

TOWN OF SEABROOK

BUDGET MEETING

JANUARY 10, 2008

Present: Paula Wood
Peg Weare
Richard Maguire
Aboul Khan
Cora Stockbridge
Ivan Eaton
Richard A. McCann
Scott Dunn

6:00PM

Mrs. Wood opened the meeting at 6:02PM.

SELECTMEN - 110

Mr. Maguire questioned the increase of 6% in the salaries. Mr. Dunn said it should only reflect a 3% increase. He said he does not set the selectmen's salary.

Michelle Heywood arrived at 6:08PM.

Mrs. Stockbridge said the selectmen never acted on the 110 account. Mr. McCann said they acted on the bottom line.

Jason Janvrin arrived at 6:15PM.

Mr. Maguire commented that there does not seem to be clear explanations on the questions asked and his colleague is not confident that the selectmen have acted on this account.

Mrs. Stockbridge questioned the health insurance and the JY plan and if the selectmen would pay the 10% as with the other union employees. Mr. McCann said he would take it forward to the other members. Mrs. Stockbridge said she would like copies of the cost the members were reimbursed for their health insurance. Mr. McCann said he would get the figures and that they are paid directly to selectperson in a separate check.

MOTION: Paula Wood To hold this account
Second: Richard Maguire until the questions can
Abstain: Richard McCann be answered.
Motion passed.

TOWN MANAGER - 120

Scott Dunn was present for this budget.

Mrs. Weare questioned the increase in audit services. Mr. Dunn explained the reason for the increase.

Mrs. Wood questioned the increase in dues and membership costs. Mr. Dunn said he had given the committee a handout on Monday addressing the increases. Line 110 - indicates a 3% increase but shows the overall increase from 2007 until now. Line 112 - shows no part-time employee but there is an increase in the full-time employee line to cover that one employee. The employee was made full-time by a motion of the selectmen. Mr. Maguire asked if the selectmen have the authority to do that. Mrs. Wood asked what the cost of the health insurance is for this new employee. Mr. McCann said it depends on the plan the employee chooses.

Mr. Eaton asked if the employee was let go would it create a new position. Mr. McCann said no the duration employee would be let go if the employee comes back who has been out on leave.

Mrs. Stockbridge questioned the new employee under the town manager and the fact that the work needed to get done and because she would be working for a period of time the selectmen determined it should be full-time.

Mrs. Stockbridge asked for an explanation on the printing increase. Mr. Dunn said it includes the town report and the town code. He said the update done last year on the code had errors and we additional copies of the codebooks and that is included in the increase.

Mrs. Wood questioned the equipment rental. Mr. Dunn said it is the lease payment for the copier that includes a network printer and will save the town money in the long run.

Mrs. Stockbridge questioned the recruiting costs. Mr. Dunn said his staff does all recruiting. Engineering services - Mr. Dunn said he is looking into having an air quality study done at the town hall.

Mr. Eaton questioned the deferred compensation. Mr. Dunn said it is for the new full-time employee who is now entitled to this benefit.

Mrs. Wood said the DRA had turned down the request for funds for the air quality study so why not propose a warrant article. Mr. Dunn said he does not feel it is at the level to have to request a special article.

Mr. Maguire said he had asked before if there is a specific dollar amount to go to a warrant article and he was told no

Mrs. Weare asked what new equipment might be purchased. Mr. Dunn said it is there just in case.

Mrs. Wood questioned the advertising expenses. Mr. Dunn said it was level funded.

Mrs. Weare questioned the finance charges and late fees. Mr. Dunn said it would be paid out of the line if needed.

Mrs. Stockbridge asked what the rate is for mileage. Mr. Dunn said it is 50.5 cents. He receives a flat rate of \$200 per month. The remaining money would be for staff. Mrs. Wood asked if the \$200 was part of his contract. Mr. Dunn said no but it is a separate agreement he has with the selectmen. Mr. McCann said it appears as though the previous town manager did not put in for mileage as no money was expended in previous years.

MOTION: Paula Wood To remove \$2500 from
Second: Ivan Eaton line 740.

Mr. McCann asked what would happen if the secretary's computer goes and they cannot purchase another how does the work get done. Mrs. Wood commented it could be found if needed. She said they have always asked for an explanation and there is no "what-if" account.

Abstain: Ivan Eaton
Opposed: Aboul Khan
Cora Stockbridge
Richard McCann
Jason Janvrin
Richard Maguire

Motion denied.

MOTION: Michelle Heywood To approve the figure
Second: Aboul Khan of \$542,254.00.
Abstain: Ivan Eaton
Present: Richard Maguire
Opposed: Jason Janvrin
Paula Wood

Motion passed.

RISK MANAGEMENT - 121

Mr. Dunn said the new figures are calculated in the account.

Mr. Maguire asked about Primex's report at the selectmen's meeting. Mr. Dunn said they are taking it seriously and working aggressively to make it a safe environment for the employees.

He agreed that the town does have a lot of filings.

Mrs. Stockbridge commented about how rude the Primex representatives were at the meeting. She asked if the 3rd party reimbursements come back to the town. Mr. Dunn said they have been told it does.

MOTION: Jason Janvrin To approve the figure
Second: Paula Wood of \$522,882.00.
Unanimous

LEGAL SERVICES - 122

Mr. Janvrin questioned the decrease. Mr. Dunn said based on past year's expenditures.

MOTION: Jason Janvrin To approve the figure
Second: Michelle Heywood of \$100,000.00.
Unanimous

COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY - 180

Mr. Janvrin questioned line 342. It is a lump sum paid for the entire town. Munismart is available to all departments.

MOTION: Jason Janvrin To approve the figure
Second: Michelle Heywood of \$42,000.00.
Unanimous

CHANNEL 22 - 181

Mr. Janvrin commented about the need for new equipment. He said it is not good business practice to ask the police & fire chief to turn off their cell phones when attending meetings. Mr. Dunn said the money would do in a pinch.

Mr. Khan asked about the beach meetings being televised in the future. Mr. Dunn said there are no funds in the budget to allow for this but it could be looked into for future budgets. Mrs. Stockbridge said the next logical place should be the community center as we hold a lot of the functions there.

Mr. Maguire asked how much money goes into the scholarship fund. Mr. McCann said they are looking into re-opening the contract to negotiate with Comcast. Mr. Dunn just under \$11K goes into scholarships.

MOTION: Jason Janvrin To approve the figure of
Second: Paula Wood \$5,000.00.
Unanimous

TOWN HALL - 510

Mr. Maguire questioned line 210 and if it possibly went from a single to two person plan. Mr. Dunn explained the new law and said it is a taxable benefit to the employee so they do end up paying something.

Mr. Janvrin asked about medical supplies and safety equipment. Mr. Dunn explained the differences.

Mr. Maguire questioned the large increase in line 111 from 2005 to 2006. Mrs. Stockbridge said it might have been a leave of absence of the employee. The increase for 2008 is a step increase.

Mr. Eaton said line 740 has no justification and it looks like a slush fund.

Mr. Janvrin said line 651 was over budget in 2007 but was cut in 2008. Mr. Dunn said at the time the budget was prepared he did not have the end of year figures.

MOTION: Ivan Eaton To approve the figure of
Second: Jason Janvrin \$120,352.00.
Opposed: Paula Wood
Present: Richard Maguire

SANBORN SCHOOL - 513

Mrs. Stockbridge questioned the account and said in the past we have always done the repairs per the lease with a warrant article if needed. She also said she does not believe the selectmen voted this account. Mrs. Stockbridge is concerned with making this a regular line item and the budget growing. Mr. McCann said that the selectmen voted the bottom line budget with this account included.

Mrs. Wood asked for an explanation as to why there was no individual action by the selectmen. Mr. McCann said the smaller accounts were done by bottom line vote because of the pressing time. Mrs. Stockbridge commented on the time and meetings by the selectmen and doesn't believe it was crunch time. She said they still have not recommended the warrant articles. The deadline for the money articles is January 15. The selectmen have a meeting posted for January 15 on the bond and could do the articles then.

Mr. Dunn said the money articles have been given to the selectmen and they have up until the warrant is posted to make final decisions.

Mrs. Stockbridge read RSA 32:17 regarding the legal requirement of the selectmen to get information to the budget committee.

Mr. Janvrin said he would like to see the selectmen's recommendations before the committee makes recommendations. Mr. McCann said he would take this to the other members and they could have a special meeting to vote prior to the public hearing.

Mrs. Stockbridge asked if the town came to agreements on the union contracts. She said they must be voted on or they cannot go on the ballot.

MOTION: Jason Janvrin To reduce account 513
Second: Paula Wood to \$1.00.

Mr. Janvrin said they may have an expenditure but if needed they can pull from another budget to accommodate.

Opposed: Richard McCann
Ivan Eaton
Peg Weare

Motion passed.

DEBT - 800

Mrs. Stockbridge questioned the note. Mr. Dunn said it was for the \$462K bond and it will be paid in 5 years.

MOTION: Jason Janvrin To approve the figure of
Second: Paula Wood \$99,320.00.
Unanimous

BUDGET COMMITTEE - 112

MOTION: Jason Janvrin To approve the figure of
Second: Michelle Heywood \$2,129.00.
Opposed: Richard Maguire
Present: Cora Stockbridge
Motion passed.

BEACH PRECINCT

Mr. Maguire went over the proposed budget. There are 4 sources of revenue. He emphasized the beach district is self-sustained and the real estate tax is only for the people who live within the beach district.

MOTION: Jason Janvrin To approve the beach
Second: Richard McCann district budget.

