

DRAFT MINUTES

BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS COMMITTEE MINUTES

November 10, 2010

Call Meeting to Order

Chairman Rob Corson convened the Budget Recommendations Committee at 7:00 PM in the Nowak Room of the Town Office.

The members of the Committee introduced themselves: Bob Kelly, Harry Thayer, Allen Corey, Corey Stevens, Don Woodward, Carol Aten and Vice Chairman Don Brabant. Also in attendance were Staff Accountant Laura Hill and Town Manager Russell Dean.

Chairman Corson explained that the committee will do a final review of the scheduled department's budgets and discuss any items that are still in question and make any adjustments that the committee finds appropriate. Mr. Corson asked if the members of the committee preferred to review the updated budget numbers before voting on them at next week's meeting.

Mr. Stevens moved to review the amended items in the proposed budget and vote on them next week. Mr. Kelly seconded. Vote: Unanimous.

On the subject of the next agenda, it appears that there are a number of departments that need to be addressed at that meeting. The schedule has CIP, DPW, Library and Human Services and will probably take around 3-4 hours. Mr. Corson asked if the committee would entertain the notion of meeting earlier.

Mr. Thayer moved to begin the November 17 meeting one hour earlier at 6pm. Ms. Aten seconded. Vote: Unanimous.

Chairman Bobby Aldrich and Natural Resource Planner Kristen Murphy appeared to represent the Conservation Commission. Ms. Murphy gave the committee an overview of the activities within the Conservation Commission. Mr. Aldrich addressed the Commission's request for NoChar at the Raynes Barn saying that the Commission did not have a preference of this item being a warrant article or added to the budget and said that the Natural Resources Inventory is an item that is overdue. Most of the Budget Committee members expressed the preference that NoChar be a warrant article as it is a onetime capital purchase. Mr. Thayer said that he did some research about NoChar and found that if a fire notification system was installed at the location it would cost less and be more effective. Ms. Murphy said that the initial proposal a few years ago had been for both the NoChar and a notification system, but that the decision had been made to focus on the NoChar quite a while ago.

Mr. Corey moved to remove the NoChar item from the budget. Mr. Thayer seconded. Vote: Unanimous.

Mr. Aldrich said that without the NoChar, the Conservation Commission is asking for level funding.

Chief Kane and Captain Shupe appeared representing the Police Department. The budget committee noticed that a few of the Police Department's overtime and sick replacement accounts had such a high ending balance for the past 2 years and Chief Kane said that it was a result of few illnesses and emergencies that required overtime or sick replacement.

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Mr. Brabant moved to reduce 403-1410 from \$15,000 to \$12,000. Ms. Aten seconded. Vote: Unanimous.

Mr. Brabant moved to reduce 405-1300 to \$12,000. Mr. Corey seconded. Vote: Unanimous.

Mr. Brabant moved to reduce 405-1200 by \$490. Mr. Corey seconded. Vote: Unanimous.

Mr. Corson wanted to discuss the Police Department proposals for a motorcycle and a polygraph. Chief Kane reported that the cost of the motorcycle had been reduced from \$7,820 to \$6,846 due to a decrease in the price of the radio, a savings of \$674, and training is now being offered for free, a \$300 value. When asked which item Chief Kane would prioritize he said that he believed that the polygraph would have the more of an overall impact for the department.

Mr. Stevens moved to put the cost of the motorcycle into the FY2011 budget. Ms. Aten seconded. Vote: Unanimous.

Mr. Kelly moved to present the polygraph item as a warrant article. Mr. Thayer seconded. Vote: Unanimous.

Fire Chief Brian Comeau, Assistant Chief Eric Wilking, and Assistant Chief Ken Berkenbush appeared to represent the Fire Department. The group discussed the overages in wages and overtime due to storms last winter. Mr. Dean said that the fire hydrant accounts would be reduced to zero because they will be paid from the water fund, not the budget, as they are an item that is only used by those within the town water system.

Department 100 Total (Board of Selectmen): Mr. Thayer moved to recommend \$20,950; Mr. Brabant seconded. VOTE: Unanimous.

Department 111 Total (Town Manager): Ms. Aten moved to recommend \$164,866; Mr. Thayer seconded. VOTE: Unanimous.

Department 112 Total (Town Office): Mr. Thayer moved to recommend \$73,769; Ms. Aten seconded. VOTE: Unanimous.

Department 113 Total (CATV): Ms. Aten moved to recommend \$18,918 unless the cable contract is signed in which case this line item would be \$0; Mr. Woodward seconded. VOTE: Unanimous.

Department 115 Total (Human Resources): Mr. Thayer moved to recommend \$83,064; Ms. Aten seconded. VOTE: Unanimous.

Department 120 Total (Legal): Ms. Aten moved to recommend \$60,000; Mr. Thayer seconded. VOTE: Unanimous.

Department 130 Total (Trustees of Trust Funds): Ms. Aten moved to recommend \$891; Mr. Brabant seconded. VOTE: Unanimous.

Department 140 Total (Town Moderator): Ms. Aten moved to recommend \$431; Mr. Thayer seconded. Vote: Unanimous.

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Department 151 Total (Town Clerk): Mr. Thayer moved to recommend \$317,310; Ms. Aten seconded. Vote: Unanimous.

Department 152 Total (Elections/Registration): Ms. Aten moved to recommend \$18,058; Mr. Thayer seconded. Vote: Unanimous.

Department 201 Total (Finance/Accounting): Mr. Thayer moved to recommend \$255,704; Ms. Aten seconded. Vote: Unanimous.

Department 202 Total (Treasurer): Ms. Aten moved to recommend \$9,542; Mr. Thayer seconded. Vote: Unanimous.

Department 203 Total (Tax Collection): Ms. Aten moved to recommend \$60,275; Mr. Thayer seconded. Vote: Unanimous.

Department 205 Total (Assessing): Mr. Thayer moved to recommend \$210,628; Ms. Aten seconded. Vote: Unanimous.

Department 301 Total (Town Clerk): Ms. Aten moved to recommend \$201,355; Mr. Woodward seconded. Vote: Unanimous.

Department 302 Total (Inspection/Code Enforcement): Mr. Thayer moved to recommend \$221,822; Ms. Aten seconded. Vote: Unanimous.

Department 303 Total (Board of Adjustment): Ms. Aten moved to recommend \$4,200; Mr. Thayer seconded. Vote: Unanimous.

Department 304 Total (Historic District Commission): Ms. Aten moved to recommend \$1,530; Mr. Woodward seconded. Vote: Unanimous.

Department 305 Total (Conservation Commission): Mr. Thayer moved to recommend \$11,475; Ms. Aten seconded. Vote: Unanimous.

Department 306 Total (Heritage Commission): Ms. Aten moved to recommend \$900; Mr. Corey seconded. Vote: Unanimous.

Department 501 Total (Fire Administration): Mr. Kelly moved to recommend \$472,795; Ms. Aten seconded. Vote: Unanimous.

Department 502 Total (EMS/Ambulance): Ms. Aten moved to recommend \$235,550; Mr. Thayer seconded. Vote: Unanimous.

Department 503 Total (Fire Suppression): Mr. Thayer moved to recommend \$2,843,774; Ms. Aten seconded. Vote: Unanimous.

Department 504 Total (Emergency Management): Mr. Kelly moved to recommend \$21,040; Ms. Aten seconded. Vote: Unanimous.

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Department 505 Total (Health): Mr. Thayer moved to recommend \$124,837; Mr. Kelly seconded. Vote: Unanimous.

Department 801 Total (Recreation): Mr. Kelly moved to recommend \$298,694; Ms. Aten seconded. Vote: Unanimous.

Department 802 Total (Parks): Mr. Thayer moved to recommend \$189,231; Ms. Aten seconded. Vote: Unanimous.

Department 803 Total (Pool): Mr. Kelly moved to recommend \$43,307; Ms. Aten seconded. Vote: Unanimous.

Department 804 Total (Other Culture/Recreation): Ms. Aten moved to recommend \$20,700; Mr. Kelly seconded. Vote: Unanimous.

Department 805 Total (Special Events): Ms. Aten moved to recommend \$13,000; Mr. Kelly seconded. Vote: Unanimous.

Department 921-23 Total (Debt Service): Mr. Thayer moved to recommend \$766,226; Ms. Aten seconded. Vote: Unanimous.

Adjournment- At 9:04 pm Mr. Kelly moved to adjourn; second Ms. Aten. VOTE: Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly Geis
Recording Secretary