

**Allenstown Town Budget Public Hearing
January 17, 2009**

David Eaton, Chairman of the Budget Committee, opened the meeting at 12:18 PM on January 17, 2009.

Warrant articles 1, 2, and 3 will be taken care of on voting day in March.

Article 4: which was discussed previously, the Town Wastewater Treatment Facility, heard Selectman Gilligan tell people that we did receive official inquiry in Town as to water and sewerage from officials from a Super Wal-Mart. You can contact the Building Inspector for more information. Also, the infiltration is not at 25% but more like 10 or 12%. No other questions.

Article 5: Shall the Town of Allenstown raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set for the on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling Five million three hundred thirty-eight thousand nine hundred eighty-one dollars (\$5,338, 981). Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be Five million one hundred twenty-five thousand nine hundred thirty-one dollars (\$5,125,931) which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town of Allenstown or by law, or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13 X and XV1, to take up the issue of a revised operations budget only. NOTE: This warrant article (operating budget) does not include appropriations in ANY other warrant article.

A motion was made by Sandra McKenney, seconded by Don Chaput, to table this article until all other articles have been discussed.

Article 6: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Thousand Five hundred dollars (\$2,500) to be placed in the Police Computer Equipment Capital Reserve Fund. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen and the Budget Committee.

Balance in Account: \$4,634.83.
No questions asked.

Article 7: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sun of Two Thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500) to be placed in the Police Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund. This article is recommended by the Board of Selectmen and the Budget Committee.

Balance in Account: \$8,006.96. Roger Blazon asked there were so many cruisers and Chief Mulholland said that two police officers are assigned to each

cruiser, for a total of 5. The cruisers need to have equipment put on once they are purchased.

Article 8: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Six Thousand dollars (\$6,000) to be placed in the Police Safety Equipment Capital Reserve fund. This article is recommended by the Board of Selectmen and the budget Committee.

This account pays for new officers' vests and camera system.

Article 9: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) to be placed in the Special DARE Fund. This is a Special Warrant Article. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen and the Budget Committee.

If article passes, the program would start in November of this year for one school year. Balance in account: -0-.

Article 10: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$191,000 (One hundred ninety-one Thousand dollars) to be offset by 25% to be raised by taxation in the amount of Forty-Seven Thousand, seven hundred and fifty dollars (\$47,750) as the Town's 25% matching funds and expend an additional One hundred forty-three thousand two hundred fifty dollars (\$143,250) from the State of New Hampshire, 75% matching funds through the Hazard Mitigation Grant (Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management) under FEMA program 404. Said funds to be used to re-construct the Mt. Delight Rd. culvert and associated planning, engineering & construction costs.

No questions.

Article 11: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Five thousand dollars (\$5,000) to be added to the Town Safety Expendable Trust Fund. This article is recommended by the Board of Selectmen and the budget Committee.

Balance in account: \$1,710.54. This is the Joint Loss Management Committee for Town employees and the necessary equipment to keep them safe.

Article 12: To raise and appropriate the sum of twenty Thousand (\$20,000) to be placed into the Allenstown Department Safety equipment Capital reserve Fund. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen and the Budget Committee.

Balance: \$7,039.50.

Article #13: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of

Thirty-two thousand dollars (\$32,000) to be added to the existing Highway Department Equipment Capital Reserve Fund. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen and the Budget Committee.

Balance: \$21,000.92. The Highway budget was over expended by \$29,747.39, due to the plows that were not functioning during last year's storms. Sue Beauchesne brought up the purchase of the skid steerer, which the Selectmen did purchase in December for a price of \$36,950.00. Sue brought up the fact that in last year's budget articles, the steerer did not pass which meant the people did not want it, so why did the Selectmen go ahead and purchase one anyway? Selectman Gilligan and LaFleur both explained the savings for the Town by purchasing the steerer instead of leasing one for five years. This machine will benefit the Town by doing sidewalks, sweeping sand without an outside contract to do the work. It will be used by the Highway Department.

Jim Boisvert suggested thinking about putting \$200,000 in this account so we will be ready for the mandated recycling program when it occurs. Tom Gilligan said that the Selectmen used \$250,000 from 07 to offset taxes.

Article 14: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Five thousand dollars (\$5,000) to be added to the existing Public Safety Facilities Capital Reserve Fund. This article is recommended by the Selectmen and the Budget Committee.

Balance -0-. This article benefit's the Police, Fire and Highway Departments.

Article 15: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to enter into a five year lease agreement for One hundred thirty-four thousand five hundred sixty dollars (\$134,560) to lease a 2009 international Six wheel Truck(which includes plow, wing, conventional body with built in sander)and further to authorize the first year's lease payment in the amount of Thirty Thousand one hundred ninety-six and 48 cents (\$30,196.48). This lease agreement contains an escape clause. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen and the Budget Committee.

No questions.

Article 16: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Ten Thousand dollars (\$10,000) to be added to the Highway Garage Capital Reserve Fund. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen and the Budget Committee.

Balance in account: \$77,407.26,00. No questions.

Article 17: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Ten Thousand dollars(\$10,000) to be added to the Landfill Closure Capital Reserve Fund. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen and the Budget Committee.

Balance: \$25,650.00 No questions.

Article 18: 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. (2/3 vote required)

No questions.

Article 19: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Thousand Five Hundred (\$2,500) dollars to be added to the current Recreation Capital Reserve Fund. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen and the budget Committee. Balance: \$9,000.30 No questions.

Article 20, 21, 22 were read by the Chairman. Appointment and petitions. No questions.

A motion was made by Sandra McKenney, seconded by Don Chaput to go back to Article 5, the operating budget. Motion passed.

Sandra McKenney requested a list of all the expenditures at the end of the year and items purchased with the leftover money.

Roger LaFleur gave a report. Unfortunately, I was unable to hear the figures. Copies may be available at Town Hall.

Any other questions?

A motion was made by Sandra McKenney, seconded by Don Chaput to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 2:02 PM.