



BUDGET COMMITTEE

Town of Hollis

Seven Monument Square
Hollis, New Hampshire 03049
Ph. 465-2209 Fax 465-3701

Minutes of October 8, 2019

Meeting was held in the Community Room, Hollis Town Hall. The Budget Committee was called to order by Tom Gehan at 7:01 PM.

Members present: Tom Gehan, Chairman; Chris Hyde; Tom Jambard; Mike Leavitt; Mark LeDoux, Select Board Representative; Tammy Fareed, School Board Representative

Members not present: Mike Harris; Darlene Mann

Others present: Rachael Gosselin, Finance Officer; Amy Rowe, Former SAU41 Assistant Superintendent currently consulting; Kelly Sealy, SAU41 Business Administrator

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Review/Acceptance of Meeting Minutes

September 10, 2019 Draft Budget Committee Minutes

MOVED by Tom Jambard to accept the minutes as presented, seconded by Chris Hyde. Voting in favor of the motion were Tom Gehan, Chris Hyde, Tom Jambard, Mike Leavitt. Tammy Fareed and Mark LeDoux abstained. The motion PASSED 4-0-2.

Public Input

Jim Belanger spoke to the board about reviving the Capital Needs Committee.

School Report

Special Education Update

A. Rowe distributed a Special Education update. Discussed legal requirements of accepting IEPs (Individual Education Program) of students who move into the district. Detailed the increased request for participation in extracurricular activities, the increase in medically complicated students, and the change in preschool population. Provided student population data. Explained Medicaid changes and the financial impact to the district.

Questions and input from *C. Hyde, M. LeDoux, T. Fareed, and T. Gehan.*

FY19 Year-end School Financial Report

T. Gehan reminded everyone that the school year fiscal year runs July 1- June 30.

K. Sealy presented the 2019 year-end fiscal update, reported that \$82k will be returned to the taxpayers. Gave an overview of the revenue and expenses that came in over and under budget.

Questions and input from *T. Gehan, M. LeDoux, T. Fareed, and C. Hyde.*

FY20 First Quarter School Financial Update

K. Sealy presented preliminary FY20 Q1 information to the board.

Capital Improvement Plan, Barn Study, HSTEP

Prior to the meeting, *T. Gehan* distributed information received from the school board regarding HSTEP and Barn Study alternatives.

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K Sealy, M. LeDoux, C. Hyde, T. Gehan discussed the information distributed and importance of getting a finalized cost analysis on the proposed projects.

SAU41 Budget

K Sealy explained that the subcommittee met and made a recommendation to the governing board last week. Subcommittee will meet again in November and their final recommendation will go to public hearing in December.

Discussion on funding of Facilities Director position from *C. Hyde* and *T. Fareed*.

Town Report

R. Gosselin previously distributed town financial updates to board members.

M. LeDoux presented current town revenue and expenditure lines, health insurance cost changes, and bond refinancing options. Highlighted the need to start thinking about the impending expense of a ladder truck 5 years from now. Discussed proposed changes in Police Budget.

M. LeDoux gave a PSNH abatement update. The town could potentially be on the hook to rebate Eversource up to \$1mil for tax years 2014-2016. Select Board has an offer that has been conditionally accepted to settle over a 3 year period by offering an abatement of \$489k.

Questions from *T. Gehan* and *C. Hyde*.

New Business

Discussion of Town and HSD budget guidance assumptions and biases

T. Gehan reviewed budget guidance assumptions and biases established last year, asked the board if there were any questions or proposed modifications to this list.

Discussion from *M. LeDoux, T. Fareed, and T. Gehan*.

Town- preliminary budget guidance discussion and determination

T. Gehan reviewed 2019 Preliminary Town Guidance Spreadsheet. Prior year guidance base was \$9,352,046. The most recent regional CPI is 2%, which would equate to an increase of \$187,041. Factoring in items that are embedded in the operating budget, or fluctuate from year to year, combined with a 2% increase, results in a guidance warrant article operating budget (without relief items) of \$11,117,275.

Input and discussion from *T. Jambard, M. LeDoux, C. Hyde, and T. Gehan*.

MOVED by Chris Hyde that the Budget Committee set preliminary town budget guidance at 2%, seconded by Mike Leavitt. Voting in favor of the motion were Tom Gehan, Chris Hyde, Tom Jambard, Mike Leavitt, Tammy Fareed, Mark LeDoux. The motion PASSED 6-0-0.

School- Preliminary budget guidance discussion and determination

T. Gehan reviewed the 2019 Preliminary School Guidance Spreadsheet. Prior year guidance base was \$9,732,179, CPI increase of 2% would represent an increase of \$194,644.

Input and discussion from *T. Fareed, T. Gehan, and K. Sealy*.

MOVED by Mark LeDoux that the Budget Committee set preliminary Hollis School District guidance at 2%, seconded by Chris Hyde. Voting in favor of the motion were Tom Gehan, Chris Hyde, Tom Jambard, Mike Leavitt, Tammy Fareed, Mark LeDoux. The motion PASSED 6-0-0.

Adjournment

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MOVED by Mark LeDoux, seconded by Chris Hyde that the Budget Committee adjourn the meeting. Voting in favor of the motion were Tom Gehan, Chris Hyde, Tom Jambard, Mike Leavitt, Tammy Fareed, Mark LeDoux. The motion PASSED 6-0-0.

Meeting adjourned at 9:26pm

Budget Committee entered into a non- meeting per RSA 91-A:2,I(a) at 9:27pm

Respectfully submitted,

Camila Devlin, Tax Collector