

BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

October 26, 2021 – 5:30 PM

Lincoln Town Hall, Lincoln, NH

Approved

ATTENDING: Chairman Mike Simons, Vice-Chairman Herb Gardner, Cindy Lloyd, Tracey Brumlik, Jim Spanos, Dennis Ducharme, Selectperson Tammy Ham, Al Poulin,
Zoom: Susan Chenard, Lutz Wallem, Ray D'Amante,
Excused Absence: Paul Beaudin, Brent Hansma
Audience: Fire Chief Ron Beard

Call to order: 5:33

We are recording this meeting and it will be posted on YouTube. The public can also join this meeting via Zoom, but they have to be present to comment. We have to have an in-person quorum to hold the meeting and then others can Zoom in.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOTION: "To approve minutes from August 31, 2021."

Discussion: Susan states that on line 32 CIP, PB, BOS BC should be written out before using abbreviations. Jim states that on line 32 it should say, "The plan goes from" not "The budget goes from." Motion to approve as amended: Herb Second: Al Approve: 10 Abstain: 1 Motion passes

REVIEW OF YTD EXPENCES (as of September 30th):

Mike states that some payments won't be made until December. Tammy states that Chief Morris said that replacement rifles and ammo ordered in March just arrived, so his numbers will be adjusted.

Cindy asks why, under Planning, payroll-overtime was budgeted at \$1,000 and is \$9,000 over. Mike states that other departments also show that they are under in regular payroll and over in overtime. Tammy state that planning was a salary employee and is now an hourly employee.

Cindy asks why under **Contracted Services** for Fire only about \$10,000 of \$26,000 has been expended. Mike states that **Contracted Services** being under budget is a common theme in other departments also. Some of this may just be that the bills haven't come in yet. Al asks what "contracted services" include. Chief Beard states that under Fire it's mutual aid. Mike states that under each department it will have a different definition. Tammy states that sometimes it's a monthly expense or even a yearly expense, so some of those don't occur until the end of the year. Cindy asks why **Contracted Services** in Public Works is over

budget. Chief Beard states that sometimes the need may go over a contracted amount. The department will then move money around from other line items to stay within the total budgeted amount.

Mike states that sometimes a department may be down a person so they do overtime to cover that position. Tammy states that in recreation, library and police the overtime is over budget because they can't find the help. The fuel line item will also be affected since fuel prices have increased. Tammy states they are trying to plan for higher fuel prices next year and a few projects that were planned were put off due to unavailable supplies.

Ray asks that we put in a narrative stating that we are aware that some budgeted amounts will have to be flexible due to unknown costs rising. Tammy states that line item amounts can be adjusted, but the bottom line that was approved for each department budget has to stay the same.

Dennis states that overall the amount expended is just 38% for the year.

Tammy states that if you are a Monday thru Friday employee, you get regular pay, but under police, holiday shifts have to be covered so it's all under overtime (time and a half). Under dispatch the regular pay is underspent, but overtime is overspent because they have to fill those positions and didn't have enough staff.

REVIEW OF TOWN COMMITTEE AND BOARD MINUTES:

Al asks if \$20,000 was taken out of Town Building Feasibility Project on the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). Jim states that \$40,000 was the fully funded amount so another \$20,000 was not needed. Tammy states that CIP decided not put more in this year because the amount was needed elsewhere. See CIP minutes line 51-58.

Mike states that once we are told to replace the sewer then we have to do it and we could get hit with the cost all at once. Grant money may be available. Cindy questions why the Board of Selectmen (BOS) didn't put the issue of water meters back on the warrant (see BOS minutes 10/4) since the approval vote last year was so close and because we have a better chance of getting federal grants if we have the meters. Tammy and Cindy state that some grants were missed this year because we don't have water meters. Tammy states that she felt it was too late in the year to start the process. Cindy states that a lot of the information could be used again with some adjustment. Cindy is concerned that we will be stuck with the cost of the new sewer system. Jim states that some people on the **budget committee** do not feel water meters are an urgent matter. Ray states that we would have

higher consideration for grants if we had the water meters. Tammy states that she will bring it back before the BOS.

Mike states that the Planning Board (PB) has a long set of minutes and that's why they weren't printed.

Tammy states that there is a new owner for South Peak.

Tammy states the new town manager, **Carina Park**, starts on December 13th. The BOS are sharing duties until she comes on board.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Proposed Meeting Schedule:

DECEMBER 9th

DECEMBER 16th

JANUARY 4TH

JANUARY 6TH

JANUARY 11TH

JANUARY 13TH

JANUARY 19TH Joint meeting with WOOSTOCK

JANUARY 25TH

JANUARY 27TH

FEBUARY 1ST MAKE UP DAY...if needed

FEBUARY 3RD PUBLIC HEARING

FEBUARY 8TH PUBLIC HEARING...if needed

MARCH 8TH TOWN MEETING

See YouTube to view this meeting in full.

MOTION: "To adjourn at 6:30 pm."

Motion: Herb

Second: Al

Motion carries unanimously


Chairman Mike Simons


Date:

