

Joint Meeting of the Select Board and Budget Committee

Budget Reconciliation Meeting

April 11, 2016 @ 6:00 PM

Minutes

Present: Steve Beckert, Roland Fernald, Jack Murphy, Rebecca Davis, Bob Pomerleau; Budget Committee members Donna Murphy, Jim Tessier, Phil Lyle, Brad Hughes, Dann Mannschrek, Ed Strong, Denny Lentz; Town Manager Dana Lee; Public members Sam Davis, John and Kim Reed; Reporter Ralph Morang

Chairman Beckert opened the meeting at 6:00 Pm and declared quorums for both groups. He asked the Town Manager to walk the two groups through the articles considered at the Citizen's Option Meeting.

The Town Manager checked the 4th article (Revenues). No changes. Both groups in concurrence.

The 5th Article (Admin) was checked. After some discussion, it was decided that the Budget Committee recommendation was to be \$1,221,752.83. It was noted that a "Note" was needed again explaining the 3% to 1% differential.

The 6th Article (Elections) was deemed correct as written.

The 7th article (Fire). After some discussion it was determined that the Budget Committee had not reduced their recommendation accounting for reduced OASDI and payroll taxes, so they accepted the number calculated by Finance at \$167,173.01 as a (6 – 0) consensus.

The 8th Article (Police) was checked and was deemed correct.

The 9th article (Public Safety) was reviewed. There was a minor correction to the hydrants amount, taken from the actual invoice of last year. The Budget Committee agreed to also use the invoice amount. The agreed Budget Committee recommendation is to be \$224,502.38.

The 10th article through the 13th article were all deemed correct as written.

On the 14th article, discussion turned to the intent of the citizens when they added \$10,000 for HHW removal through taxation. It was assumed that the \$10,000 was to be included on top of the Selectmen's recommendation at \$260,737.46. It was further agreed by consensus of both groups that they would stay with their original recommended amounts and let the Citizen's Option continue as a 3rd option. It was also discussed that there are four non-union employees at the Transfer Station, so the number recommended for the BC by the Finance Director was adopted at \$249,275.95.

The 15th, 16th, and 17th Articles were deemed correct as written.

On the 18th article (CIP), it was discussed about the 19th question (approve solar array). Mr. Reed suggested that this was not discussed at the Citizen's Option meeting and was therefore not allowed. The details of the ordinance that we must follow was discussed in response. It was decided that the cleanest way to ask the solar array question separately was to remove \$40,000 from the columns under Energy Efficiency Reserve, leaving just \$7,000 for each group. The two groups would both recommend \$840,498.78.

A motion was made by Selectman Pomerleau and seconded by Selectman Murphy to reduce the Energy Efficiency Reserve by \$40,000, and was so voted 5 – 0.

On the 19th Article (Solar Array), it was decided that the article should be re-written "to raise and appropriate \$40,000" AND to approve the project. Selectmen Pomerleau and Davis had some reservations about energy credits and the impact that may have on our return on investment. The Select Board voted 3 – 2 to support the appropriation and project, while the Budget Committee is not supporting the appropriation at the time (6 – 0 do not recommend). A motion was made by Selectman Murphy and seconded by Selectman Fernald to support the appropriation and project. It was voted 3 – 2 to recommend.

Article 20th was discussed with regard to the Citizen's Option recommendation to add \$900 to the Budget Committee. Mr. Reed spoke to why he felt that additional funds were important. A motion was

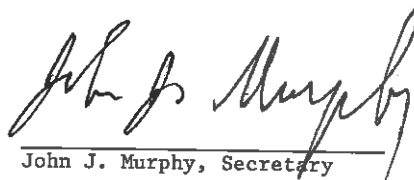
made by Ed Strong and seconded by Jim Tessier to add \$900 to their recommended appropriation and to support the citizen's Option and this was so voted by the Budget Committee 6 – 0. A motion was made by Selectman Fernald and seconded by Selectman Davis to add \$900 to the Select Board's recommendation and to support the citizen's Option and this was so voted by the Select Board 5 – 0.

Article 21st through Article 24th were deemed correct as written.

Brad Hughes requested a copy of the proposed phased sewer plan. The Town Manager said he would email it in the morning.

At 7:12 PM, Selectman Fernald made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Selectman Murphy and was so voted 5 – 0.

May 3, 2016
DATE:


John J. Murphy, Secretary