

**TOWN OF WOLFEBORO
BUDGET COMMITTEE
January 5, 2017
Minutes**

Members Present: John MacDonald, Chairman, Bob Tougher, Vice-Chairman, Luke Freudenberg, Selectmen's Representative, Robert Moholland, Robert Loughman, John Burt, Steve Johnson, Bob O'Brien, Members.

Members Absent: Harold Parker, Brian Black, Members (all excused).

Staff Present: Dave Owen, Town Manager, Pete Chamberlain, Finance Director, Lee Ann Keathley, Administrative Secretary.

Chairman MacDonald called the meeting to order at 6:35 PM at the Great Hall.

FINAL BUDGET REVIEW

Code Officer

Pete Chamberlain submitted the following revised figures for the Code Enforcement Officer budget and noted a total increase of \$28,025;

- Supervisory Salaries; decrease of \$2,500
- Group Health Insurance; increase of \$29,329
- Dental Insurance; increase of \$1,388
- Social Security; decrease of \$192

It was moved by Bob Tougher and seconded by Robert Loughman to increase 01-42400-210 Group Health Insurance by \$29,329 (to \$48,610). All members voted in favor. The motion passed.

It was moved by Robert Loughman and seconded by Bob Moholland to increase 01-42400-219 Dental Insurance by \$1,388 (to \$1,638). All members voted in favor. The motion passed.

It was moved by Bob Moholland and seconded by Bob Tougher to decrease 01-42400-220 Social Security by \$192 (to \$5,661). All members voted in favor. The motion passed.

It was moved by Bob Tougher and seconded by Robert Loughman to decrease 01-42400-113 Supervisory Salaries by \$2,500 (to \$48,610). All members voted in favor. The motion passed.

Workers Compensation Rates

Pete Chamberlain stated the Town received the updated premium figures from Primex for the 2017 Workers Compensation allocation; noting a total decrease of 18,964.

It was moved by Robert Loughman and seconded by Bob Moholland to decrease the 2017 Workers Compensation allocation by \$18,964. All members voted in favor. The motion passed.

Warrant Article E

Dave Owen submitted revised language for Warrant Article E. Referencing Warrant Article M, he stated the BOS decreased such from \$186,000 to 122,000 and noted an increase in the amount of \$53,700 as a result of the AFSCME Union Agreement.

John MacDonald questioned the number of members in the Union.

Pete Chamberlain replied 33.

John MacDonald questioned the number of members in the Police Union.

Pete Chamberlain replied 16-18.

John MacDonald asked if the two unions receive the same percentage increase in salary.

Dave Owen stated the figures are comparable.

John MacDonald asked if the nonunion receive the same percentage increase in salary.

Dave Owen replied no, nonunion employees receive an increase approved by the BOS; noting the BOS approved a 1.5% salary increase for nonunion employees for 2017.

Steve Johnson asked if the employees are required to be a member of the union.

Dave Owen replied yes, employees pay union dues regardless if they are members.

Referencing the Old Railroad Freight House Building, Dave Owen stated there may be a need for a nonfinancial warrant article related to such. He noted the language of the previous warrant article related to the purchase of the building specifically stated the building could not be moved or demolished without further Town Meeting vote. He stated consideration is being given to relocate the building to the concrete slab where the oil tanks were previously stored.

John Simms, Lakes Region Model Railroad Museum, stated the condition of the ground in its current location for foundation repair is questionable; noting Dave Ford recommends moving the structure one building length to the north onto the concrete foundation. He stated Mr. Ford is concerned that the building, in its current location, presents a blind corner and the relocation would resolve this issue as well as the foundation repair issue. He stated Maggie Stier has advised that the relocation of the building would not invalidate any application for historical preservation grants.

Dave Owen noted an increase to the original funding request from \$75,000 to \$95,000 due to an increase in renovation costs; noting the balance of the renovation project would be paid by private donations.

John MacDonald asked if the Town and the Lakes Region Model Railroad Museum have entered into a written agreement.

Dave Owen replied no. He stated the Museum needs to have all of the renovation funds prior to the Town releasing the \$95,000; noting the language of the warrant article reflects the Town's contribution is contingent upon the receipt of private funds.

John MacDonald expressed concern that the Budget Committee is being asked to support the project without designs and photographs. He requested such be submitted prior to or on 1/10/17 when the Committee will be voting on the warrant article. He questioned whether the neighborhood residents are supportive of the project.

John Simms stated a presentation, including designs and photographs, is being prepared for the Deliberative Session however, he would attempt to complete such for the 1/10/17 meeting. He stated the exterior of the building would as is. He stated the residents are supportive as long as the users of the museum do not park on private property.

John MacDonald questioned the hours of operation.

John Simms stated that although the building will be constructed as a four season structure, the Museum would be open to the public for only 3 seasons.

John MacDonald asked who would be financially responsible if hazardous material is found on-site.

Dave Owen stated he does not have an answer to such.

John Simms stated he spoke with Howie Bean who informed him there had not been any oil spill or contamination on-site; noting the primary contaminant is coal.

John MacDonald questioned when the organization received its nonprofit status.

John Simms stated the Lakes Region Model Railroad Museum has been a nonprofit organization since 11/22/16 however, received its 501-C3 designation on 1/2/17.

Police Department; Overtime

Steve Johnson requested the Committee revisit the Police Department funding request for overtime.

John MacDonald questioned if there would be an increase in pay for the corporal and master sergeant positions.

Dave Owen replied not for 2017 or 2018.

John MacDonald questioned the year to date expenditure for overtime.

Pete Chamberlain replied \$96,201.79.

Steve Johnson stated the additional coverage should be included in salary rather than overtime and feels the increase would set a bad precedent. He stated he feels a better job managing the hours could be done.

John MacDonald stated the decision to increase the overtime was done in nonpublic session; noting he has an issue with such.

Bob Tougher questioned the five year average.

Pete Chamberlain replied \$94,979.

It was moved by Steve Johnson and seconded by Bob Moholland to decrease 01-42100-140 Overtime from \$99,096 to \$95,000.

Discussion of the motion:

Bob Moholland stated the request relates to a public safety issue. He stated the Committee just discussed a \$20,000 increase for a railroad museum and believes the increase to overtime is warranted.

John MacDonald questioned the amount received in federal grant funding by the Department.

Pete Chamberlain replied \$16,000.

John MacDonald stated there has to be some understanding that there will be changes in the schedule. He confirmed that if the amount is decreased that the benefits would also decrease.

It was moved by Steve Johnson and seconded by Bob Moholland to decrease 01-42100-140 Overtime from \$99,096 to \$95,000. Steve Johnson, Bob Tougher, John Burt, John MacDonald voted in favor. Bob O'Brien, Bob Moholland, Robert Loughman opposed. The motion passed.

Pete Chamberlain noted the 200 series would be adjusted accordingly.

Winter Harbor Watershed Management Plan

Bob Tougher stated he would like to see a global approach to the issue (and more global regulation of septic systems, lawn fertilizer, etc.) to accompany future funding; noting there is no consistency with the current approach and should be done in concert with other Town's around the lake.

Other Business

John MacDonald noted several capital outlay project requests did not include backup information and requested such be provided. He asked if there are any departments currently seeking grants for purchases not indicated in the 2017 budget.

Dave Owen replied no.

Steve Johnson stated the 2017 budget is \$19,000 under the 2016 budget.

Consideration of Minutes **November 14, 2016**

It was moved by Steve Johnson and seconded by Bob Tougher to approve the November 14, 2016 Budget Committee minutes as submitted. All members voted in favor. The motion passed.

November 30, 2016

It was moved by Bob Tougher and seconded by Bob Moholland to approve the November 30, 2016 Budget Committee minutes as submitted. All members voted in favor. The motion passed.

December 5, 2016

Corrections:

Page 1; 2nd, 3rd & 4th motions; delete Bob Tougher as the person who seconded the motions and replace with Robert Loughman

It was moved by Robert Loughman and seconded by Steve Johnson to approve the December 5, 2016 Budget Committee minutes as amended. John Burt, Bob Tougher, Bob O'Brien, Robert Loughman, John MacDonald, Steve Johnson voted in favor. Bob Moholland abstained. The motion passed.

December 8, 2016

Corrections:

Page 4, include a motion made by Bob Tougher, seconded by Brian Black to recommend funding White Horse Addiction Center in the amount of \$2,500 and following discussion, the motion was withdrawn.

Page 5, Other Business, motion; change \$8,945 to \$9,000.

It was moved by Bob Tougher and seconded by Bob Moholland to approve the December 8, 2016 Budget Committee minutes as amended. All members voted in favor. The motion passed.

December 13, 2016

It was moved by Bob Moholland and seconded by Bob Tougher to approve the December 13, 2016 Budget Committee minutes as submitted. All members voted in favor. The motion passed.

It was moved by John Burt and seconded by Bob Moholland to adjourn the January 5, 2017 Budget Committee meeting. All members voted in favor.

There being no further business before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 8:04 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lee Ann Keathley

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