



BUDGET COMMITTEE

Committee Members:

DANA GRAY CHAIRMAN
JONATHAN WAUGH, VICE-CHAIRMAN
MEG GARDNER, SECRETARY
WILLIAM BURNS
LEN VAN GAASBEEK, JR.
LENNY VAN GAASBEEK III
BRETT DAVIS, SR.

Minutes of Budget Committee Meeting 30 March 2015

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM at the Community Building.

Roll Call: Dana Gray, William Burns, Len VanGaasbeek Jr., Lenny VanGaasbeek III, Jon Waugh, Brett Davis Sr., Meg Gardner

Also present: Selectmen Brian Atkinson, David McCubrey, and River Payne.

Review of Minutes: The minutes of 3-2-15 and 3-9-15 were approved as presented.

Correspondence: None

Old Business: None

New Business:

Questions and answers re: TIF (Poland Spring Tax Increment Funds). The Selectmen presented the TIF Consultant's responses (see attached) to the Budget Committee for comment and questions. Each question and answer was brought up for review and discussion.

Summary of Discussion points:

- Inconsistency of putting some TIF expenditures on the warrant but not others
- Previous expenditure of TIF funds after the warrant Article was disapproved by the voters
- Recommendation to revise the current TIF agreement to change and potentially broaden the allowed uses to better reflect the town's reality today vs. 15 years ago when the document was drafted and approved
- Statement on expenditure on items in E.1 and E.2; quote "Expenditures that are made necessary by the Poland Spring Project"
- Language currently used by the DECD states that expenditures must follow the long established process unless another method is specified in the Development Plan
- General discussion on TIF funds used on roads; use of funds on roads would have to meet some sort of means testing on the proportion of impact by the Poland Spring Project. No specific method was discussed.
- General discussion on creating separate accounts for each TIF project

- During the discussion it was acknowledged by the Select Board that the current process of expending TIF funds was a carryover from the position and interpretation held by previous Selectmen (persons)

Beginning this year, the Selectmen intend to put articles in the town warrant for each proposed expenditure of TIF funds. The Selectmen (with Poland Spring) plan to work on a TIF amendment to extend it for potentially an additional five years, and incorporate the newest State regulations regarding how TIF money may be spent. Regarding expenditures for road improvements, those roads used as alternate routes for the Poland Spring trucks may also be included based on proportional impact by Poland Spring Project. The Selectmen are planning to schedule a public meeting with the Town Assessor to explain in more detail how the TIF works. Budget Committee members will be invited to that meeting.

Two capital items: The first item to be reviewed was a request for funds to cover the town's share of the cost of installing sidewalk and lighting on the new Bar Mills bridges. This item received the committee's preliminary approval previously. Mr. Burns moved to give final approval to a request for not more than \$13,400. The motion was seconded and discussed. The motion carried 6-0-1.

The second capital item to be reviewed was a request for funds to purchase a new fire truck. Chief Jason Johnson was present to answer questions. The bidding process will include multiple vendors, possible professional review and review by the Select Board. This item also received the committee's preliminary approval previously. Mr. Burns moved to give final approval to the request for not more than \$380,000 for the purchase of the truck. The motion was seconded and discussed. The motion carried 6-0-1.

Warrant Articles. The Committee reviewed all the proposed warrant articles concerning financial items. Voting results as follows:

Article 9: Up to \$13,400 for sidewalk lighting for Bar Mills bridges: approved 6-0-1.

Article 11: Up to \$380,000 from TIF for new fire engine: approved 6-0-1.

Article 12: \$50,000 from Undesignated Funds for revaluation: approved 7-0-0.

Article 20: Up to \$20,000 from TIF to update Comp Plan: approved 7-0-0.

Article 21: Up to \$20,000 from TIF to amend the current TIF: approved 6-0-1.

Article 22: \$20,000 from Ecomaine to a protected account: approved 6-0-1.

Public Comment: None

Plan for Next Meeting: Members will be notified of the date of the public meeting with the Assessor and the Selectmen re: TIF. As there will not be another regular meeting of the Budget Committee for the current year, the minutes of this meeting will be reviewed and approved by email to all members.

Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 PM.

Minutes submitted by Martha Turner, Secretary.

Minutes approved 7-0-0