



APPROVED
01/25/2021

**BUDGET COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 13, 2020
5:00 PM**

Present: Sallie Wilder, Becky Ketchum, Melannie Keister, Lindsey Lynch, Kay Laney, Tara Desroches

Others Present: Town Manager Richard LaBelle, Fire Chief David Jones, Fire Captain Todd Pineo, Firefighter Aaron Gordon

1. Call to Order; Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 PM by Chair Becky Ketchum.

2. Discussion/Action on December 30, 2019 Minutes

Vice Chair Laney made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 30, 2019 meeting minutes. Seconded by Lindsey Lynch. Motion Passed.

3. Review Proposed 2020 Budget

Warrant Articles:

REMOVAL OF SPEED HUMP: Kay Laney made a motion to pass, Lindsey Lynch seconded the motion. 5-1 AGAINST approval (Lynch in favor; Desroches, Keister, Ketchum, Laney, Wilder opposed).

BACKHOE PURCHASE: Lindsey Lynch made a motion to pass, Tara Deroches seconded the motion. Motion Passed.

RESIDENT SAND: Melannie Keister made a motion to pass, Lindsey Lynch seconded the motion. Motion Passed.

BALLFIELD DRAINAGE CONSTRUCTION: Kay Laney made a motion to pass, Becky Ketchum seconded the motion. Motion Passed.

The three representatives of the fire department presented the budget and answered questions from the committee.

*Rebecca Ketchum, Chair • Kay Laney, Vice Chair •
Melannie Keister, Secretary • Tara Desroches • Lindsey Lynch • Sara Wilder*

FULL-TIME FIREFIGHTER PROPOSAL: Kay Laney made a motion to pass, Melannie Keister seconded the motion. 4:2 IN FAVOR of approval (Keister, Ketchum, Laney, Lynch in favor, Desroches, Wilder opposed).

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Kay Laney made a motion to approve the budget in the amount of \$115,934.60, Lindsey Lynch seconded the motion, motion passed.

CAPITAL RESERVES: Becky Ketchum made a motion to approve the fire department lines in the amount of \$60,000, Lindsey Lynch seconded the motion, motion passed.

The committee thanked the firefighters for their time.

CAPITAL RESERVES Becky Ketchum made a motion to approve the budget in the amount of \$138,700, Melannie Keister seconded the motion, motion passed 5-1 (Keister, Ketchum, Laney, Lynch, Wilder in favor; Desroches opposed).

CONTIGNENCY: Melannie Keister made a motion to approve the budget in the amount of \$10,000, Lindsey Lynch seconded the motion, motion passed.

ROADS: Melannie Keister made a motion to approve the budget in the amount of \$560,000, Becky Ketchum seconded the motion, motion passed 5-1 (Keister, Ketchum, Laney, Lynch, Wilder in favor; Desroches opposed).

The committee had a discussion about the town manager's salary, wages compared to other comparable size towns, and roles/responsibilities. The majority of the committee feels that, as a town, we need to retain good talent and feel that the board of selectmen should reopen the Town Manager's current contract. The Town Manager has worked above and beyond for the best interest of the Town. He has increased revenue in several areas and worked with the board of selectmen and budget committee to keep expenses down to almost a ten-year low.

ADMINISTRATION: Lindsey Lynch made a motion to increase the town manager's salary line to \$80,000, Tara Deroches seconded the motion, motion passed, 5-1 (Desroches, Keister, Ketchum, Laney, Lynch in favor, Wilder opposed). Becky Ketchum made a motion to approve the budget in the amount of \$354,725, Lindsey Lynch seconded the motion, motion passed, 5-1 (Desroches, Keister, Ketchum, Laney, Lynch in favor, Wilder opposed).

The committee discussed revisiting the elected officials' budget; the budget was not reopened.

REVENUES: Becky Ketchum made a motion to approve the budget in the amount of \$1,301,369, Melannie Keister seconded the motion, motion passed.

4. Other Business

None.

5. Set Next Meeting

Winter of 2020, unless the Board of Selectmen forward any other unanticipated items.

6. Adjournment

Chair Ketchum adjourned the meeting at 8:15 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Melannie Keister
Secretary