

TOWN OF SEABROOK

BUDGET MEETING

JUNE 26, 2008

Present: Paula Wood  
Peg Weare  
Richard Maguire  
Ivan Eaton  
Don Hawkins  
Brendan Kelly

6:00PM

Mrs. Wood opened the meeting at 6:15PM.

Mrs. Wood read her letter into the record regarding the letters of interest for the vacancy and the policy that has now been set by the committee. She said past practice has always been to fill with the first letter of interest received.

Mr. Maguire spoke of his comments made at the last meeting. He said he was unaware of the member's relations with individuals employed by the town. He said he would not recuse himself but would explain the vote when it comes to that.

Mrs. Heywood said she had submitted a letter at the last meeting to be read on her behalf and she was disappointed that it was not read. She said of all the boards she has sat on they usually take all the letters and review. They don't take the first one and appoint the person.

There was general discussion over the appointments of last year when there were 2 vacancies. There was no deadline as to when the position closed.

Mr. Eaton said it has always been past practice to accept the first letter of interest and that is still his opinion on how to proceed.

Mr. Kelly said just because you did something in the past doesn't mean it is the right way. He brought up the way the town manager was interviewed and hired. Mr. Eaton commented that hiring a town manager is different. You need to have qualifications there are no qualifications to be a budget committee member.

Mrs. Wood asked how do you determine qualifications and who would make those decisions.

Mrs. Weare said not necessarily qualifications but diversity that make a committee as long as they have the best interest of the town.

Mr. Maguire suggested they find out if the committee wishes to fill the position, read the letters of interest and then give the candidates an opportunity to make any additional comments they would like.

MOTION: Richard Maguire To fill the vacant  
Second: Don Hawkins position.  
Unanimous

MOTION: Paula Wood To appoint the person  
Second: Ivan Eaton who submitted the first  
Opposed: Michelle Heywood letter of interest.  
Don Hawkins  
Brendan Kelly  
Richard Maguire  
Peg Weare  
Motion denied.

MOTION: Ivan Eaton To postpone indefinitely  
Second: Paula Wood and let the voters in  
Opposed: Don Hawkins March decide.  
Richard Maguire  
Brendan Kelly  
Motion passed 4-3.

Mrs. Heywood suggested they establish a process so if this were to happen again. Mrs. Wood said before making processes she would like to look further to see if there is a process and/or guidelines.

MOTION: Ivan To nominate Paula  
Wood as chair.  
Motion denied no second.

MOTION: Richard Maguire To nominate Don  
Second: Brendan Kelly Hawkins as chair.  
Opposed: Ivan Eaton  
Paula Wood  
Motion passed 5-2.

Mr. Kelly said they have a new chairman and thanked Paula Wood for her years as serving as chair. Mrs. Wood commented the committee wanted to appoint the most qualified person to the committee but did not choose the most qualified as chair.

MOTION: Brendan Kelly To nominate Ivan Eaton  
as vice-chair.  
Mr. Eaton declined.

MOTION: Richard Maguire To nominate Peg Weare  
Second: Brendan Kelly as vice-chair.  
Opposed: Paula Wood  
Abstain: Ivan Eaton  
Motion passed 5-2.

MOTION: Ivan Eaton To adopt the minutes of  
Second: Richard Maguire May 29, 2008.  
Abstain: Don Hawkins  
Michelle Heywood  
Motion passed 5-2.

MOTION: Richard Maguire To adopt the minutes of  
Second: Brendan Kelly June 9, 2008 with  
Abstain: Paula Wood changes.  
Michelle Heywood  
Motion passed 5-2.

Mrs. Wood said there was questions raised at the last meeting regarding the emergency funding and wondered if the selectmen's representative had any information to share with the committee.

Curtis Slayton and Rick Davee (Wright-Pierce) were present for discussion. Mr. Davee said there is a general easement but it is not very explicit with what rights we have. He said D.O.T. would not dig up the pavement and would not allow us to do that either.

Mr. Aboul Khan wanted to speak from the audience. Mrs. Wood said she is concerned with having 2 selectmen present to speak without it being posted. Mr. Eaton agreed and said it should have been planned in advance. Mr. Kelly said he had to leave to go to work and that Mr. Khan could take his seat. (Mr. Kelly left the meeting at this time).

Mr. Slayton checked into the mutual aid with surrounding towns for the use of water and said we do have a verbal agreement with the Town of Salisbury.

MOTION: Richard Maguire To allow Aboul Khan to  
Second: Michelle Heywood sit as the selectmen's  
Opposed: Paula Wood representative.  
Ivan Eaton  
Motion passed 5-2.

Mr. Khan explained where the break is in the main. He commented that you fix a 10-year old pipe but you replace a 50-year old pipe.

Mr. Slayton said they have put together some options for the committee to look at (see memo attached). Mr. Davee explained each option. He said if option 4 did not work there are additional options that are more costly. He also commented that they did look at other options that were not feasible. Mr. Davee recommends the last 2 options, as the first 2 would be a waste of money in his opinion.

Mrs. Wood said she is concerned with the easement and DRA. She recommends they leave until the vote in March.

Mr. Hawkins is concerned with the timing but agrees it does need to be done. He is also concerned that the state is blocking options for the town that are less costly. Mr. Hawkins said the committee is responsible for making a recommendation of utilizing the money but not to choose which option.

Mr. Eaton said he does not feel it is an emergency and agrees it should go to the voters in March.

Mr. Slayton explained how the water system feeds the water through town. He feels we should do whatever possible to repair, as you cannot predict the future.

Mrs. Wood explained that it could take months before getting an answer from DRA and that it may be quicker to wait until March.

MOTION: Aboul B. Khan To send recommendation  
Second: Richard Maguire to DRA to utilize option  
4 for repairs to the  
water main.

Mr. Maguire asked if the selectmen have taken a position as to what option they would like to pursue. The selectmen are taking the department head and town manager's recommendation and both have said option 4. Mr. Slayton explained why they chose option 4 over option 3.

Mrs. Wood clarified the selectmen are not asking for \$235K but \$250K that includes a contingency fund. She asked Mr. Khan how the selectmen had looked over the other options when the information was only available today. Mr. Khan explained the information came from the town manager and department head and they had looked at options 3 and 4.

MOTION: Aboul B. Khan To amend previous motion  
Second: Richard Maguire to \$250K and option 4.

Mrs. Heywood said she believes you need to take a vote on the first motion before amending.

Mr. Khan withdrew his motion and Mr. Maguire withdrew his second.

<u>MOTION:</u>	Aboul B. Khan	To send the selectmen's
Second:	Richard Maguire	request of \$250K to DRA.
Opposed:	Paula Wood	
	Ivan Eaton	

Motion passed 5-2.

Mrs. Wood said she still has not received confirmation from D.O.T. that the work can be done.

Mr. Khan will bring to the town manager's attention that the committee is still requesting a letter from D.O.T. stating they would not allow us to dig the pavement and clarification on what the easement would allow and not allow.

Mrs. Wood explained HB1408 that goes into effect on July 1, 2008. She said any email between committee members would now have to be part of the public records. She suggested no longer using email as one member is left out due to not having email. Mr. Hawkins does not have a problem with email but cautioned everyone should be mindful of all members.

Next meeting is scheduled for July 24 at 6PM.

<u>MOTION:</u>	Richard Maguire	To adjourn the meeting
Second:	Michelle Heywood	at 8:15PM.
Unanimous		

Meeting adjourned at 8:15PM.  
Minutes taken by Kelly J. O'Connor

Approved and endorsed:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Don Hawkins, Chairman

Date: \_\_\_\_\_