

BUDGET COMMITTEE

FEBRUARY 6, 2007

MEMORIAL BUILDING

7:00 P.M.

PUBLIC HEARING

Present: B. Manning, Rick Kidder, Ken Jacques, Don Garlock, Jon Poston, Doug George, Bill Sullivan and Darrin Patten. **Absent:** John Trachy.

Selectmen present: Bob Anderson, Neal Huntoon, and George McCusker.

Also in attendance: Brad Butcher, Karen Cook, Tim Julian, Dick Kipperman, and Dallas Patten.

Minutes: Ken moved to accept the January 30, 2007 minutes as submitted, seconded by Jon and unanimously approved.

Revenue and Fund Balance Surplus:

The Board reviewed and discussed estimated revenue figures.

Review of unreserved fund balance information. B. stated if the Board wished to consider requesting an amount from fund balance to off set appropriations that would have to be voted on tonight. The Board agreed it should be maintained and used by the Selectmen if needed to offset taxes.

Warrant Articles:

Article 8

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the selectmen to enter into a 4 (four) year lease agreement for the purpose of leasing a police cruiser for the Police Department, and to raise and appropriate the sum of Seven Thousand Six Hundred Twenty Four dollars (\$7,624) for the first year's payment for that purpose. This lease agreement contains an escape clause.

The Board agreed to hold off on discussion relative to proposed article 8 until discussion of the Police Department Budget.

Article 9

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate sum of Nine Thousand Seven Hundred Forty Dollars (\$9,740) or as amended, for the purpose of contracting for a Wetlands and Natural Resources Inventory of the Town This appropriation may be offset by grants.

Article 9: Jon Poston moved to recommend, seconded by Don Garlock and unanimously approved.

Article 10

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000) to complete Phase I of the basketball/skateboard park project. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7 VI and will not lapse until Phase I is completed or by December 31, 2009, whichever is sooner.

Don Garlock moved to recommend, seconded by Bill Sullivan and unanimously approved.

Article 14

To see if the municipality will vote to raise and appropriate the budget committee recommended sum of One Million Seventy Six Thousand Four Hundred Fifty Nine Dollars (\$1,076,459) or as amended for general municipal operations. This article does not include special or individual articles addressed.

Ken Jacques moved to recommend the Operating Budget as presented, seconded by Rick Kidder and unanimously approved.

Return to Article 8.

There was no further discussion regarding Article 8. The Board voted unanimously to recommend.

Budget Review:

Fire/Rescue Dispatch:

The Board asked Dallas for information regarding dispatching for Hanover and New London Dispatch. Dallas reported that Rescue is dispatched out of New London because they work closely with New London Ambulance. Hanover dispatches for fire and they also dispatch when the fire department is asked to assist rescue. There have been delays between the time that a request is made for an assist and the actual time a call is made to Hanover Dispatch for them to tone out the call. There is risk of a delay in calling out rescue separate from dispatching New London Ambulance.

Highway Capital Improvements:

The Board asked Brad to look into the costs of some of the Highway Capital Improvement projects he has scheduled.

Summer Camp Wages:

Bob discussed with the Board that most likely there will not be the need to appropriate from the operating budget wages for the summer camp. This should be covered with the revolving fund account.

Don Garlock moved to recommend the Operating Budget, seconded by Jon and unanimously approved.

Ken Jacques stated that it made sense to keep the tax rate stable by using unreserved fund balance.

B. commended everyone for their work on the budget.

Thank you goes to Don Garlock for his many years of service as a Budget Committee Member. He will not be running for re-election following the completion of this term in March.

With no further business, Jon Poston moved to adjourn at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Janet Roberts,
Recording Secretary