

Town of Seabrook
Budget Committee
November 29, 2012

Members Present: P Wood P Knowles D Demars B Kelly
J Brown P Weare D Hawkins D Maguire M Chase

Meeting opens at 6:00PM

Pledge of Allegiance

P Wood thanks L Gilligan for stepping up on Tue and filling in for the TM and answering questions.

D Maguire asks B Kelly if he had any comments on the 4.3% tax rate increase. B Kelly says that we had to adjust to the valuation of the town and that the bills are still there. Discussion on negotiations with the power plant. B Kelly says that there has been an agreement and that the details should be final by the end of the calendar year.

D Maguire asks if the Board of Selectman have made any significant changes to lower the budget. B Kelly says that dept. heads have been asked to come in with lower numbers and there have positions left vacant.

D Maguire says that he is not comfortable with what is to come and that he hasn't seen much in the way of cutting the budget from the BOS.

Discussion on union contract changes and concerns about information being withheld. D Maguire is not happy with the union contracts and doesn't feel that the unions "lost" anything in the negotiations. B Kelly says that nothing was "given" to the unions and that they usually ask for more. P Wood says that she has yet to see the savings.

In regards to the vacant positions, P Weare says that union positions cannot be eliminated without union negotiations. Discussion on employee positions within the union.

J Brown says that we have not prepared for the day when Seabrook Station is no longer "paying the bill". D Maguire feels that we have not had much enthusiasm for making cuts. Discussion on preparing the town for a lower Seabrook Station valuation. J Brown thinks that we should revisit capital reserve accounts. D Hawkins mentions preparing for additional "catch up" money from 2010 & 2011 valuations for Seabrook Station.

140 Town Clerk

Bonnie Fowler gives an overview of the budget noting that the office is open until 7PM on Thursdays but feels that more money is being spent keeping the building open. She is thinking of going in front of the board to change the hours to possibly staying open one Thursday a month. She says that the part-time employee line is increased to cover absences.

Motion	D Maguire	Budget of \$343,450.00 (\$5000.00 less than original budget)
Second	D Hawkins	
Yes	D Maguire, D Hawkins, P Wood, D Demars, J Brown, P Weare, B Kelly, M Chase	
No	P Knowles	

PASSED

140 Revenue

Motion	D Maguire	\$1,314,750.00
Second	P Wood	
Yes	D Maguire, D Hawkins, P Wood,	

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D Demars, J Brown, P Weare, B
Kelly, M Chase
Abstain P Knowles

PASSED

220 Police Dept

Chief Lee Bitomske gives an overview of the budget. He explains that the budget has decreased by about 3% overall. Discussion on money budgeted for gasoline. P Wood asks for further explanation on the new equipment line. Lee Bitomske further explains each item on new equipment line.

D Maguire asks B Kelly if there is a cut-off figure on an item that can be put in a budget. B Kelly says that if an item is put in front of the people and is not approved the selectman have to make the decision to put it in the budget if it poses a safety issue.

L Bitomske explains the need for a mobile command post.

Discussion on leasing vs. buying vehicles.

Motion D Maguire Budget of \$3,547,860.00
Second M Chase
Yes ALL IN FAVOR

PASSED

220 Revenue

Motion P Wood \$64,700.00
Second P Knowles
Yes ALL IN FAVOR

PASSED

Break 7:40PM - Return 7:55PM

225 Police Station

Motion D Hawkins Budget of \$148,119.00
Second P Knowles
Yes ALL IN FAVOR

PASSED

420 Animal Control

L Bitomske explains that the animal control officer is in need of a new vehicle and that he is looking at a smaller vehicle. Discussion on the vehicle purchase.

L Bitomske explains that the employee is on a health buyout plans. Questions are raised about the amount of the plan and the concern about an individual contract for this employee. D Maguire suggests holding off on the vote until the health buyout figure is researched.

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Police Hire Revolving Account

L Bitomske explains where the funds come from and what is paid with it. He says that we could make more money and possibly using the money for new equipment purchases. Discussion on the need to increase the fees for police details and new state requirements.

150 Tax Collector

Motion D Maguire Budget of \$192,574.00
Second P Knowles
Yes ALL IN FAVOR
PASSED

150 Revenue

Motion M Chase \$135,000.00
Second P Wood
Yes ALL IN FAVOR
PASSED

170 Planning and Zoning

D Hawkins represents the Planning Board and presents budget. P Wood questions the part-time employee increase. Discussion on part-time employee contract and responsibilities. Discussion on fees and fee increases.

Motion D Maguire Budget of \$83,722.00
Second M Chase
Yes D Maguire, P Wood, D Demars, J
Brown, P Weare, B Kelly, M
Chase
No P Knowles
Abstain D Hawkins PASSED

170 Revenue

Motion D Maguire \$62,500.00
Second P Wood
Yes D Maguire, P Wood, D Demars, J
Brown, P Weare, B Kelly, M
Chase
No P Knowles
Abstain D Hawkins PASSED

110 Selectman

B Kelly says that the change in insurance is due to a new member taking insurance. Discussion on selectman taking insurance and the town's policy on providing insurance to selectman. D Maguire finds the increase in this account unacceptable.

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Motion D Maguire Budget of \$76,425.00
Second M Chase
Yes D Maguire, D Hawkins, P Wood,
D Demars, J Brown, P Weare, , M
Chase
Abstain P Knowles, B Kelly

PASSED

120 Town Manager

D Maguire asks if we are looking for a permanent Town Manager. B Kelly says that there is not plan to hire yet; he feels that we should get through the end of the year with Mr. Titone.

J Titone explains that payroll dept. was moved to this account. L Gilligan explains errors in the breakdown of personnel salaries. She also says that audit services were moved from this account to the 130 finance account.

D Maguire asks if the acting TM is paid from both accounts. L Gilligan says the money is in the 120 account for when a new TM is hired.

Motion P Wood Budget of \$522,921.00
Second P Knowles
Yes D Hawkins, P Wood, D Demars, J
Brown, P Weare, B Kelly, M
Chase, P Knowles
No D Maguire

PASSED

120 Revenue

Figures are given by the state

Motion M Chase \$535,718.00
Second P Wood
Yes ALL IN FAVOR

PASSED

121 Risk Management

L Gilligan gives handout on workman's comp. Discussion on workman's comp premium and possibility of changing companies. Vote held off until more research is done.

122 Legal Services

L Gilligan gives an explanation on legal services and where money is spent. She provides a handout with a breakdown of fees. Vote held off until more info is provided

800 Debt

L Gilligan explains that past errors have affected bond ratings.

Motion D Hawkins \$539,766.00
Second P Wood
Yes ALL IN FAVOR

PASSED

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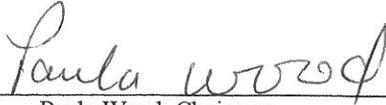
Town Hall revenue vote held off

Motion P Wood
Second P Knowles
Yes ALL IN FAVOR

To Adjourn

PASSED

Signed:



Date:

Paula Wood, Chairman