

BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING and PUBLIC HEARING
MINUTES – February 12, 2019
Lincoln Town Hall, Lincoln, NH
(approved)

ATTENDING: Jack Daly, Cindy Lloyd, Tracey Brumlik, Chairman Mike Simons,
Selectperson Jayne Ludwig, Susan Chenard, Jim Spanos, Paul Beaudin
Excused: Larry Sweeney, Dennis Ducharme, Lutz Wallem, Vice-Chairman Herb
Gardner,

Absent: Beverly Hall

Audience: Town Manager Butch Burbank, Finance Officer Johnna Hart, Fire Chief
Ron Beard, Tamra Ham

Call to order: 6:51 pm

Review and Approval of Revenues:

Motion to accept revenues: Cindy Lloyd Second Jayne Ludwig
Mike reviews the summary of estimated revenues (see 2019 Estimated Revenues
sheet)

Revenue from Taxes: \$246,000.00

Revenue from Licenses, Permits and Fees: \$357,500.00

Revenue from Other Governments: \$600,420.00

Revenue from Charges for Services: \$132,435.00

Revenue from Miscellaneous: \$72,000.00

Paul asks about scale for solid waste. Butch states that that will be put in next
year.

Other Revenue Sources: \$4,200.00

Total Revenues in the amount of \$1,412,555.00 accepted unanimously

Review and Approval of Minutes:

February 5 minutes reviewed

Corrections and amendments made in bold type

Motion to approve: Jayne Ludwig Second: Jack Daly

Motion carries unanimously

Motion to adjourn at 7:00 pm: Cindy Lloyd Second: Susan Chenard

Motion carries unanimously

PUBLIC HEARING:

Motion to open Public Hearing: Jayne Ludwig Second: Susan Chenard

Motion carries unanimously

42 Mike Simons went over the approved 2019 Operating Budget (see budget). Mary
43 Conn asking if budget committee and change a budget. Mike clarified that we can
44 lower the budgeted but not increase the amount without another public hearing
45 because of how the law reads. Paul asks if there is another public hearing
46 scheduled and it is said that there is another one scheduled for Thursday, if
47 necessary. Jim Spanos asks if budget is posted on website and Johnna says not
48 yet. For next year that can happen with DRAFT written on top. The best time to
49 affect the individual budgets is when we are going over each. Copies of the
50 operating budget total sheet are handed out.

51
52 Mike states that if anyone has a question please bring it up at that time. We are
53 not here to direct operations of the town. We discuss and make changes if
54 necessary. Mike proceeds to go over the columns from the operating budget.
55 Mike mentions that the amount for Elections is lower due to less elections. Jayne
56 says there is only 1 instead of 3. Under Legal the amount requested was reduced
57 in trying to find ways to cut budget. So, we funded what they actually spent last
58 year. Paul asked why Personnel Administration increased and Butch said that was
59 due to union and benefit increases. Most of Town Hall Building and Police
60 increase came from the upgrading of the surveillance system and the radios. Fire
61 Department increase came from wages, training, rates for electricity/oil, safety
62 gear and equipment and truck repairs. Mary Conn asked how the street light total
63 went down. Butch answered that some lights were eliminated. Butch says LED's
64 should bring that cost down. Main Street should be first. Solid Waste increase due
65 to wages (one part-time person added). The fee schedule will be changing. Butch
66 mentions the Bethlehem land fill will be closing (5-8-year window) and an
67 alternative place will need to be found. The increase in Sewage partially due to
68 utilities increase due to running more fans due to smell. Water increase due to
69 cleaning Loon Pond (every 2 years), wages, computer contract and electricity.
70 Community Building is split with Woodstock. Increase in wages and phone went
71 down. The amount for the roof was moved to replace floors this year. Jack asks if
72 original amount of each bond can be put on as an extra column. Johnna says she
73 can do that for next year. Under RESERVE/TRUST ARTICLES fire truck will be
74 changed to fire department. OJ says the BOS took a few things and shifted them
75 out a few years to fully fund the West Street project without doing a bond. We
76 wanted to get it done in 2018 but we didn't have the right contractor. CIP was up
77 at 7% and wanted to bring it down so a few things were taken out and it brought
78 it down to 4%. OJ said that a few projects that are farther in the future were
79 lowered to reduce the budget. Looking at adjusting sewer, water and impact fees
80 and using that to fund help those departments. BOS looking at raising those fees
81 with future builds. Jack asked what the balance in the sewer, water and impact
82 fees accounts are. Johnna will get that information to us. OJ states that CIP is used
83 to target certain things, but can't be cross-purposed. Mike says the goal is to not

84 have a more than 3% increase in CIP per year. You could allow it to go higher, but
85 it's a goal of the CIP Committee to not go over that. If moved from CIP and
86 bonded then it's a debt. Under SPECIAL WARRANT ARTICLES there is an increase
87 in fire department for the per diem wages and for a fire vehicle. Also, contracted
88 wages caused an increase. There is also an increase in the budget for water
89 meters, but the Budget Committee did not recommend that. Additional Water
90 Sources was also an increase that was recommended. Mary Conn is concerned
91 that under Fire Department budget, the \$134,000 for 6 months for the per diem
92 wages that the following year in their operating budget it will go up \$260,000.
93 Johnna explains that the wages were \$125,000 of that amount for 6 months.
94 Mary wants more study on per diem and to wait a year. Mike explains that we are
95 doing \$134,000 for 6 months, "to see if it works." Mary is concerned once it's in
96 there that it won't come out. The way the Chief explained it there is not enough
97 people to have a safe environment for the men they have now. Paul said if they
98 put it in a warrant article of the budget, it doesn't mean that it will be
99 recommended. If we don't think it's worth it, we don't have to keep it. Paul wants
100 the voters to have their say. Jack feels it's overkill. Why not start with one per
101 diem? Three is too much. Why not pay a higher rate per hour? Mike feels this is a
102 test for them. The Chief feels this is the least expensive way to staff the shortfalls
103 in staffing during the day. Paul states that if this passes that records need to be
104 kept as to what these people are doing and their hours. Mike states that there
105 aren't volunteers available and maybe the existing guys can do the per diem on
106 their days off. They could do their training then too. Dave Beaudin asks if guys you
107 have now are going to be per diem guys then how does that help. Chief says we
108 will fill with guys that have days off, but continue to look for volunteers. Fireman
109 in audience says, the guys that live out of town aren't going to respond to a fire
110 alarm, but if I am in town already at the station, then I can respond and be the
111 third guy. We need the staffing. Chief says we don't just respond to fire alarms.
112 Mutual Aide can still be used. Dave Beaudin asks Tamra what convinced her that
113 this was a good idea. Tamra responded that she was just convinced to put it on
114 the warrant articles and to let the voters decide. OJ says the Chief overwhelmed
115 us with data that we need it, based on understaffed information on a lot of calls.
116 OJ doesn't feel we should call Mutual Aide for a car accident. Mary Conn
117 responded that that is their purpose. OJ feels that we need these extra people so
118 Chief Ron can successfully do his job. Dave Beaudin feels this is not needed. Dave
119 says he's talked to the Woodstock Fire Chief in looking at combining the
120 departments. We told him we hadn't heard this, but we will have a conversation
121 with them. We are interested, but there has to be a lot of conversation on this.

122
123 Mary Conn asks what the \$75,000 for additional water source is? Mike explains
124 that this is the "search for." Chief says GOT BIG WATER will look at all additional
125 water sources and give us their recommendations.

126 Motion to close public hearing: Jayne Ludwig Second: Paul Beaudin

127 Motion carries unanimously

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129 Mike calls the Budget Committee to order at 8:48 pm.

130 Motion to approve the budget total for 2019 for \$7,549,845.80: Jim Spanos

131 Second: Susan Chenard

132 Motion carries unanimously

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134 Motion to adjourn the budget meeting: Jim Spanos Second: Jayne Ludwig

135 Motion carries unanimously

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137

138 Chairman Mike Simons

Date:

Mike

10/29/19