

BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

February 2, 2021 – 5:30 PM

Lincoln Town Hall, Lincoln, NH

(approved)

(THE RECORDING OF THIS MEETING CAN BE FOUND ON YOUTUBE)

ATTENDING: Chairman Mike Simons, Vice-Chairman Herb Gardner, Jack Daly, Cindy Lloyd, Tracey Brumlik, Susan Chenard, Jim Spanos, Paul Beaudin, Dennis Ducharme, Ray D'Amante, Selectperson Jayne Ludwig, Lutz Wallem, Al Poulin

Audience: Town Manager Butch Burbank, Finance Officer Johnna Hart, Fire Chief Ron Beard, Selectperson Tamra Ham, Police Chief Chad Morris, David Beaudin, Carol Riley

Call to order: 5:32

Al, Cindy, Jim, Jack and Mike all declared candidacy to be on budget committee.

Review and Approval of Minutes:

MOTION: "To approve minutes from 1/26/21." Motion: Herb, Second: Jim

Discussion: Jayne states that on line 35 it should say, "...pay their wages while...", line 128 should say, "...on board..." and line 134 should say, "...remains about...". Susan states there should be a space after January. Motion carries (with corrections) unanimously

MOTION: "To approve minutes from 1/28/21." Motion: Herb, Second: Dennis

Motion carries unanimously

Paul asks to have the tax impacts for each department. Johnna states she will figure those as we go through each budget.

Jack states that with a total tax impact of \$1.89 per thousand would mean that a \$300,000 home would be an increase on taxes of \$567. This has been a tough year financially on many. Paul states the difference from last year to this year is \$0.86 per thousand. Therefore, \$300,000 home would be an increase on taxes of \$258. Butch states that if the bond for water meters passes they will use the Bond Bank. It will be a 15-year bond and the first payment is due in February of 2022.

VOTE ON BUDGETS:

OPERATING BUDGETS:

#1 EXECUTIVE: Line items of budget listed with totals (see budget)

Motion to approve and recommend the total wages in the amount of \$290,984.00:

Herb, Second: Jim Discussion: Paul asks if we approve each section of each department.

Tracey states that in the past we have voted on the total for each department in the

operating budget and then we vote on each trust fund total and each warrant article to go on. Herb and Jim retract their motions.

Motion to approve and recommend the total in the amount of \$481,497.00: Herb, Second: Susan Discussion: Paul states that he doesn't think we should approve any budget over 3% due to these financially difficult times. Cindy states that would require us to go back over almost all these budgets. We need to look at why they are over 3% and that this should have been brought up when we were going over each of the budgets, not now. Mike states that it's a bit late to go back into every budget and reduce the overages to only 3%. Jack states that we don't have control over the cost of some things like buying materials and insurances. For: 11 Opposed: 1 Motion carries for funding at \$481,497.00

#2 TAX COLLECTOR/TOWN CLERK: Line items of budget listed with totals (see budget)

Motion to approve and recommend at \$86,721.00: Herb, Second: Cindy
For: 11 Opposed: 1 Motion carries for funding at \$86,721.00

Johnna states the tax impact for each operating budget total.

#3 ELECTIONS: Line items of budget listed with totals (see budget)

Motion to approve and recommend at \$3075.00: Herb, Second: Paul
For: 12 Opposed: 0 Motion carries for funding at \$3075.00

#4 LEGAL: Line items of budget listed with totals (see budget)

Motion to approve and recommend at \$275,000.00: Herb, Second: Dennis
For: 11 Opposed: 1 Motion carries for funding at \$275,000.00

#5 PERSONNEL ADMINISTRATION: Line items of budget listed with totals (see budget)

Motion to approve and recommend at \$1,222,782.00: Herb, Second: Ray
For: 11 Opposed: 1 Motion carries for funding at \$1,222,782.00

#6 PLANNING AND ZONING: Line items of budget listed with totals (see budget)

Motion to approve and recommend at \$144,451.00: Herb, Second: Ray
For: 11 Opposed: 1 Motion carries for funding at \$144,451.00

#7 TOWN HALL BUILDING: Line items of budget listed with totals (see budget)

Motion to approve and recommend at \$88,882.00: Herb, Second: Dennis
For: 10 Opposed: 2 Motion carries for funding at \$88,882.00

#8 CEMETARY: Line items of budget listed with totals (see budget)

Motion to approve and recommend at \$27,830: Herb, Second: Paul
For: 12 Opposed: 0 Motion carries for funding at \$27,830

#9 INSURANCE: Line items of budget listed with totals (see budget)
Motion to approve and recommend at \$156,375.00: Ray, Second: Herb
For: 11 Opposed: 1 Motion carries for funding at \$156,375.00

#10 POLICE: Line items of budget listed with totals (see budget)
*Motion to approve and recommend at \$1,389,845.00: Herb, Second: Dennis
Discussion: Jack asks if we can move the extra officers to a warrant article like was done in 2019 when the fire department wanted extra firemen. Jim states that this year we need to have a hiring freeze.

Amendment to move the 2 officers to a warrant article: Paul Second: Jim
Discussion: Paul states that the BOS could move the 2 officers to a warrant article to allow the voters to decide on it. Cindy states that we already agreed to move forward with the two officers. Mike states that the time to have brought this up has passed. Ray asks to move the question. Butch states we can only reduce the amount on the budget and then ask the BOS to put that amount on a warrant article. Mike states that we can't tell anyone what to do with the money. We can only approve or not approve the amount of the budget. Paul retracts his motion and Jim retracts his second.

Amendment to reduce the police budget by \$81,600 from \$1,389,845.00 to \$1,308,245.00:
Paul, Second: Jim For: 2 Opposed: 10 Motion fails
*The original motion: For: 10 Opposed: 2 Motion carries for funding at \$1,389,845.00

#11 FIRE: Line items of budget listed with totals (see budget)
Motion to approve and recommend at \$216,302.00: Al, Second: Herb
For: 10 Opposed: 2 Motion carries for funding at \$216,302.00

#12 EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT: Line items of budget listed with totals (see budget)
Motion to approve and recommend at \$16,870.00: Herb, Second: Dennis
For: 11 Opposed: 1 Motion carries for funding at \$16,870.00

#13 PUBLIC WORKS: Line items of budget listed with totals (see budget)
Motion to approve and recommend at \$361,072.00: Herb, Second: Dennis
Discussion: Jim states that at this time we should have a hiring freeze.
For: 10 Opposed: 2 Motion carries for funding at \$361,072.00

#14 STREET LIGHTS: Line items of budget listed with totals (see budget)
Motion to approve and recommend at \$48,000.00: Herb, Second: Dennis
For: 12 Opposed: 0 Motion carries for funding at \$48,000.00

#15 SOLID WASTE: Line items of budget listed with totals (see budget)
Motion to approve and recommend at \$407,281.00: Herb, Second: Dennis
For: 10 Opposed: 2 Motion carries for funding at \$407,281.00

#16 SEWAGE DISPOSAL: Line items of budget listed with totals (see budget)
Motion to approve and recommend at \$266,850.00: Herb, Second: Dennis
For: 12 Opposed: 0 Motion carries for funding at \$266,850.00

#17 WATER: Line items of budget listed with totals (see budget)
Motion to approve and recommend at \$410,996.00: Jack, Second: Cindy
For: 12 Opposed: 0 Motion carries for funding at \$410,996.00

#18 COMMUNITY BUILDING: Line items of budget listed with totals (see budget)
Motion to approve and recommend at \$218,424.00: Ray, Second: Jack
For: 10 Opposed: 2 Motion carries for funding at \$218,424.00

#19 HEALTH APPROPRIATIONS: Line items of budget listed with totals (see budget)
Motion to approve and recommend at \$105,820.00: Herb, Second: Cindy
For: 12 Opposed: 0 Motion carries for funding at \$105,820.00

#20 WELFARE: Line items of budget listed with totals (see budget)
Motion to approve and recommend at \$10,000.00: Herb, Second: Ray
For: 10 Opposed: 2 Motion carries for funding at \$10,000.00

#21 RECREATION: Line items of budget listed with totals (see budget)
Motion to approve and recommend at \$295,022.00: Dennis, Second: Herb
For: 12 Opposed: 0 Motion carries for funding at \$295,022.00

#22 LIBRARY: Line items of budget listed with totals (see budget)
Motion to approve and recommend at \$155,243.00: Ray, Second: Herb
Discussion: Jack ask Carol Riley if the library got any PPE money. Carol doesn't know, but The Friends of the Library supplements some of their projects. Dennis states that nonprofits are not eligible for PPE money. Johnna states that the library got a \$5000 grant through the Humanities Council, in 2020, to assist with purchases related to Covid, but there was no money given for salaries. Mike asks if the extra person was hired for the library last year. Carol states that due to Covid that person was not hire. From March to June the employees were home and the Trustees paid their full salaries and then in June they went back to the Library and offered curbside services. Carol states that the \$5000 grant was used for air purifiers and they were able to increase the on-line resources.

For: 10 Opposed: 2 Motion carries for funding at \$155,243.00. Susan states that her total is different. Johnna states that the BOS voted to increase the budget to \$155,243.00 to cover the cost of the cell phone.

#23 PATRIOTIC PUPOSES: Line items of budget listed with totals (see budget)

Motion to approve and recommend at \$8,100.00: Herb, Second: Dennis

For: 11 Opposed: 1 Motion carries for funding at \$8,100.00

#24 LONG TERM: Line items of budget listed with totals (see budget)

Motion to approve and recommend at \$683,611.00: Ray, Second: Jack

For: 12 Opposed: 0 Motion carries for funding at \$683,611.00

#26 TAN INTEREST: Line items of budget listed with totals (see budget)

Motion to approve and recommend at \$1.00: Herb, Second: Dennis

For: 12 Opposed: 0 Motion carries for funding at 1.00

OPERATING BUDGET TOTAL:

Motion to approve and recommend the operating budget total at \$7,080,050.00: Jayne, Second: Ray For: 10 Opposed: 2 Motion carries for funding at \$7,080,050.00

OPERATING BUDGET'S OFFSETTING REVENUE TOTAL:

Motion to approve and recommend the operating budget's offsetting revenue total at \$3,220,024.00: Herb, Second: Dennis

Discussion: Johnna states that if water meters don't pass then \$1,605,000.00 comes out and it would be for \$1,615,024.00. For: 12 Opposed: 0 Motion carries for funding at \$3,220,024.00.

Herb had to leave the meeting.

Jayne left the meeting.

VOTE ON CRF'S/TRUST FUNDS BUDGETS:

FIRE TRUCK AND EQUIPMENT

Motion to recommend funding in the amount of \$80,000.00: Al, Second: Dennis

For: 10 Opposed: 0 Motion carries unanimously

REVALUATION

Motion to recommend funding in the amount of \$15,000.00: Dennis, Second Susan

Discussion: Jack states that he received a notice about the evaluators coming into homes, but he isn't allowing that due to Covid. Tamra states they will only ask questions over the phone. For: 11 Opposed: 0 Motion carries unanimously

PUBLIC WORKS EQUIPMENT

Motion to recommend funding in the amount of \$139,000.00: Dennis, Second: Jim
For: 11 Opposed: 0 Motion carries unanimously

PD EQUIPMENT

Motion to recommend funding in the amount of 55,000.00: Tracey, Second: Jim
For: 11 Opposed: 0 Motion carries unanimously

SEWER SYSTEM REHAB

Motion to recommend funding in the amount of \$285,000.00: Dennis, Second: Tracey
For: 11 Opposed: 0 Motion carries unanimously

Ray left the meeting

WATER SYSTEM REHAB

Motion to recommend funding in the amount of \$245,000.00: Jim, Second: Tracey
For: 10 Opposed: 0 Motion carries unanimously

ROAD AND STREET RECONSTRUCTION

Motion to recommend funding in the amount of \$128,000.00: Jack, Second: Tracey
For: 10 Opposed: 0 Motion carries unanimously

Discussion as to whether we need to approve the \$0 lines. Butch states that it is best just to vote on it so that the numbers are clear.

ENGINEERING AND PLANNING

Motion to recommend funding in the amount of \$0: Jayne, Second: Susan
For: 10 Opposed: 0 Motion carries unanimously

SOLID WASTE

Motion to recommend funding in the amount of \$0: Tracey, Second: Susan
For: 10 Opposed: 0 Motion carries unanimously

KAND REC AREA EQUIPMENT

Motion to recommend funding in the amount of \$19,000.00: Dennis, Second: Tracey
For: 10 Opposed: 0 Motion carries unanimously

COMMUNITY CENTER

Motion to recommend funding in the amount of \$0: Tracey, Second: Susan
For: 10 Opposed: 0 Motion carries unanimously

CEMETERY MAINT ESP. TRUST

Motion to recommend funding in the amount of \$5,000.00: Tracey, Second: Susan
For: 10 Opposed: 0 Motion carries unanimously

CEMETERY TRUST FUND

Motion to recommend funding in the amount of \$0: Jim, Second: Susan
For: 10 Opposed: 0 Motion carries unanimously

PROPERTY AND BUILDING MAINT

Motion to recommend funding in the amount of \$62,000.00: Dennis, Second: Tracey
For: 10 Opposed: 0 Motion carries unanimously

EMPLOYEE SEPARATION

Motion to recommend funding in the amount of \$0: Tracey, Second: Susan
For: 10 Opposed: 0 Motion carries unanimously

VILLAGE CENTER/RIVERFRONT PARK

Motion to recommend funding in the amount of \$10,000.00: Dennis, Second: Cindy
For: 10 Opposed: 0 Motion carries unanimously

LIBRARY TECHNOLOGY

Motion to recommend funding in the amount of \$2,000.00: Tracey, Second: Cindy
For: 10 Opposed: 0 Motion carries unanimously

LIBRARY BUILDING

Motion to recommend funding in the amount of \$10,000.00: Tracey, Second: Susan
For: 10 Opposed: 0 Motion carries unanimously

Motion to accept the Subtotal of CRF/Trust Funds at \$1,055,000.00: Tracey, Second: Susan
For: 10 Opposed: 0 Motion carries unanimously.

VOTE ON OTHER/SPECIAL WARRANT ARTICLES:

FD-SCBA

Motion to recommend funding in the amount of \$0: Tracey, Second: Dennis
For: 10 Opposed: 0 Motion carries unanimously

NORTHERN BORDERS (water tank Rte3)

Motion to recommend funding in the amount of \$0: Tracey, Second: Dennis
For: 10 Opposed: 0 Motion carries unanimously

PD VEHICLES

Motion to recommend funding in the amount of \$49,900.00: Dennis, Second: Tracey
For: 10 Opposed: 0 Motion carries unanimously

HIGHWAY BLOCK GRANT

Motion to recommend funding in the amount of \$35,00.00: Tracey, Second: Dennis
For: 10 Opposed: 0 Motion carries unanimously

UNION CONTRACT

Motion to recommend funding in the amount of \$0: Tracey, Second: Dennis
For: 10 Opposed: 0 Motion carries unanimously

LEVEE – REPAIRS (BOND)

Motion to recommend funding in the amount of \$0: Al, Second: Dennis
For: 10 Opposed: 0 Motion carries unanimously

MANSION HILL/EGARE LAND (BOND)

Motion to recommend funding in the amount of \$0: Tracey, Second: Susan
For: 10 Opposed: 0 Motion carries unanimously

WATER METERS

Motion to recommend funding in the amount of \$1,605,000.00: Dennis, Second: Susan
Discussion: Jim states this shifts the burden of paying for water onto the year-round residents and there will be administrative and billing costs that aren't factored in. Mike is concerned about the rate structure and how it will be adjusted. Susan states that we will need the meters in order to apply for grants. Paul states that the fees will offset the water and sewer costs in the budget, but he is concerned about the price adjustments, how the adjustments will be made and by whom. He suggests a water commission be formed to handle the adjustments. Cindy states that the water committee will need to continue and help decide how those things are done. Paul asks if the \$1.6 million also covers administrative and billing. Butch states that by Thursday we will have a spreadsheet on the cost over the 15 years. Tamra states that the 2% interest is adjusted yearly on the principal balance not the original bond amount. She also states that we don't qualify for any water or sewer grants due to not having meters or charging for water and in the future, we will need a sewer system rehab. Jack states that charging a flat fee would give us a dedicated revenue stream to use for water and sewer rehab and that conservation and education are important also. Dennis asks to call the vote. For: 3 Opposed: 7 Motion fails

CEMETERY EXPENDABLE TRUST FUND

Motion to recommend funding in the amount of \$0: Tracey, Second: Susan

For: 10 Opposed: 0 Motion carries unanimously

CEMETERY TRUST FUND

Motion to recommend funding in the amount of \$0: Tracey, Second: Jack

For: 10 Opposed: 0 Motion carries unanimously

Motion to accept and recommend the Subtotal of Other Warrant Articles in the amount of \$84,900.00: Tracey, Second: Susan For: 9 Opposed: 1 Motion carries

Motion to accept and recommend the FINAL TOTAL OF CRF/Trust Funds and Warrant Articles in the amount of \$1,139,900.00: Tracey, Second: Susan For: 9 Opposed: 1 Motion carries

Motion to accept and recommend the Grand Total (Operating Total, Reserve Trust Articles and the Special Warrant Articles) in the amount of \$8,219,950.00: Tracey, Second:
Al For: 7 Opposed: 3 Motion carries


Other Business:

Mike states he's concerned with the costs of the Surface Pro laptops. Butch will look into the actual costs and the number needed for planning and budget committees.

MOTION: "To adjourn the meeting."

Motion: Tracey Second: Cindy Motion carries unanimously

The meeting adjourns at 8:29


Chairman Mike Simons

Date: 5/13/24

