

HAMPTON BUDGET COMMITTEE
MINUTES
October 29, 2009

Budget Committee Members Present

Mary-Louise Woolsey, Chairman
Michael Plouffe, Vice-Chairman
Jerry Znoj, Selectman Representative
Charlotte "Peppa" Ring, School Board Representative
Gary Kubik, Precinct Representative
Victor DeMarco
Dick Hansen
Brian Lapham
Eileen Latimer
Jack Lessard
Michael Pierce
Richard Reniere
Larry Stuker
Peter Traynor

Excused

Pat Collins

Chairman Woolsey called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. She said this was the first work session for the 2010 budget and revenues

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Chairman Woolsey introduced the members of the Committee.

Approval of Minutes of October 20, 2009

Moved by Mr. Plouffe, seconded by Mr. Stuker, to approve the Minutes of October 20, 2009.

Vote: 12 yes, 0 no, 2 abstentions (Reniere, Ring). Motion passed.

Trustees of the Trust Funds

Moved by Mr. Plouffe, seconded by Ms. Latimer, to move forward to the public hearing the amount of \$2,350 for the Trustees of the Trust Funds.

Vote: 14 yes, 0 no. Motion passed unanimously.

Cemetery Trustees

Chairman Woolsey welcomed Danny Kenny and Matt Shaw.

Moved by Mr. DeMarco, seconded by Mr. Lessard, to move forward to the public hearing the amount of \$114,031 for Cemetery Trustees.

Mr. DeMarco asked about money earmarked for new equipment last year. Mr. Kenny said the operating budget did not pass so they were not able to buy new equipment and instead made repairs to existing equipment and used any remaining monies for part-time help.

Mr. Traynor said it is up to the taxpayers to vote a budget that allows the departments to do their work.

Mr. Pierce said it is important to do competitive bidding and to comply with the ordinance. Mr. Shaw replied that they have always complied with Town ordinances.

Ms. Latimer complimented Mr. Kenny and Mr. Shaw on the work they have done under difficult conditions.

Vote: 14 yes, 0 no. Motion passed unanimously.

Lane Library

Chairman Woolsey welcomed Mary Lou Heran and Amanda Cooper.

Moved by Mr. Plouffe, seconded by Mr. Lapham, to move forward to the public hearing the amount of \$822,176 for the Lane Library.

Ms. Cooper said \$12,000 had been cut by the Board of Selectmen from the Library's original request.

Amendment made by Mr. Lessard, seconded by Mr. Traynor, to move forward to the public hearing the Library's original requested amount of \$834,176 for the Lane Library.

Vote: 12 yes, 2 no (Pierce, Znoj). Amendment passed.

Chairman Woolsey asked for a vote on the main motion as amended.

Vote: 12 yes, 2 no (Pierce, Znoj). Motion passed.

Tax Collector

Chairman Woolsey welcomed Donna Bennett, Tax Collector.

Moved by Mr. Plouffe, seconded by Mr. Stuker, to move forward to the public hearing the amount of \$94,355 for the Tax Collector.

Vote: 14 yes, 0 no. Motion passed unanimously.

Planning Board

Chairman Woolsey welcomed Jamie Steffen, Town Planner.

Chairman Woolsey said estimated revenues of \$17,000 come from Planning.

Moved by Mr. Stuker, seconded by Mr. Lapham, to move forward to the public hearing the amount of \$24,361 for the Planning Board.

Mr. Steffen said the original request was for \$35,861, but the Board of Selectmen removed the dues to the Rockingham Planning Commission.

Mr. Traynor asked why the dues were removed. Mr. Znoj said it was decided that there was not enough value for the money.

Mr. Steffen said without this membership they will not be able to use the tech assistance they have relied on. He said they really need the Commission for planning assistance. Chairman Woolsey asked if Mr. Steffen felt membership was vital to his job. He replied that it was.

Amendment made by Mr. Traynor, seconded by Ms. Latimer, to move forward to the public hearing the Planning Board's original amount of \$35,861 for Planning Board.

Vote: 11 yes, 3 no (Lapham, Pierce, Znoj). Amendment passed.

Chairman Woolsey asked for a vote on the main motion as amended.

Vote: 11 yes, 3 no (Lapham, Pierce, Znoj). Motion passed.

Zoning Board

Chairman Woolsey said estimated revenues of \$5,000 come from Zoning.

Moved by Mr. Plouffe, seconded by Mr. Traynor, to move forward to the public hearing the amount of \$9,810 for the Zoning Board.

Vote: 14 yes, 0 no. Motion passed unanimously.

Office of Planning

Moved by Mr. Stuker, seconded by Mr. Traynor, to move forward to the public hearing the amount of \$88,880 for the Office of Planning.

Vote: 14 yes, 0 no. Motion passed unanimously.

Assessor's Office

Chairman Woolsey welcomed Ed Tinker, Assessor.

Moved by Ms. Latimer, seconded by Mr. Kubik, to move forward to the public hearing the amount of \$226,139 for the Assessor's Office.

Vote: 14 yes, 0 no. Motion passed unanimously.

Recreation and Parks

Chairman Woolsey welcomed Dyana Martin, Recreation Director.

Moved by Mr. Lessard, seconded by Mr. Pierce, to move forward to the public hearing the amount of \$195,481 for Recreation and Parks.

Ms. Martin said that some of the mowing will now be done by Public Works. Office hours for the Rec Department have also been changed to 8-5 on Monday through Thursday and 8-12:00 on Fridays.

Vote: 13 yes, 1 no (Lapham). Motion passed.

Parking Administration

Moved by Mr. Hansen, seconded by Mr. DeMarco, to move forward to the public hearing the amount of \$65,782 for Parking Administration.

Chairman Woolsey said estimated net revenues from parking are \$290,000. Mr. DeMarco said revenues are really about \$330,000.

Vote: 13 yes, 0 no, 1 abstention (DeMarco). Motion passed.

Lifeguards

Moved by Mr. Lessard, seconded by Mr. Znoj, to move forward to the public hearing the amount of \$25,350 for Lifeguards.

Vote: 14 yes, 0 no. Motion passed unanimously.

Energy Management and Civil Defense

Moved by Mr. Plouffe, seconded by Mr. Traynor, to move forward to the public hearing the amount of \$3,000 for Energy Management and Civil Defense.

Vote: 14 yes, 0 no. Motion passed unanimously.

Town Manager and Board of Selectmen

Moved by Mr. Stuker, seconded by Mr. Pierce, to move forward to the public hearing the amount of \$145,439 for Town Manager and Board of Selectmen.

Vote: 14 yes, 0 no. Motion passed unanimously.

Budget Committee

Moved by Mr. Plouffe, seconded by Mr. Stuker, to move forward to the public hearing the amount of \$2,200 for the Budget Committee.

Vote: 14 yes, 0 no. Motion passed unanimously.

Building Department

Chairman Woolsey welcomed Kevin Schultz, Building Inspector.

Moved by Mr. Znoj, seconded by Mr. Stuker, to move forward to the public hearing the amount of \$180,805 for the Building Department.

Mr. Schultz said this budget has been reduced \$1,220 from last year.

Vote: 14 yes, 0 no. Motion passed unanimously.

Heritage Commission

Moved by Mr. Stuker, seconded by Mr. Lapham, to move forward to the public hearing the amount of \$1,200 for the Heritage Commission.

Vote: 14 yes, 0 no. Motion passed unanimously.

Town Clerk

Moved by Mr. Hansen, seconded by Mr. Traynor, to move forward to the public hearing the amount of \$233,605 for the Town Clerk.

Vote: 14 yes, 0 no. Motion passed unanimously.

Financial Administration

Moved by Mr. Lessard, seconded by Mr. Traynor, to move forward to the public hearing the amount of \$284,610 for Financial Administration.

Vote: 11 yes, 3 no (Lapham, Pierce, Znoj). Motion passed.

Audit

Moved by Mr. Lapham, seconded by Mr. Plouffe, to move forward to the public hearing the amount of \$30,500 for Audit.

Vote: 14 yes, 0 no. Motion passed unanimously.

Management Information Systems

Moved by Mr. Stuker, seconded by Mr. Pierce, to move forward to the public hearing the amount of \$172,110 for Management Information Systems.

Chairman Woolsey asked about the new systems administrator position. Mr. Schwotzer said it will be a part-time position with no benefits.

Vote: 14 yes, 0 no. Motion passed unanimously.

Human Resources

Moved by Mr. Pierce, seconded by Mr. Traynor, to move forward to the public hearing the amount of \$1,000 for Human Resources

Vote: 14 yes, 0 no. Motion passed unanimously.

Legal

Chairman Woolsey welcomed Mark Gearreald, Town Counsel.

Moved by Mr. Pierce, seconded by Mr. DeMarco, to move forward to the public hearing the amount of \$321,174 for Legal.

Attorney Gearreald passed out and discussed a recap of legal matters handled this year. He said this budget is an 8.74% reduction from last year.

Attorney Gearreald said his department handled litigation and non-litigation matters. There were two large litigation matters – one being the “sick bank” for union employees for which an injunction has been received from the court, and the other being the matter concerning the Evergreen Clause. The Legal Department spent many hours on these two items and saved a great deal of money by not using outside counsel.

Vote: 14 yes, 0 no. Motion passed unanimously.

Personnel Administration

Moved by Mr. Plouffe, seconded by Mr. Lapham, to move forward to the public hearing the amount of \$1,967,209 for Personnel Administration.

Vote: 14 yes, 0 no. Motion passed unanimously.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 3, 2009, at 7:00 p.m. in the Selectmen’s Meeting Room.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Committee, Mr. Znoj **moved**, seconded by Mr. Lapham, that the meeting be adjourned. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

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The meeting adjourned at 10:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Rice
Secretary

Mary-Louise Woolsey, Chairman