

Budget Committee
January 14, 2019
Meeting Minutes

Present:

Chair-Rob Glassett, Dave Carr, Selectmen's Representative-Les Dion, Janet Cavanagh, John Sellers, Paul Simard, Scott Sanschagrin, Walter Waring, Shaun Lagueux, and Joe Caristi.

Absent: Eric Rouille, Bob Emerson

Others Present: Town Administrator, Nik Coates; Finance Director, Bob Blanchette; Fire Chief LaRoche; Christina Goodwin; Brittany Overton, Library Director; and Kelly Lacasse, Human Services Director

Call to Order:

Committee Chair Rob Glassett called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

Review and Approval of Minutes:

Minutes from the January 7, 2019 will be reviewed at the next meeting.

Correspondence: None

Old Business:

Mr. Carr spoke on the payroll salary increase of 3% and made a motion to decrease it to 1 ½%. Seconded by Mr. Simard. Discussion ensued on the motion in which it was brought up that to do this the Budget Committee would need to revisit each Department and each employee's salary. Mr. Glassett said it would make more sense to revisit this year's merit raise line of 3%. The motion to reduce personnel salary lines by 1 ½% was withdrawn by Mr. Carr and the second was withdrawn by Mr. Simard.

Mr. Glassett reached out to Eric Rouille who has not been attending meetings regularly and has not heard back from him. Mr. Rouille has missed four consecutive meetings, therefore by RSA can be removed from the Committee. Mr. Simard made a motion to remove Eric Rouille from the Budget Committee due to lack of participation. Ms. Dion seconded. No further discussion. The Committee voted **10 in favor – 0 opposed, motion passed.**

Mr. Sellers asked for the status of Group 4197, Regional Associations. He was informed that this group had been revisited at the last meeting and that line 4197-837 (Newfound Lake Region Association) was reduced by \$2,000 bringing the amended bottom line of Group 4197 to \$10,227.

New Business: Budget Sections

Group 4220, Fire Department: Ms. Dion motioned to move Group 4220, Fire Department's bottom line of \$924,362. Mr. Sanschagrin seconded. Mr. Glassett announced he would be recusing himself from voting as he is an employee of the Fire Department. Ms. Cavanagh moved to amend the bottom line to \$890,000. Seconded by Mr. Lagueux. The line items being amended are as follows: Line 4220-140 (Emergency Callback) reduced from \$48,871 to \$42,000, Line 4220-190 (Call Payroll) reduced from \$44,000 to \$40,000, Line 4220-192 (PT Shift Coverage) reduced from \$74,577 to \$60,000, Line 4220-293 (Uniforms) from \$4,250 to \$3,500, Line 4220-410 (Electricity) from \$9,500 to \$8,000, Line 4220-561 (Fire

Codes & Standards) reduced from \$500 to \$100, Line 4220-565 (Public Education) reduced from \$200 to \$1, Line 4220-620 (Office Supplies) increased from \$750 to \$1,000, Line 4220-625 (Postage) reduced from \$750 to \$100, Line 4220-663 (FD Rescue 4R1) reduced from \$3,500 to \$1,000. Ms. Cavanagh moved to amend the amended bottom line to \$890,715. Seconded by Mr. Lagueux. The Committee voted **9 in favor – 1 abstained – 0 opposed, motion passed**. Discussion followed. Motion on the floor to reduce Fire Department's overall budget by \$33,647 from \$924,362 to \$890,715. The Committee voted **6 in favor – 1 abstained – 3 opposed, motion passed**.

Group 4230, Forestry: Mr. Sanschagrín motioned to move Group 4230, Forestry's bottom line of \$4,450. Mr. Lagueux seconded. Discussion followed. The Committee voted **9 in favor – 1 abstained – 0 opposed, motion passed**.

Group 4290, Emergency Management: Mr. Lagueux motioned to move Group 4290, Emergency Management's bottom line of \$1,250. Ms. Cavanagh seconded. Discussion followed. The Committee voted **9 in favor – 1 abstained – 0 opposed, motion passed**.

Group 4327, Fire Betterment: Mr. Lagueux motioned to move Group 4327, Fire Betterment's bottom line of \$20,000. Ms. Cavanagh seconded. Discussion followed. Mr. Sellers motioned to amend Group 4327, Fire Betterment from \$20,000 to \$10,000. Mr. Glassett seconded. Discussion followed. The Committee voted **6 in favor – 1 abstained – 3 opposed, motion passed**. Motion on the floor to reduce Fire Betterment's budget from \$20,000 to \$10,000. The Committee voted **9 in favor – 0 abstained – 1 opposed, motion passed**.

Group 4411, Land Use/Health: Mr. Lagueux motioned to move Group 4411, Land Use/Health's bottom line of \$75,574. Discussion followed. Motion by Mr. Sanschagrín to add Line 4411-230 (Retirement) in the amount of \$3,562 to Group 4411, Land Use/Health to cover retirement cost of proposed full time Planner. Seconded by Mr. Lagueux. Discussion followed. Motion on the floor to amend the Land Use/Health budget from \$75,574 to \$79,136. The Committee voted **8 in favor – 0 abstained – 2 opposed, motion passed**. Motion on the floor to increase the budget of Group 4411, Land Use/Health from \$79,136. The Committee voted **8 in favor – 0 abstained – 2 opposed, motion passed**.

Group 4414, Animal Welfare: Mr. Lagueux motioned to move Group 4414, Animal Welfare's bottom line of \$400. Ms. Cavanagh seconded. No discussion. The Committee voted **9 in favor – 0 abstained – 1 opposed, motion passed**.

Group 4415, Health Agencies: Mr. Lagueux motioned to move Group 4415, Health Agencies' bottom line of \$33,400. Ms. Dion seconded. Discussion followed. The Committee voted **9 in favor – 0 abstained – 1 opposed, motion passed**.

Group 4441, Welfare Administration: Mr. Lagueux motioned to move Group 4441, Welfare Administration's bottom line of \$11,184. Ms. Dion seconded. No discussion. The Committee voted **10 in favor – 0 abstained – 0 opposed, motion passed**.

Group 4445, Welfare Services: Mr. Lagueux motioned to move Group 4445, Welfare Service's bottom line of \$26,900. Mr. Sanschagrín seconded. Discussion followed. Mr. Sellers motioned to reduce Line 4445-410 (Electricity) by \$1,000 from \$4,000 to \$3,000. Mr. Sanschagrín seconded. The Committee voted

9 in favor – 0 abstained – 1 opposed, motion passed. Mr. Sellers motioned to reduce Line 4445-411 (Fuel) by \$2,000 from \$6,000 to \$4000. Mr. Simard seconded. The Committee voted **6 in favor – 0 abstained – 4 opposed, motion passed.** Discussion followed. Motion on the floor to vote on amended bottom line of Group 4445, Welfare Services of \$23,900 reduced by \$3,000 from \$26,900. The Committee voted **9 in favor – 0 abstained – 1 opposed, motion passed.**

Group 4521, Beaches: Mr. Sanschagrin motioned to move Group 4521, Beaches' bottom line of \$26,884. Ms. Dion seconded. Discussion followed. Mr. Glassett made a motion to reduce Line 4521-120 (Beach Attendants) by \$6,384 from \$17,384 to \$11,000. Discussion followed. Motion on the floor to reduce Beach budget from \$17,384 to \$11,000. The Committee voted **6 in favor – 1 abstained – 3 opposed, motion passed.** Mr. Sellers motioned to reduce lines 220 (FICA) and 225 (Medicare) to 2018 adopted budget amounts. Mr. Simard seconded. Discussion followed. Mr. Sellers withdrew his motion. Mr. Simard withdrew his second. Mr. Sellers motioned to decrease Line 4521-220 (FICA) from \$1,078 to \$682 and to decrease Line 4521-225 (Medicare) from \$252 to \$159 per Finance Director Blanchette's information. Mr. Simard seconded. The Committee voted **9 in favor – 1 abstained – 0 opposed, motion passed.** No further discussion. Motion on the floor on amended Beaches bottom line of \$20,011 from \$26,884. The Committee voted **9 in favor – 0 abstained – 1 opposed, motion passed.**

Group 4550, Library: Ms. Dion motioned to move Group 4550, Library's bottom line of \$202,640. Mr. Lagueux seconded. Discussion followed. The Committee voted **9 in favor – 0 abstained – 1 opposed, motion passed.**

Mr. Glassett brought up that the Budget Committee needs to do due diligence on the Police Department's budget which was voted on at the Budget Committee meeting of 1/7/19. Discussion ensued. It was decided to have the Police Chief return and revisit this budget at the next Budget Committee meeting.

Warrant Article Preliminary Discussion: Mr. Coates presented the proposed Warrant Articles to the Budget Committee. The Selectmen will be reviewing the proposed Warrant Articles at their next meeting on 1/17/19. Discussion followed.

Member Comments:

Mr. Simard asked Mr. Coates what the restrictions are on the Highway Block Grant. Mr. Coates will ask Mr. Bucklin about this and get back to Mr. Simard.

Adjournment:

Mr. Lagueux motioned to adjourn at 8:34 PM, seconded by Ms. Dion, the motion passed with all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Smith