman Sean Murphy called the Budget Committee meeting to order at 6:30 pm, established there was a quorum present and S. Peter Karagianis led the assembly with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of minutes:

Skip Murphy made a motion to not accept the 08/30/18 minutes as presented; seconded by Peter Karagianis; for discussion. Skip Murphy said in the last sentence, under the heading: Town Budget Fiscal Report, where it states Mr. Waring answered all of the questions was incorrect. Discussion ensued. Skip Murphy amended his motion to change this sentence to: it was noted that some are waiting on answers for certain questions; seconded by Peter Karagianis and passed; (10-0-1). Tom Chase abstained.

Public comment:

Chair Sean Murphy asked if there was any public comment prior to the Town budget presentation. There was none.

Sub Committee Meetings Scheduled:

John Ayer explained that he has a Conference scheduled for the night that the Budget Committee is supposed to review his budget (10/25/18). He asked the Budget Committee if it would be possible to reschedule his meeting to the night of November 15. The Budget Committee ask for clarification if that would include the Conservation Commission as well. Answer: Yes. The schedule will be adjusted to move the Department of Planning and Land Use and the Conservation Commission subcommittee review to Thursday, November 15, 2018. The Budget Committee picked one designee on each subcommittee to be in charge of scheduling their subcommittee's meeting with the respective Department Managers.

Town Budget Presentation: Town Administrator Scott Dunn presented a memo outlining the FY2019 Selectmen's recommended budget. Administrator Dunn explained that this budget is preliminary because the Selectmen are waiting on final rate figures for unemployment insurance, property-liability insurance and workers compensation insurance; all of which typically arrive around October 18. Administrator Dunn also explained that the Board is in the process of achieving a better understanding of the Town's Buildings & Grounds budget due to a reorganization of accounts this year with a goal of improving transparency. The 2018 tax rate is forth coming, and has been estimated in the budget. Town Administrator Dunn reviewed the General Information summary page and told the Budget Committee there will be a Town wide evaluation in 2019 (every 5 years per State law). Administrator Dunn reviewed the key items that lead to an increase over last year's budget: 1. the need to ask for an

Approved by the Budget Committee on 10/18/18

additional \$400,000 for the Recycle Center Improvements in 2019. 2. An increase in the fund wages and benefits for a new Deputy Director of Public Works. 3. An additional \$300,000 was added to the road improvement account. Chris McDonough noted that the operational budget was up by 5%. Discussion ensued. Town Administrator Dunn thanked Budget Committee members for all their hard work on the budget.

Alton Budget Committee Benchmarking Project: Chair, Sean Murphy, read into the record, an email that was sent to him from Mr. David Hershey, Vice Chair of the Alton Budget Committee. The purpose of Mr. Hershey's request is to solicit support in contributing to benchmarking spreadsheets to identify revenue/expense anomalies within the process. This email/request for information was sent to the Alton, Wolfeboro, Gilford, Farmington, Moultonborough and Tuftonboro Budget Committee's and to the Meredith Town Manger. Discussion ensued on whether the NHMA should be doing this project, if there has been any responses from the other recipients, if this should be a function of the State of NH – DRA, etc. Discussion ensued. Selectman Grenier made a motion to say no to participating in this benchmarking project; seconded by Skip Murphy and passed with all in favor; (11-0).

Public comment:

Chair Sean Murphy asked if there was any public comment. There was none.

Adjourn

With no further business to come before the Committee, Jack Kelley made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Skip Murphy and passed unanimously; (11-0). The meeting adjourned at 7:26 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Angela A. Bovill
Executive Assistant