

Budget Committee Meeting
Approved, February 3, 2018
December 7, 2017 @ 6:30 PM
Alton Town Hall
1 Monument Square, Alton, NH 03809

1. Call to order

2. Moment of Silence in recognition of December 7, Pearl Harbor.

3. Roll Call

Roger Nelson, Chairman
David Hershey, Member
Peter Leavitt, School Board Member
Andrew Levasseur, Member
Terrence O'Rourke, Member

Other: Liz Dione, Town Administrator
Ken Roberts
Chief Ryan Reynolds
Kathy O'Blenes
Pam Stiles
Kelly Troendle
Chief Ryan Heath

Absent: Reuben Wentworth, Selectmen Representative
Greg Fuller, Budget Committee Member

4. Approval of Agenda

MOTION by David Hershey to approve the Agenda as presented. Second by Andrew Levasseur.
No discussion. Motion passes with all in favor.

5. Approval of Minutes

November 30, 2017

MOTION by Terrence O'Rourke to approve the minutes of November 30, 2017 as presented.
Second by David Hershey. No discussion. Motion passes with 4 in favor. Peter Leavitt
abstained.

6. Old Business. None.

7. New Business

A. Finalize Budgets.

Alton Central School portion of the Budget.

13 Warrant Articles

1. Election Warrant. (vote 5-0)
2. Budget presented and recommendation \$15,172,402. School board already voted. (vote 5-0)
3. Collective bargaining agreement between Alton and Barnstead add money (collective bargaining)
(vote 5-0)
4. Previous article 3, if defeated.- (vote 5-0)
5. Security and Safety Expendable Trust Fund \$65,000 for asbestos projects. (vote 5-0)
6. \$66,100 for Building and Ground Expendable Trust for 10 exterior doors. (vote 5-0)
7. \$15,775 Looking at field at ACS, put in well to support irrigation.

Discussion. Quote from a year ago - entire project. Adding irrigation cost approx. just under 100,000. Cost depends on type of irrigation. Approx. total 115,000. Why do we need a field? - board not happy with the current field. Well will also be used as a backup for other purposes. Cysterns filled by Fire Department. Roger Nelson feels this is a CIP project - spread out over several years. Terrance O'Rourke suggested it all be done this year \$120,000
Agree to table Warrant Article 7.

8. \$70,000 for Boiler Capital Reserve Fund. CIP (vote 5-0)
9. \$30,000 to replace interior doors (20) (vote 5-0)
10. \$30,000 building repair and maintenance replenish account. (vote 5-0)
- 11 \$38,500 coming as interest earned. (vote 5-0)
12. \$20,000 for PHMS for athletic field tennis courts. (vote 5-0)
13. Reports of committees.

Meeting on December 14, for warrant articles. School will be on agenda first for WA #7

Terrance O'Rourke stated procedurally, motion to approve the Selectmen Budget (4130) with a second and then make recommendations from there.

MOTION by Roger Nelson to approve the 2018 Budget as presented. Second by Terrance O'Rourke.
Open Discussion.

4130

Recommendation from Roger Nelson for (4130):

Line 110, \$2,200 to \$1,000

Line 133, \$5,000 to \$4,500

Line 899, \$9,005 to \$7,500

Total \$369,114 to \$366,359 Total cut of \$2,755. Discussion. Don't feel that \$2755 has an affect on the tax dollars. Agreed to leave as is at \$369,114.

Discussion: Terrance asked if the \$7,666,011 reflect the \$5,253 increase from the Police Department increase in personnel?

MOTION by Terrance O'Rourke to amend the Budget and to add in \$5,253 for the increase in personnel to the Police Department. Second by David Hershey. No discussion. Motion 4-1
Total budget figure \$7,669,038.

Ryan Heath clarified the increase - office went to detective raise in salary, one officer went to veteran status. Officer going to patrol division and one to detective. That detective that received the pay raise it was his holiday pay raise. The one that went to the patrol had a cut in pay.

4131 Budget reduced by \$226 from \$2,002 to \$1776.

MOTION by Terrance O'Rourke to reduce the Budget Committee - Line 4131 to \$1,776, therefore reducing the Town Budget by \$226. Second by David Hershey. No discussion. Motion passes 5-0.

4132 Town Clerk/Tax Collector. MOTION by Roger Nelson to approve as submitted, \$161,246. Second by David Hershey. No discussion. Motion passes 5-0.

- 4140 Election and Registration. MOTION by Roger Nelson to approve as submitted, \$16,167. Second by David Hershey. No discussion. Motion passes 5-0.
- 4145 Computer/Telephone. MOTION by Roger Nelson to reduce this budget by \$2,000, line 540. New Total \$147699. Second by David Hershey. No discussion. Motion passes 4-1.
- 4153 Legal. MOTION by David Hershey to approve as submitted \$109,529. Second by Terrence O'Rourke. No discussion. Motion passes 5-0.
- 4155 Benefits. MOTION by David Hershey to approve as submitted \$1,348,884. Second by Terrence O'Rourke. No discussion. Motion passes 5-0.
- 4191 Planning Department. MOTION by David Hershey to approve as submitted \$123,564. Second by Terrence O'Rourke. Discussion: Roger Nelson has question on line 110 would like to cut to \$500, line 133 cut to \$2,500. Total cut of \$1,345. Motion passes 4-1.
- 4192 Code Official/Building Inspector. MOTION by David Hershey to approve as submitted \$111,225. Second by Roger Nelson. No discussion. Motion passes 5-0.
- 4193 Assessing Department. MOTION By David Hershey to approve as submitted \$145,872. Second by Terrence O'Rourke. No discussion. Motion passes 5-0.
- 4194 Parks and Recreation - Maintenance and Grounds. MOTION by Terrance O'Rourke to approve as submitted \$236,306. Second by Andrew Lvasseur. Discussion. Roger Nelson recommends the following changes: Total reduction of \$9,920. Line 016 reduce to \$40,050, Line 021 overtime reduce to \$10,500, Line 112 reduce to \$200, Line 190 reduce to \$2,500, Line 201 reduce to \$3,500, Line 303 reduce to \$7,500, Line 319 reduce to \$2,300, Line 323 reduce to \$500, Line 383 reduce to \$2,500, Line 389 reduce to \$750, Line 399 reduce to \$2,000, Line 445 reduce to \$300, Line 599 reduce to \$2500, Line 799 reduce to \$200, Line 899 reduce to \$650. Proposed new total budget \$226,404. Roger Nelson AMENDED the MOTION to propose the total \$226,404. Second by David Hershey. Discussion. Peter Leavitt suggested some lines are running close to this year. Roger Nelson noted he is basing on historical information. Peter Leavitt would to amend Line 383 to \$3,000, Line 201 to \$4,000.
CALL FOR THE QUESTION on the floor, Motion to reduce the budget by \$9,920. Motion failed 2-3.
CALL FOR THE QUESTION on original motion to Accept as presented at \$236,306. Motion passes 3-2.
- 4195 Cemetary. MOTION by Roger Nelson to approve as submitted \$61,553. Second by Terrance O'Rourke. Discussion: Roger Nelson recommends reducing Line 016 Parttme bottom line to \$15,000, Total \$55,498. AMENDED MOTION by Roger Nelson to accept amended budget of \$55,498. Second by David Hershey. Motion failed 2-3.
CALL TO THE QUESTION on the original motion by \$61,553. Motion passes 3-2.
- 4196 Insurance. MOTION by Roger Nelson to approve as submitted \$288,721. Second by Terrance O'Rourke. No discussion. Motion pasoses 5-0.
- 4199 Audio/Visual Meeting Equipment. MOTION by Roger Nelson to approve as submitted \$3,500. Second by Terrance O'Rourke. No discussion. Motion passes 5-0.

4210 Police Department. Line 185 add \$5,253. MOTION by David Hershey to approved as amended \$1,190,991. Second by Terrance O'Rourke. No discussion. Motion passes 5-0.

4220 Fire Department. MOTION by Terrence O'Rourke to approve as submitted \$854,060. Second by Andrew Levasseur. Discussion. Roger Nelson question on amount of additional salary, additional for equipment, doesn't think we can afford the additional. Do surrounding towns have full-time chiefs? Ryan Ridley stated most do. Increase for having trained person in the station, i.e., tomorrow no coverage, this adding chief to full time will help this coverage. Suggestion for raising night coverage as well. AMENDED MOTION by David Hershey to reduce Line 016 by \$50,000 Part-time wages total \$804,060. Second by Peter Leavitt. Discussion. Terrence O'Rourke is not in agreement - reducing salaries not an answer - due to senior citizen population, it's not good. Not in favor. Andrew Levasseur agrees with Terrance O'Rourke, Peter Leavitt also agrees. Peter Leavitt stated this Department has been going on for so long in the wrong direction. Feels this is another step in the wrong direction. Roger Nelson would like to see this spread out in a two year period. Motion failed. 2-3.
CALL FOR THE QUESTION on original motion \$854,060. Motion passes 3-2.

4290 Emergency Management. MOTION by Roger Nelson to approve as submitted \$4,002. Second by Terrence O'Rourke. No discussion. Motion passes 5-0.

4312 Highway Department. MOTION by Roger Nelson to approve as submitted \$1,181,569. Second by Terrence O'Rourke. No discussion. Motion passes 5-0.

4316 Street Lights. MOTION by Roger Nelson to approve as submitted \$33,000. Second by Terrence O'Rourke. No discussion. Motion passes 5-0.

4324 Solid Waste Operation. MOTION by David Hershey to approve as submitted \$481,834. Second by Terrance O'Rourke. No discussion. Motion passes 5-0.

4326 HHW Program. MOTION by David Hershey to approve as submitted \$19,947. Second by Terrence O'Rourke. Discussion. Roger Nelson suggests to reduce to \$18,000. AMENDED MOTION by Roger Nelson to approve as amended \$18,000. Second by David Hershey. No discussion. Motion failed 2-3.
CALL FOR THE QUESTION on original motion for \$19,947. Motion passes 3-2.

4331 Water Department. MOTION by Roger Nelson to approved as submitted \$417,266. Second by Terrence O'Rourke. Discussion. Roger Nelson does not feel the need for additional person. Question if 100% is covered by water fees? Liz Dione stated this department is only governed separately. Water Commission is the governing body of the department. Vote 4-1.

4414 Animal Control - Now under Police Department.

4442 Welfare Department. MOTION by Terrence O'Rourke to approve as submitted \$67,000. Second by Andrew Levasseur. Discussion. Roger Nelson feels it should be reduced by \$7,000. Total \$60,000. AMENDED MOTION by Roger Nelson Motion to amend the total \$60,000. Second by Terrence O'Rourke. Discussion. Terrence O'Rourke would oppose this as homeless increase 6.6 % in this state, Liz Dione stated increase in welfare clients coming in to town hall. Motion recinded. Motion passes 3-2.

4520 Recreation - MOTION by David Hershey to approve as submitted \$110,715. Second by Terrence O'Rourke. No discussion. Motion passes 4-1.

4550 Library. MOTION by Terrence O'Rourke to approve as submitted \$140,560. Second by David Hershey. No discussion. Motion passes 5-0.

4575 Gilman Museum. MOTION by Terrance O'Rourke to approve as submitted \$6,705. Second by David Hershey. No discussion. Motion passes 5-0.

4583 Patriotic Purposes. MOTION by David Hershey to approve as submitted \$21,000. Second by Terrence O'Rourke. No discussion. Motion passes 5-0.

4612 Conservation Commission. MOTION by Terrence O'Rourke to approve as submitted \$15,232. Second by Andrew Levasseur. No discussion. Motion passes. 5-0.

4723 Interest Short Term. MOTION by Terrance O'Rourke to approve as submitted \$1. Second by Andrew Levasseur. No discussion. Motion passes 5-0.

AMENDED MOTION by Terrance O'Rourke submit that the total new total for the town of Alton for 2018 is \$7,666,283. Second by David Hershey. No discussion. Motion passes 4-1.

8. Other Business

Additional meeting added on Thur. 12/14 at 6:30 p.m. for warrant articles for the town.

10. Adjourn. MOTION to adjourn at 7:50 pm. Second by Peter Leavitt 7:51. No discussion. Motion passes with all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Carolyn Schaeffner, Recording Secretary