

TOWN OF ALLENSTOWN
16 SCHOOL STREET
ALLENSTOWN, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03275

MINUTES OF BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING ON JANUARY 8,
2009

David Eaton, chairman of the Budget Committee, opened the meeting at 6:35 PM. Present at the meeting: Roger LaFleur, Bill Barnett, Richard Lamarche, Sted Holton, Penny Touchette, Jason Tardiff, Dave Eaton, Henriette Girard, Sandra McKenney, Don Chaput, and Ben Pepper. Absent and excused: Ben Fontaine. In the audience: Jim Rodger, Dana Clement, Andrea Flanders, Tom Irzyk, Everett Chaput, Jr. Charlie Martel and Harold Thompson.

David reminded the committee members to sign the MS-7 tonight before leaving. Sandy checked the four first pages and they were correct. The AA told her that anything that was handwritten was not firm yet.

A motion was made by Sandy McKenney, seconded by Don Chaput, to open the School Operating budget. Motion passed unanimously.

Tom Irzyk told the committee that the budget had gone down \$1.00 due to an error in the default budget.

Roger LaFleur asked Tom about the discrepancy in the amounts for the replacement computer equipment. Tom explained that this is a 3-year lease program for the middle school and he does not know off hand why the figure in the budget does not match the figure in the expense report. He will check it out.

A motion was made by Sandy McKenney, seconded by Richard Lamarche, to accept Warrant article #1, the bottom line of the school budget of Nine million nine hundred ninety three thousand and forty eight dollars (\$9,993,048.00). Motion passed, 8 yes, 1 No, 1 abstained.

A motion was made by Roger LaFleur, seconded by Penny Touchette, to accept warrant article #2, collective bargaining, for Forty one thousand, twenty six dollars(\$41,026.00). Motion passed, 9 yes, 1 abstained.

A motion was made by Roger LaFleur, seconded by Don Chaput, to accept Article #3, a sum of Ten Thousand dollars (\$10,000.00) to be added to the Building Maintenance Trust Fund. Motion passed, 9 Yes, 1 abstained.

A motion was made by Roger LaFleur, seconded by Richard Lamarche, to accept Warrant article #4, a sum of up to Ten Thousand dollars (\$10,000.00) to be added to the Facilities Acquisition Capital Reserve Fund previously established.

Motion passed, 9 Yes, 1 abstained.

A motion was made by Roger LaFleur, seconded by Richard Lamarche, to accept Warrant Article #5, which is to discontinue the Claremont Trust Fund created in 1996. Motion passed, 9 Yes, 1 abstained. There is about \$7,000 in the account which will go back to Surplus.

Tom reminded us to sign the school MS-7 after the meeting on Saturday.

A motion was made by Sted Holton, seconded by Ben Pepper, to accept Warrant article #1, which is dealing with the Wastewater Treatment Facility, a sum of One million, five hundred fifty thousand dollars (1,550,000.00). Dana Clement, the Supervisor of the plant answered questions dealing with the cost to taxpayers, Federal stimulus package, State grant of 20% to offset bond payment, cost based on this year's town valuation, and a waiting list in Allenstown of 10 who want to hook up to the Town Sewer lines. Motion passed unanimously.

The committee went to Article #9, which had to do with the Fire Department Safety Equipment Capital Reserve Fund. A motion was made by Sted Holton, seconded by Penny Touchette, to accept Twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000.00) for protective gear for the firefighters. This is for replacing the gear. Motion passed, 9 Yes, 1 No. There is about \$7,000 in that account.

A motion was made by Sted Holton, seconded by Ben Pepper, to accept Article #2, the bottom line of the Town budget at Five million three hundred thirty-eight thousand nine hundred eighty-one dollars (\$5,338,981) Motion passed 9 Yes, 1 No.

A motion was made by Sted Holton, seconded by Penny Touchette, to accept warrant Article #3, Police Computer Equipment Capital Reserve Fund, for Two thousand five hundred dollars (2,500.00) Motion passed 8 yes, 2 No.

A motion was made by Ben Pepper, seconded by Richard Lamarche, to accept Warrant Article #4, Police Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund, for Two thousand five hundred dollars (2,500.00). Motion passed. 6 yes 4 No.

A motion was made by Ben Pepper, seconded by Richard Lamarche, to accept Warrant Article #5, Police Safety Equipment Capital reserve Fund, for Six Thousand dollars (\$6,000.00) Motion passed unanimously.

NOTE; THE TAPE RAN OUT AFTER ARTICLE #3 AND RESUMED IN DISCUSSING ARTICLE #6.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Ben Pepper, seconded by Don Chaput, to accept Article #6, the Dare program, for Ten Thousand dollars (\$10,000.00). Motion passed, 8 Yes, 1 No, 1 abstained.

A motion was made by Sted Holton, seconded by Richard Lamarche, to accept Article #7, the Mt. Delight Road culvert and associated planning, engineering and construction costs, for One hundred ninety-one thousand dollars (\$191,000.00) to be offset by 25% to be raised by taxation in the amount of Forty-Seven Thousand seven hundred and fifty dollars (\$47,750.00). Motion passed 9 Yes, 1 No.

A motion was made by Richard Lamarche, seconded by Penny Touchette, to accept Article #8, the Town Safety Expendable Trust Fund, for Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00). Motion passed Unanimously.

A motion was made by Sted Holton, seconded by Richard Lamarche, to accept Article #10, Highway Department Equipment Capital Reserve Fund for Thirty-Two Thousand Dollars (\$32,000.00). Motion passed 7 Yes, 3 No.

A motion was made by Sted Holton, seconded by Roger LaFleur, to accept Article #11, Public Safety Facilities Capital Reserve Fund, for Five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00). Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Sted Holton, seconded by Richard Lamarche, to accept Article #12, leasing a 2009 International Six Wheel Truck, for Thirty Thousand one hundred ninety-six dollars and 48 cents (\$30,196.48) for the first year lease payment. This would replace the 1990 truck. Motion passed 8 Yes, 2 No.

A motion was made by Sted Holton, seconded by Richard Lamarche, to accept Article #13, Highway Garage Capital Reserve Fund, for Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00). The Selectmen have not looked into a piece of land for this project as there are other matters to be taken care of first. The account has \$77,165.00 in it. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Sted Holton, seconded by Jason Tardiff, to accept Article #14, Landfill Closure Capital Reserve Fund for Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00). Motion passed unanimously.

Article #15, To see if the Town will vote to change the purpose of the Town Hall Roof Capital Reserve Fund to the Town Hall Repairs, Maintenance and Renovation Capital reserve Fund does not require a budget committee vote.

A motion was made by Sted Holton, seconded by Penny Touchette, to accept Article #16, Recreation Capital Reserve Fund for Two Thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500.00). Motion passed unanimously.

Article #17, To see if the Town will vote to change the current method from electing a Road Agent for a term of three years to authorizing the Board of Selectmen to appoint a Road Agent, annually pursuant to RSA 231:62. The appointment of the Road Agent will commence at the end of the current elected term in March 2010. No vote required from the budget committee.

Article 18 is a petition and was not discussed.

A motion was made by Richard Lamarche, seconded by Sted Holton, to accept the budget minutes of 12/30/2008. Motion passed 8 Yes, 2 abstained.

The MS-7 was passed around for the budget members to sign.

Roger LaFleur spoke to the members regarding the controversy and turmoil that is happening between the Selectmen and the Budget Committee. David Eaton said that when he asks the Board for an answer regarding budget questions, that he expects answers. Roger said that the Budget Committee has no authority over the Selectmen.

David Eaton reminded us of the Public Hearing on January 17 at AES at 10:00 AM.

A motion to adjourn was made by Sandy McKenney, seconded by Penny Touchette. The meeting adjourned at 8:11PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Henriette Girard
Acting Secretary