

Municipal Budget Committee

Meeting Minutes

December 29, 2009 6:00 P.M.

Corner Meeting House

Chairman Ron Mitchell called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Committee members present were Ken Knowlton, Norma Patten, Fred Wells, Albert Akerstrom, Mark Roberts, Ward Peterson, and Selectman Ron Cormier. Others in attendance were Town Administrator K. Jeanne Beaudin, Budget Clerk Tracey Russo; Public Works Director Jim Fortin, and Harrison Haas was in attendance for the Laconia Citizen. Linda Frawley arrived at 6:12; Glenda Hill, Tonyel Mitchell-Berry, and Ken Ellis were absent.

**Minutes:** Chairman Mitchell made a change to the minutes of December 8, 2009 line item 01-4902-007 was actually a replacement for engine 4 not FD Used Ladder Truck as stated. A motion was made by Albert Akerstrom to accept minutes with this change seconded by Ken Knowlton, all were in favor motion passed.

**Sunray Shores Water District:** Town Administrator Beaudin explained that Sunray Shores continues to be self sufficient, raising and appropriating enough for their own budget. Additionally the commissioners met and approved a raise in revenue from \$21,050 to \$21,420. Albert Akerstrom made a motion to accept this budget, Fred Wells seconded all were in favor motion passed.

**Highway Block Grant:** Town Administrator Beaudin said she was under the impression this would stay the same however there was an adjustment in the state's budget which is reflected in the increase from \$171,956 to \$182,265. Ken Knowlton happily made a motion to amend this line item, Norma Patten seconded all were in favor motion passed.

**Capital Building:** Selectman Cormier explained the current owners of the property located at 156 Main St. formerly known as the Northway Bank Building, approached the Town about purchasing their property. After discussion among the Board of Selectman they decided to put this on the Warrant as an individual article. The property is being offered \$25,000 less than the last time it was brought to the voters. There is \$262,000 in the Capital Reserve Acct. that can be used towards the purchase thereby putting no burden on the tax payers, along with the fact that the Library trustees have offered to help defray some of the costs. There was some general discussion as what departments would be using the building if it passed the voters. The Water and Sewer Dept. along with General Welfare and possibly Parks and Recreation were the ones discussed. Town Administrator Beaudin said the Town did have Waterloo Inspections do a thorough general building inspection which yielded no significant issues. Building Inspector Steve Dalton also looked at the report and found nothing to be amiss. Ken Knowlton made a motion to accept this in the budget, Linda Frawley seconded all were in favor motion passed.

**General Government Buildings:** Line Items 01-4194-220, 225 Electric and Heat were discussed relative to the purchase of the property at 156 main St. There would be an increase of \$2,775.00 for electricity and \$2,450.00 for heat. Ken Knowlton made a motion to accept both amended line items, Fred Wells seconded all were in favor motion passed. There was also an amendment to line item 01-4194-360 custodial services in the amount of \$2,780.00, this would be for someone to come in and clean the Winnisquam Fire Station when Parks and Recreation moves in. Ken Knowlton made a motion to accept this amended line item, Fred Wells seconded all were in favor motion passed.

**Sewer Department:** Town Administrator Beaudin explained after reading over the proposed budget for the Sewer Dept. Sewer Commissioner Rich Fournier recommended placing \$1.00 in line item 03-4321-888 in the event this line is needed for future use to hold it open. Albert Akerstrom made a motion to accept this line item as amended, Mark Roberts seconded all were in favor motion passed.

**Public Works:** Fred Wells made a motion to revisit line item 01-4312 HS Lease Purchase considering Public Works Director Jim Fortin was in attendance and could clear up some questions Ken Knowlton seconded. Fred wanted to know why Public Works was asking for a lease purchase instead of outright purchasing the truck. Jim explained that it was a lot less money to ask the voters to approve he wasn't willing to risk a larger amount in the event the voters didn't support the request and he didn't want to compete with the Fire Department for the same money.. Selectman Cormier also suggested this was a way to find out how well the lease purchase agreements work before possibly using it on a new fire engine or other large pieces of equipment. Jim explained that this is a 20 year old truck and if it breaks down it really puts a strain on all the other guys in the dept. creating more overtime and prolonging road clean-up times. It is a 5 year lease with 3.86% interest.

**Next Meeting:** January 12, 2009 @ 5:45 Public Hearing to begin at 6:00

**Motion to Adjourn:** by Ken Knowlton, seconded by Fred Wells motion passed meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

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Chairman Ron Mitchell

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Ward Peterson

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Tonyel Mitchell-Berry

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Kenneth Knowlton

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Selectman Ron Cormier

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Ken Ellis

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Linda Frawley

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Glenda Hill

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Norma Patten

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Fred Wells

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Mark Roberts

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Albert Akerstrom

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Submitted By: Tracey Russo

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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