

ASHLAND BUDGET COMMITTEE

JANUARY 19, 2012

DRAFT MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: C. Austin, S. Felton, D. Ruell, M. Brown, S. Coleman, I. Heidenreich, M. Scarano, F. Newton, J. Stewart

OTHERS PRESENT: P. Tucker, P. Branscombe, J. Felton, B. Hoerter, T. Randall, J. Lyford

The meeting came to order at 6:00pm I the Elementary School library.

On the minutes of January 4, 2012:

Newton made the motion, 2nd by Felton to accept the minutes of January 4, 2012 as written. 8 members ayed. 1 member abstained.

On the minutes of January 5, 2012:

Page 1—paragraph 10: to add the word merit to have it read “The 1.5% salary and merit increase....”

Page 3—paragraph 3: take out the word time in front of times.

Brown made the motion, 2nd by Heidenreich to accept the minutes of January 5, 2012 with above changes. 8 members ayed. 1 member abstained.

On the minutes of January 9, 2012:

Page 2—paragraph 5: change the spelling of the word to read defibrillator.

Scarano made the motion, 2nd by Newton to accept the minutes of January 9, 2012 with the above change. 8 members ayed. 1 member abstained.

On the minutes of January 11, 2012:

Page 1—paragraph 1: change café to cafeteria and add with the public hearing.

Page 1—paragraph 10: before the 7:42 add reviewed and discussed the school district budget with the public.

Page 2—paragraph 1: change the word accept to recommend.

Page 2—paragraph 2: change the word accept to recommend. Also add for expenditures before bottom line.

Page 2—paragraph 3: change the word accept to recommend.

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Page 2—paragraph 9: Bridge House should be two words.

Scarano made the motion, 2nd by Brown to accept the minutes of January 11, 2012 with above changes. 8 members aye. 1 member abstained.

On the minutes of January 13, 2012:

Page 1—paragraph 1: change café to cafeteria and add with the public hearing.

Page 2—last paragraph: change the word “for” raises to “regarding” raises.

Page 3—paragraph 4: Change the wording of the last sentence to read “it is noted that L. Pack didn’t get the 50 cent raise when the town employees got theirs”. Note: that the electric dept was offered the 50-cent raise but decided not to take raise. Note: that L. Packs’ raise was a merit raise.

Page 5—paragraph 10: Bridge House should be two words.

Page 5—paragraph 11: change board to committee.

Page 7—paragraph 7: Add the word cuts after board.

Page 7—paragraph 8: change the word we to the town.

Page 7—paragraph 14: change “town clerk” to “town clock”.

After paragraph 14, add that the public hearing was finished at 10:15pm.

Heidenreich made the motion, 2nd by Brown to accept the minutes of January 13, 2012 with the above changes. All members aye.

The committee finished with the minutes at 6:25pm.

We discussed that the figure for Tri-County CAP is to be \$3,107. Coleman made the motion, 2nd by Newton to recommend \$3,107. for the petition warrant article Tri-County CAP. 8 members aye. 1 member naye.

Old and new contract handouts were handed out on the Collective Bargaining Agreement. The new contract is capped at 5% raise. The vacation time goes to one week after 1 year, 2 weeks vacation after 3 years. There is a change in the cap for sick time; it went from 280 days to 240 days. Bereavement (aunt and uncle for example) has gone from 3 days to 1 day. The town saved \$8,180. going from the Cadillac plan to the employee plan. The contract went to a 3-year contract from a 5-year contract.

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Coleman told us about 3 letters that she sent to the union negotiator and why the union was not met with while she was on the select board.

Scarano made the motion, 2nd by Stewart to recommend the article regarding the Collective Bargaining Agreement as written. 8 members ayed. 0 members nayed. 1 member abstained.

At 7:00pm we went back to the budget.

Stewart brought up the 1.5% raise increase. Branscombe recommended that the \$5,099. come out of the welfare line. It was discussed that that recommendation is not something the committee wanted to do. Heidenreich suggested keeping the 1.5% increase and taking out the merit increases, Coleman agreed. Newton suggested that going forward that all dept. heads do performance reviews. Felton mentioned a merit pool. Newton wants to go on record by saying that all employees are not the same and should not be treated the same. Felton to write a letter to the select board on behalf of the budget committee with a suggestion to recommend that the dept. heads do performance reviews with employees and pass out merit increases based on the reviews.

Heidenreich made the motion, 2nd by Brown to remove merit increases for P. Tucker (\$3,000.) and P. Crowell (\$2,980.) only from the proposed budget and to reinstate the 1.5% increase for eligible non-union employees. Have the budget committee recommend send a letter to BOS recommending a merit pool for merit increases for 2013. 8 members ayed. 1 member nayed.

Executive: The budget committee total figure should be \$8,668. not \$6,168.

P&R Campground: Electric: monies from campers go to the town—revenue is not accounted for. Branscombe to check where money is going.

Coleman made the motion, 2nd by Scarano to put \$1,500. into the police equipment line for 1 rifle and accessories to equip rifle.

After much discussion between the committee, T. Randall, and J. Lyford; Coleman amended the previous motion, 2nd by Scarano (also amended) to put \$2,000. into the police equipment line for 2 rifles. 5 members ayed. 4 members nayed.

P&R Tennis & Basketball Courts: To change the figure from \$1.00. There was no discussion, so no change.

Heidenreich made the motion, 2nd by Scarano to reduce ZBA secretary from \$300. to \$150. 9 members ayed.

Coleman made the motion, 2nd by Newton to reduce uncategorized expenses, in Other General Government, from \$2,500. to \$500. 9 members ayed.

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Scarano made the motion, 2nd by Heidenreich to decrease HA salaries—OT from \$22,964. to \$18,000. 7 members ayed. 2 members nayed.

Ruell made the motion, 2nd by Heidenreich to recommend the rest of the town budget and revenues (subject to error found in Executive and any other errors possibly found), and tonight's votes, including utilities budgets. 9 members ayed.

At 8:38pm the committee went to the warrant articles.

Scarano made the motion, 2nd by Newton to recommend \$10,000. for the Master Plan. 8 members ayed. 1 member nayed.

Brown made the motion, 2nd by Felton to recommend \$10,100. for Police Dept. communication radios. 7 members ayed. 2 members nayed.

Scarano made the motion, 2nd by Felton to recommend \$1,500. for Town Clock. 7 members ayed. 2 members nayed.

Ruell made the motion, 2nd by Stewart to recommend \$142,100. for Public Works Dept. loader lease. 5 members ayed. 4 members nayed.

Ruell made the motion, 2nd by Stewart to recommend \$55,200. for Transfer/Recycling Center tractor lease. 2 members ayed. 7 members nayed.

Heidenreich made the motion, 2nd by Brown to NOT recommend \$55,200. for Transfer/Recycling Center tractor lease. 7 members ayed. 2 members nayed.

Heidenreich made the motion, 2nd by Newton to recommend \$27,000. for Fire Dept. roof. 9 members ayed. 0 members nayed.

Newton made the motion, 2nd by Felton to recommend \$125,000. to establish Road Improvement CRF. 9 members ayed. 0 members nayed.

Brown made the motion, 2nd by Heidenreich to recommend \$8,000. to establish Fire Dept. Equipment CRF. 9 members ayed. 0 members nayed.

Ruell made the motion, 2nd by Felton to recommend \$1,000. for CADY. 7 members ayed. 2 members nayed.

Felton made the motion, 2nd by Newton to recommend \$9,342. for Pemi-Baker Community Health. 7 members ayed. 2 members nayed.

Newton made the motion, 2nd by Felton to recommend \$5,000. for Bandstand. 6 members ayed. 3 members nayed.

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Stewart made the motion, 2nd by Felton to recommend \$6,000. for Grafton County Senior Citizens Council Inc. 7 members ayed. 2 members nayed.

Felton made the motion, 2nd by Newton to recommend \$2,239. for Genesis. 6 members ayed. 3 members nayed.

Newton made the motion, 2nd by Felton to recommend \$1,200. for Plymouth Regional Clinic. 5 members ayed. 4 members nayed.

Tri-County CAP has been voted on previously this evening. 8 members ayed. 1 member nayed.

Felton made the motion, 2nd by Stewart to recommend \$5,000. for The Bridge House. 8 members ayed. 1 member nayed.

Coleman made the motion, 2nd by Heidenreich to NOT recommend the article for Transportation Fund. 6 members ayed. 3 members nayed.

Heidenreich made the motion, 2nd by Coleman to post a meeting for after the 2 deliberative sessions in case any warrant articles have been changed. 9 members ayed.

Heidenreich told the committee that in just meetings alone (which does not include any outside work) we logged in 572 hours 15 minutes.

Newton made the motion, 2nd by Stewart to adjourn the meeting at 9:05pm.

Christine Austin, Secretary

