

**BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

**February 3, 2022 – 5:30 PM**

**Lincoln Town Hall, Lincoln, NH**

**(video on YouTube) (approved)**

**ATTENDING:** Chairman Mike Simons, Tracey Brumlik, Susan Chenard, Jim Spanos, Selectperson Tammy Ham, Al Poulin, Brent Hansma  
Zoom: Ray D'Amante, Paul Beaudin, Ryan Fairbrother, David Beaudin, David Tomaso  
Absent: Vice-Chairman Herb Gardner, Cindy Lloyd, Dennis Ducharme  
Audience: Town Manager Carina Park, Fire Chief Ron Beard, Selectman OJ Robinson, Selectman Jack Daly

**Call to order: 5:35**

**REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**MOTION: "To approve minutes from January 25<sup>th</sup>."** Brent, Second: Tammy

Discussion: Tammy makes the following corrections:

Line 39: It should say, "Fire fighters that complete FF1 and FF2 receive..."

Line 41: It should say, "...used for meetings etc, for all town personnel..."

Line 43: change "them" to fire fighters.

Line 46: It should say, "...spent and will not be needed."

Carina states that Line 53 should say, "...are on a fiscal year, not a calendar year."

Motion passes unanimously as amended

Members decide to table the review of January 27<sup>th</sup> minutes until the next meeting.

**PUBLIC HEARING ON RECOMMENDED BUDGETS:**

Motions to open the PUBLIC HEARING at 5:39: Jim, 2<sup>nd</sup> Al Motion approved

Public in attendance: Ryan Fairbrother, Selectman Jack Daly, Selectman OJ Robinson, David Beaudin and David Tomaso.

Tammy states that the BOS (Board of Selectmen) met and amended their Operating Budget to match the recommendations of the Budget Committee, for a total of \$7,461,916.00.

The BOS also changed their recommendation for the CIP/Trust Funds and Warrant Articles. They added \$10,000 to the Roads and Streets Reconstruction, which is the amount taken out of the Cemetery budget, making the total \$133,000.00. They also added \$15,640 to the Property and Building Maintenance, which is the amount taken out of the Town Hall budget making the total \$58,640.00. This makes the total for CRF/Trust Funds \$1,095,736.00. The BOS would also like the Budget Committee to reconsider recommending the \$40,000.00 for the Police/Fire Station-Conceptual Design.

41 Motion to approve and recommend the **Road and Streets Reconstruction** in the amount  
42 of \$133,000.00, AI, 2<sup>nd</sup>: Tammy, For: 6 Opposed: 2 Abstain: 0 Motion carries as amended  
43 The total is now changed to \$133,000.00  
44

45 Motion to approve and recommend the **Property and Building Maintenance** in the  
46 amount of \$58,640.00, AI, 2<sup>nd</sup>: Tammy

47 Discussion: Paul asks for an explanation as to why these amounts are being added and not  
48 using the money already in the CIP. Tammy states that these amounts were never  
49 budgeted for in the CIP. These projects still need to be done and there isn't enough in the  
50 CIP to do them. OJ states that money has been allocated to be used for the front door to  
51 Town Hall, the police department door and the furnace, which will deplete the \$40,000.  
52 Mike states that since the CIP was level funded this year, the level of discretionary funds is  
53 down. Paul states that, at the time, these funds were not requested, so the \$59,000, that  
54 was not appropriated, was put in Sewer and Water. He would like to see that money taken  
55 out of Water and Sewer and used for this instead. Mike states that this was the agreement  
56 made with Water and Sewer. Tracey states that it's confusing as to whether there is a  
57 \$15,000 minimum or not and can projects be combined or can't they. Carina states that  
58 the bylaws need to be reviewed and consistently abided by. Jack suggests that there  
59 should be an extra line added to the CIP for emergencies that arise.  
60

61 For: 6 Opposed: 2 Abstain: 0 Motion carries as amended. The total is now \$58,640.00.  
62

63 Motion to approve the **total for CRF/Trust Funds** in the amount of \$1,095,736.00, Tammy,  
64 2<sup>nd</sup>: Tracey, For: 6 Opposed: 2 Abstain: 0 Motion carries as amended. The total is now  
65 \$1,095,736.00.  
66

67 Motion to reconsider approving and recommending the **Police/Fire Station-Conceptual**  
68 **Design**, in the amount of \$40,000.00, Tracey, 2<sup>nd</sup>: Tammy

69 Discussion: Tammy states there's a grant that could be applied for which would qualify  
70 (but not guarantee) us 75% of the costs. However, we can't apply until we have an RFQ  
71 (architectural design, feasibility report, special needs assessment and construction budget  
72 etc.). A state grant would qualify us for 80% of the unfunded costs. This would leave us  
73 responsible for about 5%. There are many noncompliance issues in the Fire and Police  
74 Department that we have to somehow fix. Tammy states that the BOS want this on the  
75 warrant, so that the tax payers can decide if we proceed. She further states that the BOS  
76 don't want the tax payers funding this and if we don't get the grants, then the BOS won't  
77 proceed further. Carina states there are also issues that have arisen because we now have  
78 males and females sharing the same spaces. Paul states that the increase to the overall  
79 budget is 10%. OJ states that this budget is a 6.9% increase over last year. Tammy states  
80 that there is \$40,000 in the CIP and we are asking for this \$40,000 because the RFQ would

cost \$60,000-\$72,000. Part of the money being asked for would be used for a grant writer. Carina states that if everything were approved as presented, the tax impact would be \$5.48, which is up from \$5.07 or a .41 cent increase, which is about 8%. OJ states that usually some money from the undesignated fund balance offsets this. This is a conservative estimate. Susan suggests we look at using North Country Council to write the grant. Tammy states that if this amount is approved then the BOS will move forward and then bring it back to Town Meeting in 2023 to get the voter's yay or nay to proceed. Jack suggests this be on a nonbinding warrant article to see if the voters want to move forward. Tammy states this would then take another year before we could move ahead. Ray states that the tax payers be informed of the fire department building's settling issues. Carina states there is a time factor to consider, to be able to get this infrastructure money from the government. Tammy states that the conceptual design they have is just best guesses made by the building committee of 10 people. It's not set in stone.

For: 5 Opposed: 3 Abstain: 0 Motion carries as amended

The total for **Police/Fire Station-Conceptual Design** is now added back in to the Warrant Articles, in the amount of \$40,000.00.

Motion to approve and recommend the **total for the Warrant Articles** in the amount of \$284,073.00, Tammy, 2<sup>nd</sup>: Tracey, For: 5 Opposed: 3 Abstain: 0 Motion carries as amended

Motion to approve and recommend the **Grand Total** in the amount of \$8,841,725.00, Tammy, 2<sup>nd</sup>: Al, For: 6 Opposed: 2 Abstain: 0 Motion carries as amended

Motion to adjourn the Public Hearing, Al, 2<sup>nd</sup> Susan Motion carries unanimously

#### **OTHER BUSINESS:**

Town Meeting will be in the high school gym and Mike will be up front as the Budget Committee chair. Carina will let everyone know when the budget is ready to be signed. Ray D'Amante missed the date to get his name on the ballot and would like to be written in.

#### **MOTION: "To adjourn the Budget Meeting at 7:09 pm."**

Motion: Tammy Second: Al Motion carries unanimously

  
Chairman Mike Simons

8/10/22  
Date:

