

**TOWN OF GILFORD
BUDGET COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
January 9, 2020
6:30 PM**

Members present: Johan Andersen, Thomas Chase, Joseph Wernig, Kristin Snow, Jack Kelley, Richard Grenier, Sean Murphy, Gretchen Gandini, Susan Greene, Dorothy Piquado and Michael Dowe.

Members absent: David "Skip" Murphy.

Approval of minutes: The Budget Committee reviewed the 01/02/20 minutes. Michael Dowe made a motion to approve the 01/02/20 minutes as written; seconded by Thomas Chase and passed; (10-0-1). Joseph Wernig abstained.

Public comment:
Chairman Sean Murphy asked for public input. There was none.

Gunstock Acres Village Water District (GAVWD) Budget: Mr. Nick Sceggell, Treasurer of the GAVWD presented the GAVWD 2020 budget reviewing the income increases in the 2020 budget. Mr. Sceggell said there is approximately \$480,000 (+/-) in the GAVWD Capital Reserves Fund, which, use is intended for Capital Improvement Projects. There is a 10% increase in rate for water fees. On the expense side, insurance has gone up; there has been an adjustment on assets and the GAVWD now needs to have Workers Compensation. The O & M Contracted line item is going down while the O & M Non-contracted increased. Mr. Sceggell explained that the GAVWD infrastructure is 60 years old and he answered the committee's questions. There is a new line item for internet as the franchise agreement that the GAVWD had is no longer available. Mr. Sceggell explained that with the rate increase, the average water bill will go up by \$40 and the average precinct charge will double (about \$200 or more). Jack Kelley asked if residents are aware of the rate increase or if it will be sticker shock. Discussions ensued and Mr. Sceggell answered the committee's questions. Jack Kelley made a motion to accept the GAVWD Budget as presented (\$649,076.00); seconded by Johan Andersen and passed; (11-0).

Superintendent of Schools, Kirk Beitler - Teachers Contract: Superintendent of Schools Kirk Beitler presented Article III Multi-Year Agreement cost items for the teachers' contract. He broke them down by year as follows: 2020-2021 \$279,447, 2021-2022 \$256,034 and 2022-2023 \$278,896. Mr. Beitler provided a spreadsheet with the cost summary broken down for the committee to review. He said that the School Board had a public hearing Monday and approved to raise and appropriate the sum of \$279,447 for the 2020-2021 fiscal year by a vote of 4-0. Mr. Beitler also said that they reached an Area Agreement between Gilford and Gilmanton. Discussion ensued. Joseph Wernig made a motion to approve Article III as presented; seconded by Kristin Snow and passed; (10-1). Susan Greene opposed.

Scott Dunn, Town Administrator - Town Warrant Articles: Town Administrator Scott Dunn presented a revised copy of the 2020 Annual Town Meeting Warrant and directed the Budget Committee to Article

#4, which would require a new vote based on updates to the budget. Discussion ensued. Joseph Wernig made a motion to approve Article 4 (\$14,263,580); seconded by Thomas Chase and passed; (11-0)

NOTE: For the sake of minutes, Article descriptions are condensed.

Article#5: Approve the cost items in the three-year DPW contract and to raise and appropriate \$700. Thomas Chase made a motion to approve Article 5 as written, seconded by Dorothy Piquado and passed; (11-0).

Article #6: To raise and appropriate \$64,000 for phase 2 of Police Dept. radio upgrade. Michael Dowe made a motion to approve Article 6 as written; seconded by Thomas Chase and passed; (11-0).

Article #7: Relative to Fire Department air tanks and breathing apparatus, to raise and appropriate the sum of \$51,500, to be used as the first year's payment for that purpose. Johan Andersen made a motion to approve Article 7 as written, seconded by Joseph Wernig and passed; (11-0).

Article #8: To raise and appropriate the sum of \$275,000, to purchase and equip a new ambulance. Jack Kelley made a motion to approve Article 8 as written, seconded by Joseph Wernig and passed; (11-0).

Article #9: To raise and appropriate the sum of \$75,000, to purchase a used roadside mower. Kristin Snow made a motion to approve Article 9 as written, seconded by Michael Dowe and passed; (11-0).

Article #10: To raise and appropriate the sum of \$125,000, to purchase a heavy duty pick-up truck with plow and accessories. Gretchen Gandini made a motion to approve Article 10 as written, seconded by Dorothy Piquado and passed; (11-0).

Article #11: To authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a five year lease purchase agreement in the amount of \$180,000, for a DPW back-hoe, contingent upon such an agreement having a non-appropriation clause in accordance with the provisions of RSA 33:7-e; and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$40,000, to be used as the first year's payment for that purpose. Joseph Wernig made a motion to approve Article 11 as written, seconded by Jack Kelley and passed; (11-0).

Article #12: To raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,900, to be added to the Police Dog and Training Capital Reserve Fund previously established in 2018. Johan Andersen made a motion to approve Article 12, seconded by Dorothy Piquado and passed; (11-0).

Article #13: To raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,387, to be added to the Technology Capital Reserve Fund previously established in 2018. Joseph Wernig made a motion to approve Article 13 as written, seconded by Thomas Chase and passed; (11-0).

Article #14: To raise and appropriate the sum of \$20,000, to be added to the Building Repair Capital Reserve Fund previously established in 2007. Jack Kelley made a motion to approve Article 14 as written, seconded by Richard Grenier and passed; (11-0).

Article #15: To establish a Public Works Building Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the evaluation, design and construction of a new Public Works building; and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$50,000. Michael Dowe made a motion to approve Article 16 as written, seconded by Johan Andersen and passed; (11-0).

Article #16: To raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000, to be added to the Fire Water Supply Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund previously established in 2008 for town-wide fire suppression purposes. Gretchen Gandini made a motion to approve Article 16 as written, seconded by Kristin Snow and passed; (11-0).

Article #17: To raise and appropriate the sum of \$50,000, to be added to the Recreation Facilities Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund previously established in 2008. Gretchen Gandini made a motion to approve Article 17 as written, seconded by Thomas Chase and passed; (11-0).

Article #18: To raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000, to be added to the Glendale Boat and Launch Ramp Facilities Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund previously established in 2008. Gretchen Gandini made a motion to approve Article 18 as written, seconded by Jack Kelley and passed; (11-0).

Article #19: To raise and appropriate the sum of \$100,000, to be added to the Fire Equipment Capital Reserve Fund previously established in 1989. Gretchen Gandini made a motion to approve Article 19 as written, seconded by Thomas Chase and passed; (11-0).

Article #20: To raise and appropriate the sum of \$58,000, to be added to the Lakes Business Park Capital Trust Fund previously established pursuant to the terms of the Inter-Municipal Agreement that was approved under Article 18 of the 2001 Annual Town Meeting. Gretchen Gandini made a motion to approve Article 20 as written; seconded by Richard Grenier and passed; (11-0).

Article #21: To raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000, to be added to the Sewer Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund previously established in 2007. Johan Andersen made a motion to approve Article 21 as written, seconded by Gretchen Gandini and passed; (11-0).

Article #22: To raise and appropriate the sum of \$6,500, to comply with a New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services request to perform a focused site investigation to evaluate the source of PFOA and PFOS compounds in the potential contamination of groundwater at the municipal complex. Joseph Wernig made a motion to vote on Article #22 as written, seconded by Michael Dowe and not recommended (0-11).

Article #23: To raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000, (level funding request), to support the operation of the Laconia Area Center of Community Action Program. Joseph Wernig made a motion to approve Article 23 as written, seconded by Thomas Chase and passed; (6-5).

Article #24: To raise and appropriate the sum of \$23,500, to support the operations of Central New Hampshire VNA & Hospice. (Kristin Snow disclosed that she has been a member of this Board for two months and will recuse herself from voting, but she supports). Gretchen Gandini made a

Approved by the Budget Committee on 01/16/20

motion to approve Article 24 as written; seconded by Dorothy Piquado and passed; (7-3-1). Kristin Snow abstained.

Other business: Chair Sean Murphy announced that the Filing for Office period is from 01/22/20 through 01/31/20 and that you would file in the Town Clerk Tax Collectors Office.

The Budget Committee's public hearing will take place next Thursday, January 16, 2020 at 7:00 pm and the Gilford High School.

Public comment:

Chairman Sean Murphy asked for public input. There was none.

Adjourn

With no further business to come before the committee, Richard Grenier made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Michael Dowe and passed; (11-0). The meeting adjourned at 08:01 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Angela A. Bovill
Executive Assistant