

TOWN OF HUDSON

Budget Committee

Shawn Murray, Chairman

Hasan Goode, Vice-Chairman



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Budget Committee Meeting Minutes October 7, 2020 FINAL

A. Call to Order

- Chairman Murray called the meeting to order at 7:00pm in the Hudson Community Center (HCC).

B. Pledge of Allegiance

- Led by Vice-Chairman Goode

C. Attendance Members

Present:

- Chairman Murray, Vice-Chairman Goode, Michael Fedele, Rich Weissgarber, Ted Trost, Alejandro Urrutia, Nichole DeJesus, Selectman Liaison Norm Martin, School Board Liaison Diana LaMothe.

Members Not Present:

- Bob Guessferd and Jimy Weaver (both excused)

Staff/Others:

- Kathy Carpentier (KC)

D. Public Input

- KC is leaving Hudson Town Hall as the Finance Director after 20 years and thanked the Budget Committee for their support.

E. Acceptance of Minutes

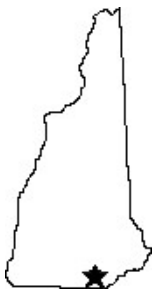
- Sept 2, 2020, Motion made by Selectman Martin second Mr. Urrutia motion passed 10-0-0.

F. Report from Boards and Liaisons

- **Select Board** – Selectman Martin discussed the need for the Fire Dept to purchase four new monitors (\$101K)/defibrillators (\$22K) from the EMS revolving fund.

Michael Fedele asked if the new tax rate was available. It is not at this time according to the Finance Director.

Chairman Murray made a statement in reference to the tax revenue from Ambulatory Services.



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School Board – Ms. LaMothe shared the 2020-2021 tuition rate for non-residents, which increased from \$14,800 to \$16,350 due to increased costs. The financial report through September 25, 2020 was then shared. The anticipated fund balance is always targeted to be 1% of the general fund budget. Currently, it is at .36% or \$196,153. This is due to increased costs due to running both in-school and remote learning, an increase in technology, PPE, UVA filters to keep the air clean and safe, and extra cleaning expenses of approximately \$50,000 per month extra. We are going to look closer at our expenditures because we are three months in and we would like to see an anticipated fund balance in the \$500,000 - \$600,000 range.

Chairman Murray asked if the tuition is related to the per pupil cost. Ms. LaMothe stated yes, it based on a formula set by the DOE. The cost per pupil is \$15,550 and there is an administrative fee factored in to come up with the tuition rate. Every year this increases, and a larger increase was noted this year.

Motion made by Vice-Chairman Goode requesting that the school board send the budget committee the formula used to compute per pupil costs second by Nichole DeJesus motion passed (10-0-0).

Nichole DeJesus asked of the level of interest for non-residents had increased and how many tuition students come in. Ms. LaMothe will obtain answers.

Vice-Chairman Goode asked if a separate line item can be seen in the upcoming budget for extra cleaning supplies related to COVID-19. Chairman Murray stated this should be the same for the Town.

- **Library** – None

G. By Law Changes – if any

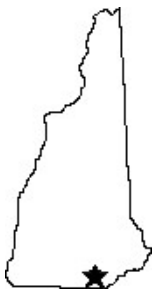
- Current by-laws approved for FY21 budget year, motion made by Ted Trost second by Nichole DeJesus motion passed (10-0-0).

H. Upcoming Budget Meeting Schedule

- FY22 BC Deliberative Schedule approved by BC; motion made by Mr. Urrutia second by Vice-Chairman Goode motion passed (10-0-0). Next meeting is Wednesday November 4, 2020 at 7pm in the HCC. Town Budget for FY22 will be briefed to the BC. SAU 81 was given an additional two weeks (~ 19 Nov 2020) to submit their budget approved through an email vote by the BC Chairman.

I. Other Business/Comments

Reminder from selectman Martin of the General Election voting being held in the Middle School.



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Ted Trost, Alejandro Urrutia and Michael Fedele all gave follow-up kudos to KC for her 20 years of service to the Town of Hudson.

Chairman Murray stated that we are moving into the budget process and it is open to the public and anyone interested should follow the budget process on TV or in person.

J. Adjournment

- Motion made by Mr. Urrutia seconded by Selectman Martin motion passed (10-0-0). Meeting adjourned at 7:27pm.

Prepared by: Rich Weissgarber, Clerk
