

# **Eliot Budget Committee Meeting**

**March 14, 2016 Meeting**

**Members present:** Donna Murphy (chair), Brad Hughes (vice chair), Dennis Lentz, Jim Tessier, Dan Mannschreck, Ed Strong (via Skype), Phil Lytle

**Public attendance:**

No members of the public were present.

**Call to Order**

Meeting was called to order @ 6:05 PM by the chair (Video streaming for details was used)

**Approval of Minutes**

Minutes of the 2/29/16 meeting were amended and approved, motion by Jim Tessier, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dan Mannshcreck, 6/0 vote.

**Public Comment**

No members of the public spoke

**Review and discussion of the Town Manager's Police Vehicle recommendation**

- Recommendation is to move forward with two new cruiser laptops vs. tablets 2016/17 budget.
- Recommendation to move forward with the budget committee proposal on police cruiser purchase policy introduced by Jim Tessier.

**Review and Discussion of Harbor Master**

- Discussed options to reduce the compensation structure and increasing the mooring fees.

**Review and discussion of the Fire Department budget**

- Discussion was held relative to the firemen hourly rate of compensation.
- Study made by Ed. Strong was presented on the average rate paid firemen at other towns similar to Eliot. Proposal made by committee to increase rate to \$13.00 over a two-year period.

**Review and discussion of the Storm Water budget**

- Committee requested copy of the original plan to understand the current large increase
- Bank stabilization portion should be considered in the 2016/17 budget

**Review and discussion of the DPW budget**

- Committee discussed possible consolidation of some portions of similar line items (equipment, repairs, maintenance for example)

**Joint BOS/Budget Committee March 17**

- Recommendations discussed in preparation for the joint BOS/Budget Committee meeting March 17
  - 2016/17 cola should be set at 1% for all non-union employees
  - BoS should adopt a policy FOR 2017/18 COLA should not exceed Federal cost of living guidelines.
- Motion was made by Brad Hughes, 2<sup>nd</sup> Jim Tessier to accept 1% COLA for 2016/17 as well as policy. Vote 6/0.

**Misc. discussion**

- Brad Hughes presented an updated view of progress to date with the school/municipal budget
- Jim Tessier presented a proposal to urge the BOS to voice concerns relative to the school budget

**Agenda Items for March 14 Meeting**

- Discussion and voting on budget recommendations

**Adjournment; 9:00 pm**

Chair accepted a motion to adjourn by Jim Tessier, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Brad Hughes, vote 6/0.

Respectfully submitted

*Dennis F. Lentz*, Secretary

Date Approved: 03/21/2016

Donna Murphy, Chair