

TOWN OF SEABROOK

BUDGET MEETING

APRIL 24, 2008

Present: Paula Wood 6:00PM
Peg Weare
Richard Maguire
Ivan Eaton
Don Hawkins
Brendan Kelly
Scott Dunn

Mrs. Wood opened the meeting at 6:07PM.

The board will continue to hold off on the nomination of officers until a full board is present.

DEFAULT BUDGET

Mrs. Wood commented on the fire departments memo on the budget and the things that may not happen. Mr. Dunn said he does not feel overtime is a contractual item and there is no way of knowing how many hours for overtime. Mrs. Wood said in previous years these items were included in the default budget. She said the department head salary due to increase by \$2700 and was not included in the budget and it is part of his contract.

Mr. Dunn said they are looking into other arrangements to make sure the ambulance is paid for. He said the numbers were presented and the budget committee and/or department heads could have raised concerns. Mrs. Wood disagrees and said they do not get the default budget until the selectmen approve.

Mrs. Weare questioned the vehicle maintenance and ladder truck and why request mutual aid when we have both. Mr. Dunn said we would request another truck for mutual aid. Mr. Maguire said he finds it unacceptable that they cannot find \$2000 to test the ladder truck and pumps.

Mr. Maguire questioned the contract services and the ambulance billing that generates revenue so why would we consider suspending service. Mr. Dunn said it is not suspended and not something the board is willing to consider.

Mr. Dunn said ultimately the fire chief works for selectmen and they will work hard to make sure the services continue.

Mrs. Wood asked about the vehicle that has been added to the fleet. Mr. Dunn said he is only aware of one vehicle being added and that was for water and they did not submit a memo.

Mr. Hawkins asked about the risk management account. Mr. Dunn said it would be overspent in one area but under spent in another, so it will even out.

Mr. Hawkins asked about overtime for the police and fire departments. He said he understands what drives the police but what drive the fire. Mr. Dunn explained when an ambulance call comes in and the ambulance is sent out 2 employees are called in every time. Mr. Kelly commented that he is looking to eliminate the overtime as he finds it unacceptable. He talked about the schedule he provided to the fire chief to eliminate the overtime and said he never received a response.

Mrs. Wood said she believes part of the overtime is contractual. She would need to look into it to confirm. Mr. Eaton also believes it is contractual and if it is cautioned they must be careful.

Mrs. Wood asked about the employee on paid administrative leave. Mr. Dunn said the employee is being paid out of the line item for the department. He said there is definitely overtime being paid. Mrs. Wood said she hopes this will be resolved quickly.

Mr. Hawkins asked about the drug task force officer and how is he paid. Mr. Dunn explained it is through a grant. Mr. Hawkins also questioned the funds for the library. Mr. Dunn said it is past practice to encumber funds and to raise funds for books.

Mrs. Weare questioned the water & sewer bills to go out in June and would they be actual figures. Mr. Dunn said there would probably be a supplemental bill as with the taxes.

Next meeting May 29 at 6PM.

Mrs. Wood said they have received no response on the volunteer position. She suggested they put an ad in the paper.

MOTION: Paula Wood To put ad in paper.
Second: Richard Maguire
Unanimous

MOTION: Paula Wood To approve the minutes
Second: Ivan Eaton March 27.
Unanimous

MOTION: Paula Wood To adjourn the meeting
Second: Ivan Eaton 7:03PM.
Unanimous

Meeting adjourned at 7:03PM.
Minutes taken by Kelly J. O'Connor

Approved and endorsed:

Paula Wood, Chairman

Date: _____