

Wolfeboro Board of Selectmen
Public Meeting Minutes-Approved
Budget Hearings
November 5, 2018

Members present: Chairman Linda Murray, Brad Harriman, Paul O'Brien, Dave Bowers and Dave Senecal

Staff present: Town Manager Becky Merrow, Finance Director Deb Zabkar, and Recording Secretary Michele Chamberlain

Chairman Murray opened the meeting at 7:00 PM.

Non-Public Session RSA 91-A:3, II

Ms. Merrow stated a non-public session is needed to discuss litigation and matters which may involve reputation.

New Business

A. Review budget changes made at the October 30th meeting and to look at the analysis between 2018 and 2019

Chairman Murray stated there is an increase in the budget by 6.52% compared to last year.

Ms. Merrow stated it is a big budget and there is plenty of material that the Budget Committee will be reviewing. All the Department Heads have been asked to look at their budgets for priorities. Parks and Recreation needs to have a vehicle because it is going to start snowing soon.

Chairman Murray stated the hydrant fees may be clipped.

Ms. Merrow stated the Fire Department has made his first round of cuts already. The Public Works Department is up quite a bit and the Police Department is high.

Mr. Bowers questioned if the Budget Committee was aware that we are in a 3% inflation rate around the country.

Ms. Merrow stated we will have to begin with saying that and the union has come back with a new number. The union wants a 1% cola and a 2% step which is 3% increase.

Mr. Senecal stated we have been through the budget carefully. We may have another issue with the Highway Department because their grader is not working. We may need to move things around.

Ms. Merrow stated we spent over \$13,000.00 on repairs for the grader last year.

Mr. Harriman stated he met with Mr. Ford today but he will be meeting with him again on Friday to discuss different avenues that could be looked at to resolve the problem. Mr. Ford has asked to be put on the agenda on Wednesday night.

Chairman Murray stated he is not on the agenda. We need to add it to the agenda at the meeting.

Mr. Harriman stated he would ask for the item to be added to the agenda on Wednesday night.

Mr. O'Brien questioned if we would be buying or fixing.

Mr. Harriman stated we would be buying a new grader. The cost is around \$250,000.00 to \$300,000.00.

Chairman Murray stated he has a Capital Reserve Account. Will we be shifting other things around?

Mr. Harriman stated the grader was not scheduled to be purchased until 2021 so we discussed one option of shifting things around.

Mr. O'Brien questioned what it would do to the 2018/2019 project lists.

Mr. Harriman stated we will have to either rent a grader or hire a private contractor to finish the fall grading. He suggested maybe other Towns could help as well.

Chairman Murray stated we have over \$380,000.00 in Capital Outlays. She suggested that the cruisers and Townsend Dam could be removed if the Board wanted and put as warrant articles. She hated to see the budget so high.

Mr. O'Brien questioned the order of the Budget Committee Meetings.

The Board reviewed the Budget Committee schedule and decided to have one member attend each meeting. The following schedule was decided:

November 8th – Linda Murray
November 14th – Dave Senecal
November 19th – Brad Harriman
November 27th – Linda Murray will if no one else can attend
November 28th – All members
November 29th – Brad Harriman
December 6th – Linda Murray
December 11th – Dave Senecal
December 13th – Linda Murray
December 17th – Brad Harriman/Linda Murray

Mr. Senecal stated we are scheduled to have a non-public session on Wednesday, November 28th at 6:00 PM. The Board decided to move the time to 5:00 PM.

Mr. O'Brien stated the Police Department is going to ask the Budget Committee to go into non-public session before their meeting. The Chief wants to talk about the Drug Task Force.

Mr. Bowers asked to have the schedule emailed to him because he was going to be away a lot during the next month.

The Board discussed if they should remove items from the capital outlay and put as warrant articles.

Chairman Murray stated last year all the Capital Reserve and projects costed \$1.7 million. We are looking at \$2.1 million right now but if we add the other two it will be \$2.3 million.

The Board decided to leave things as they are now.

Mr. Senecal stated Mr. Tougher was coming around to the Dockside Docks project although he wants to move the docks further apart. The cost for this would be a lot more and we would lose 36-38 dock spaces.

Mr. Bowers stated he had sent a memo to the Town stating they could acquire his dock space if they were interested. He suggested looking at purchasing the land that the bank was on for the Police Department.

Chairman Murray stated they are looking at all their options.

Mr. Bowers stated the property is centrally located and has plenty of parking.

Mr. Senecal stated the Police Department needs a minimum of 1 acre of space.

Mr. O'Brien suggested leaving things as they were.

Ms. Zabkar stated the Townsend Dam project was listed for \$70,000.00 but it was increased to \$95,000.00. Mr. Ford will need to change the form.

Chairman Murray stated we will leave everything as it is and deal with issues that arise once the Budget Committee has made some of their cuts.

The Board agreed.

Other Business

Ms. Merrow stated the Tax Collector gave her a new warrant that needed to be signed because it took DRA an extra day to certify it so the date needed to be changed. The numbers were not changed.

The Board agreed to resign.

Public Input

Limited to 3 Minutes per resident, not to exceed 15 minutes in total

None

It was moved by Chairman Murray and seconded by Dave Bowers to enter into non-public session under RSA 91:3 II (c and e) to discuss reputation and litigation. Roll call vote, Chairman Murray – yes, Dave Bowers – yes, Brad Harriman – yes, Dave Senecal – yes and Paul O’Brien – yes. Being none opposed, the motion passed.

The Board re-entered public session at 9:13 PM.

Dave Senecal moved the Wolfeboro Board of Selectmen to seal the minutes of the November 5, 2018 non-public meeting. Paul O’Brien seconded. Roll call vote, Chairman Murray – yes, Dave Senecal – yes, Dave Bowers – yes, Paul O’Brien – yes and Brad Harriman – yes. Being none opposed, the motion passed.

It was moved by Paul O’Brien and seconded by Brad Harriman to adjourn at 9:14 PM. Members voted and being none opposed, the motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted,
Michele Chamberlain