



TOWN OF HUDSON

Budget Committee



Ted Trost, Chairman Normand Martin, Vice-Chairman

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Budget Committee Meeting Minutes December 13, 2017

A. Call to Order

Chairman Ted Trost called the meeting to order in the Board of Selectmen Meeting Room at 7:01 PM and declared that a quorum was present.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

J. Fernald led the Pledge of Allegiance.

C. Attendance

Members Present: Ted Trost, Bob Guessferd, Grace Hopkins, Norm Martin, Shawn Murray, Joe Fernald, Jim Barnes, Lori Robicheau-Pagan, School Board Representative Malcom Price, and Board of Selectmen Alternate Representative Dave Morin

Members Absent: Andy Levin (excused)

D. Public Input

Patty Langlais (22 Stonewood Dr.) – Addressing the concerns and accuracy of the description that during snowstorms, School Department trucks were not used.

Mr. Morin requested (on behalf of the Board of Selectmen) town plowing expenses for the School Department. Chairman Trost stated Mr Morin's request was an extension of the original request and did not require a motion.

Mr. Morin stated the Board of Selectmen and the School Board plan to meet to discuss plowing expenses.

The Budget Committee plans to follow up on this during the 01/03/2018 deliberation meeting.

E. Acceptance of Minutes

December 06, 2017 (Price/Guessferd), passed unanimously

December 11, 2017 (Morin/Robicheau-Pagan), passed unanimously

F. Old Business

D. Morin to defer discussion of plowing and use of Hills Library building until wrap-up meeting.

G. New Business

Warrant Article 6 Review – P. Langlais

Warrant Article 7 Review – L. Russell/K. Burnell

Warrant Article 8 Review – For catastrophic events, funding must be approved in a public forum

Budget Committee to discuss Warrant Articles 4 and 5 during the 01/03/2018 meeting.

Review of Middle School budget – Principal K. Bowen

Review of combined Elementary School budgets – Principal S. Baker

H. Other Business

The next meeting is Wednesday, December 27, held in the Board of Selectmen meeting room. Topics covered – Default town budget and wrap up. Meeting on 01/03/2018 to cover school default, collective bargaining, Warrant Articles 4 and 5, and wrap-up.

Selectman Luszey and Superintendent Russell discussed the following items with the Budget Committee:

- School Department budget surplus and fund transfers are still appropriating taxpayer funds, despite saying there is no tax impact
- Cost per pupil and different sources of funding (taxpayer, grants, state and federal governments)
- Declining enrollment

Chairman Trost reminded the committee we can still make motions up to the conclusion of the initial deliberations (12/27 for Town budget and 01/03 for School Department budget) and the straw vote is only the first formal vote (the final recommendation vote takes place after the public deliberation)

Mr. Murray thanked the School Department for their work in preparing and presenting budgets

Ms. Hopkins questioned whether we had the most recent copy of the snow plowing contract. Resolved question – there were two attachments
Mr. Guessferd suggested the possibility of centralizing mass purchasing.

V. Chairman Martin – reminder the Middle School concerts are Tuesday and Wednesday, December 19-20

Mr. Price wished everyone a Merry Christmas

Mr. Fernald thanked the thanked the School Department for their work in preparing and presenting budgets

I. Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn the meeting of December 11, 2017. (Guessferd/Price).
Motion Carries unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:59 PM.

Prepared by: Joe Fernald, Clerk