

Budget Committee Meeting
Town of Epping
May 17, 2017

Call to Order:

The budget committee meeting was called to order at 7:05pm. Pledge of Allegiance was recited by the members followed by a moment of silence for the troops.

Attendance:

Budget Committee Members: Don MacLaren-Vice Chairman, Steve Ozols, Jeff Leombruno, Jacklyn Ulban, Jen Chapman, Adam Munguia-Selectmens' Rep. and Cynthia Hounam. Heather Clark-School Board Rep., Mark Nickerson, Jared Mallet, Ben Bade and Michael Charkowski were excused.

New Business:

We have a new member that would like to sit on the board, Cody Belanger. Don asked him to come forward to answer any questions the board may have. Jeff asked how long has he lived in town, Cody just moved her. Don asked for any other questions, Don reviewed the yearly scheduled and he was looking for someone who would stay throughout the entire budget committee season. Cody said he had no problem doing so. Don asked for any more questions. Jeff makes a motion to accept Cody as a member, seconded by Adam. Motion passes. Don stated the next meeting is in June and he needs to be sworn in prior.

Old Business:

Don asked if there was any old business. Steve asked about a potential joint meeting. He thinks it is something we should do so the new members can meet the other boards and give our expectations to the budget. Don asked the board members to email him a list of topic to discuss by May 31st and he will go to the town and school reps and discuss having a joint meeting. If a joint meeting is held it would most likely be September or October. Jeff made a note that he would like to make sure that we have our full board here for the meeting.

Don asked that if you not able to attend a meeting to notify him and if he is not available please notified Vice Chair Steve. After 3 unexcused absences, you be removed. Adam noted that you can have as many excused absences as needed but only three unexcused. Don asked to be notified at least a day in advance not the day of the meeting.

Don asked Adam to give us a run-down of the articles that passed:

Article 1-6: Has nothing to do with us as it is a no money warrant

Article 7 - Operating Budget: Last year asked Epping residents for a little additional funding as we were a bit above default and this time around they voted that operating budget. Don asked how we were right now, Adam said good, no problem we are spending less than we should, still in the ball park.

Steve read the Trust Fund accounts and amounts

Town Hall Improvement Trust - \$10,000 – passed

Highway Capital Reserve Fund - \$25,000 – passed
Watson Academy Repairs Expendable Trust Fund - \$10,000 – passed
Recreational Facilities Expendable Trust Fund - \$10,000 – passed
Highway Truck Lease - \$134,900 - passed
Veterans Property Credit - \$68,000 - passed
Fireworks Reserve Fund – passed
Waste Water Treatment Plant Grant - \$73,000 – passed

Adam said one of the questions was “what are we doing with capital reserve fund”, Adam said we are funding every year out of the surplus. Don said after the last election people are understanding we were in trouble and we are evolving. It is going to take a little funding while we are still making up for the years we were not funding the account. The good thing is we are starting to fund them for the future where there will be less of an impact. Adam said what we have managed to do with these accounts is manage the day to day, year to year expenses.

Other components are the warrant articles that come forward every year. Every year they make a good case and well worth the money. As far as the town we are well within our budget. Steve asked if there are any warrant articles that will be coming up again this year. Adam nothing in writing but the Library has come forward. Don asked if any one has any questions of the town financials.

Don asked if anyone has any other new business. Steve went back to the school warrant articles
Operating Budget - passed very easily
Building and Grounds Capital Reserve - \$50,000 – passed
Special Education Reserve - \$50,000 – passed

Jeff said part of the town budget was to have extra coverage at the window, has that started yet. Adam said he will follow up. Don asked for any other new business. Adam asked about the upcoming schedule. Don will email that out. Adam said once you get passed December talk to Greg as you need to have certain dates for the meeting.

Jeff mentioned in the last meetings minutes Don has abstained from the Chair and Vice Chairman, minutes to be amended. Don asked for a motion to accept the amendment for the minutes, Steve motioned and seconded by Adam. Don asked for motion to accept the minutes as written, motioned by Jeff, seconded by Jacklyn.

Motion to adjourn by Adam, seconded by Jeff.

Meeting adjourned at 7:37pm

Respectfully submitted:

Cynthia Hounam