



BUDGET COMMITTEE

Committee Members:

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MEG GARDNER, SECRETARY
WILLIAM BURNS
LEN VAN GAASBEEK, JR.
LENNY VAN GAASBEEK III
BRETT DAVIS, SR.

Minutes of Budget Committee Meeting 2 March 2015

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:05 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, Dave McCubrey, River Payne.

Review of Minutes: The minutes of 2-21-15 were approved as presented.

Old Business: Discussion of TIF was postponed to next meeting.

New Business: The Salmon Falls Library (0800) was the first to be considered, represented by Mary Weyer, Director. In response to questions from committee members, she noted that this is the actual municipal library, with the land, building, and contents owned by the town. She stated that both libraries work together to provide local residents with as many resources as possible, noting that Salmon Falls has an extensive audio collection vs. the Hollis Center Library's video collection. Both libraries strive to keep their book collections as current as possible, within their budget restraints. The Salmon Falls Library budget passed 7-0-0.

The second item was the Hollis Center Public Library (0810), represented by Maureen Cole, Director. This library is actually a non-profit organization, not owned by the town. In response to questions from committee members, Ms. Cole explained that the original budget request submitted for next year was \$35,812, an amount which was not supported by the selectmen. The request was then reduced to \$30,000. Ms. Gardner asked if there were any capital requests for the library this year. Ms. Cole replied that there are several windows needing to be replaced, including some that were cracked during the earthquake. Ms. Gardner moved to add \$8,000 to the budget request. The motion was seconded and discussed. The motion failed 2-5-0. Ms. Cole was asked to provide further information regarding these budget questions. The committee voted 5-1-1 to table 0810 until the next meeting.

Mr. McCubrey presented a revised budget for 0150 Legal Fees. The request has been increased by \$4000 in anticipation of expenses expected to be incurred as the town proceeds with auctioning off foreclosed properties within the town, including delinquent taxes as far back as 2004. The revised budget request passed 7-0-0.

Ms. Payne presented a budget request of \$1000 for seed money for Hollis Fest, which will be reimbursed from fees collected that day, such as 5K registrations. The Long Range Planning Committee is forming a group of volunteers to coordinate a day of family-oriented activities to promote the town of Hollis. The request passed 6-1-0.

Mr. Atkinson presented a capital funding request of \$15,000 for the town's share of the cost of installing lighting on the new bridge to be constructed in Bar Mills. This project is designed by the state, and has not yet been put out to bid, so the \$15,000 is the estimated cost. There was a motion to table this request, in order to determine if the funds might come from the TIF account. The motion to table was seconded and discussed, and carried 5-1-1.

After further discussion, the question was reopened. There was a motion to give preliminary approval to the requested \$15,000, without a determination of whether the money will come from the TIF or not. The motion was seconded and discussed. The motion to approve carried 6-0-1.

Plan for Next Meeting: See attached summary sheet. The next meeting will be Monday, March 9, 2015, and will begin with reconsidering 0810, Hollis Center Public Library.

Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 PM.

Minutes submitted by Martha Turner, Secretary.
Approved by Budget Committee 3-30-15