

Town of Seabrook
Budget Committee
November 15, 2012

Members Present:

Paula Wood Paul Knowles Don Hawkins Jeff Brown
Dianna Demars Michael Chase Brendan Kelly Peg Weare
Dick Maguire

Meeting opens at 6:02 PM

Pledge of Allegiance

Introduction of new members and of the new finance manager Lili Gilligan.

Motion: D Demars To appoint Paula Wood chairperson of the Budget Committee
2nd P Knowles
 ALL IN FAVOR PASSED

Motion: P Wood To appoint Don Hawkins vice chairperson of the Budget Committee
2nd D Demars
 ALL IN FAVOR PASSED

Overview of Budget

D Hawkins suggests an overview of the budget from acting Town Manager (TM) Joe Titone.

J Titone explains the budget process and that he relied heavily on L Gilligan for her input.

P Wood asks if there are any areas in particular that jumped out at him. J Titone says that the payroll dept. was moved to the TM Budget and that is the cause for a huge increase. He also says that the Trustee of the Trust Funds (TOTF) budget was increased due to the hiring of a manager and that the Computer Technologies budget is up due to the updating of the towns computer systems. He also notes that Beach & Pier is up due to trouble with the pier & moorings.

M Chase points out that it says that in The TOTF budget that there is a fee for a company overseeing investments. B Kelly suggests that the fee was moved from the TM Dept.

P Wood notes a decrease in the Emergency Management Budget. L Gilligan explains that a line item was added to reflect that change.

P Wood questions an increase in the Welcome Center budget. J Titone explains that it was due to a miscalculation of the season and that there was not enough money appropriated. D Hawkins points out that the budget was cut last year by the Bud Com.

D Hawkins asks if there were any increases in employees. J Titone says that vacancies were filled but there were no increases in positions.

D Hawkins says that at some point he would like to see the savings with the new insurance, possibly a summary. L Gilligan says that she has a document showing the actual saving vs. the projected savings.

D Hawkins asks for an analysis on the power plant negotiations and the impact on the tax rate.

Discussion on the tax rate. L Gilligan says that the state will have a final tax rate before Thanksgiving.

Discussion on the power plant negotiations. B Kelly thinks there will possibly be an agreement soon. D Maguire feels that the Bud Com should be let into an executive session to have a better idea of what kind of a budget to put forth; he would like to be better informed.

J Titone says that he will try to make that happen. B Kelly questions the legality of letting the Bud Com in and thinks that an attorney should be spoken to first.

J Brown asks about figures owed to the town from the government center. L Gilligan says that we did get the figures. B Kelly says that it is currently under appeal, and that he is not sure when we will receive payment.

Discussion on figures, where they go in the budget and how the figure was set.

Health Insurance

L Gilligan explains handout provided on health insurance savings.

Discussion on actual savings vs. projected savings.

P Knowles leaves the meeting 6:43PM

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D Hawkins further explains adjustments and how the offset contracts and actual savings.

L Gilligan thinks the HRA cards monies will be fully used each year. B Kelly thinks that there was a lot of confusion on how to use the card when the plan was implemented

Discussion on where the unspent HRA monies will end up. D Hawkins explains that if the full amount is not spent that it stays in the general fund.

P Weare would like an explanation on the hiring of a new management co for the TOTF. L Gilligan says that those questions would be better for the TOTF.

P Wood asks about the status of the negotiations with channel 22. B Kelly says that Comcast no longer does upgrades. D Hawkins suggests putting in a warrant article to upgrade channel 22.

Human Services

B Kelly says that there have been agency requests moved to individual warrant articles, such as Rockingham Community Action and Seacoast Youth Services.

D Hawkins would like to review the standalone requests to make recommendations.

B Kelly said that any human service agency asking for \$10,000.00 or more was moved to an individual article, noting that at least one agency reduced their request to be under the \$10,000.00 mark.

D Hawkins says that he would like input from Bonnie about the usefulness of each agency.

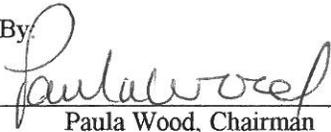
Discussion on rescheduling centers scheduled for this 11/15/2012 meeting, deciding that they will be pushed tentatively to 01/03/2013 meeting.

Motion
D Demars

P Wood
ALL IN FAVOR

To Adjourn

Approved By:


Paula Wood, Chairman

Date: _____