

Eliot Budget Committee Meeting

September 13, 2016 Meeting

Members present: Donna Murphy (Chair), Brad Hughes (Vice Chair), Steve Furbish, Noah Lemire, Ed Strong, Jim Tessier. Denny Lentz was not present (out of the country).

Call to Order

Meeting was called to order @ 6:00 PM by the Chair (Video streaming for details was used)

Approval of Minutes

Amended minutes of the 07/12/2016 meeting were approved, motion by Ed Strong, 2nd Brad Hughes.

Vote: 6-0

Public Comment

One member of the public present. No members of the public spoke.

Review Budget Committee by-laws

The committee reviewed and amended the Budget Committee July 2016 draft by-laws.

#1 Added "by the legislative body"

#10 Added "normally meet the second Tuesday of each month and"

#14 Changed to "The Budget Committee shall, by majority vote of the committee members present and voting, make recommendations regarding and included in each warrant article having a financial impact whether at the Annual Meeting or at a Special Town Meeting."

Discussion on budget goals including COLA and mil rate

Final COLA will be available in October. Recommendation for non-union employee raises will be reserved until the final COLA is received. Property value increase is available and known in April of each year. Discussed goal of minimizing tax increase with an eye on its effect on services. Paving: Members would like a copy of the updated paving study and the five-year plan. Stormwater: Actual work has exceeded the requirements.

Discussion on Current Account Status and June Revenue and Expense Summary Report

Items were not available. Discussion on why it was not available. Reason given were the numbers were not finalized. *Public comment: Jack Murphy stated he believed there were issues due to the revision to TREO.* The Chair will follow up on requests for the documents in "draft" form.

Review items for September and October joint meetings with the Select Board

September joint meeting is on the 29th at 5:30

October joint meeting with the Town Manager, Select Board and Budget Committee is on the 11th at 6:00

The October meeting is scheduled for the date of the Budget Committee's regularly scheduled monthly meeting. Items for the agenda once the SB adjourns: Current Account Status, finalize by-laws, COLA, minutes.

Budget Committee member reports/comments

Steve: No items

Jim: Reviewed the email sent by the Town Manager regarding the proposed warrant for funding the sewer repairs. The Select Board is scheduled to meet on September 14, 2016 to make their recommendations. The Budget Committee will need to call a special meeting to vote on the Budget Committee's recommendation.

Donna stated the requirements for calling a special meeting. A notice must be posted seven days prior. It was determined that a special meeting will be called for September 21, 2016 at 7:30. Brad will be out of the country and will participate electronically. It was not known if Denny would be back from vacation. Jim stated in the same email there were costs stated on the second page. Jim stated \$183,000 seemed low to him. It was agreed the Chair would request updated number from the manager. Jim discussed Ed's appointment to the negotiating team and questioned if this would affect how Ed could vote on the Budget Committee or participate. Ed stated no. He can't disclose any information that is discussed during negotiations. Noah asked when the current contract expired. Ed stated it has expired.

Noah: Noah stated he would be in San Diego at some point but would be able to Skype.

Brad: No items.

Ed:

Donna: FOAA training. Steve completed and provided a copy of the signed certificate. Noah will complete the training online.

Adjournment at 7:00 pm

Motion by Ed Strong, 2nd by Noah Lemire. Vote: 6-0

Respectfully submitted,

Date Approved: 10/11/2016

Donna Murphy, Chair