

Town of Alton
Budget Committee Meeting
Town Hall Meeting Room
August 19, 2015
Minutes
Approved September 16, 2015

I. Call to Order 6:30pm

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Roll Call

Andy McLeod, Chairman
Roger Nelson, Vice Chairman
Terence O'Rourke, Member
Steve Miller, School Board Representative
R. Virgil MacDonald, Selectmen's Representative

IV. Approval of Agenda

R. Nelson motioned to accept the agenda as presented and was seconded by T. O'Rourke with all in favor.

V. Public Input I

None

Public Input I closed

VI. New Business

A. Interview Potential Budget Committee Members

Marc DeCoff addressed the Budget Committee expressing his interest in joining the Budget Committee. He provided the Committee with a history of his service to the town.

Mr. DeCoff answered numerous questions presented to him by members of the Committee.

S. Miller stated that he has served with M. DeCoff and found that M. DeCoff was one of the most fair and objective people that he has served with. S. Miller stated even when we disagreed M. DeCoff is his own man and he does not have an agenda. He is a zero budget person. He does not come fixated. V. MacDonald agreed and stated that M. DeCoff is not manipulated, makes up his own mind and did a great job on the Budget Committee.

A. McLeod motioned to consider all three candidates, Marc DeCoff, Greg Fuller and David Hershey and to open it for discussion and was seconded by R. Nelson.

Discussion

S. Miller motioned to appoint Marc DeCoff as a Budget Committee Member and was seconded by V. MacDonald. The Budget Committee voted 3-2 with A. McLeod and R. Nelson voting against.

T. O'Rourke motioned to appoint David Hershey as a Budget Committee Member.

Discussion

The Committee voted 3-2 with V. MacDonald and R. Nelson voting against.

The next meeting will not be scheduled at this time. The Town Administrator E. Russell Bailey is currently preparing the Town budget meeting schedule for all departments.

B. Discussion of Non-Profit Sub-Committee Findings

A. McLeod informed the Committee that a subcommittee will be created and made up of two Budget Committee members, two Selectmen and a Trustee of the Trust Funds member to meet and discuss the nonprofit organizations that come to the Town every year. The motivation is to have a firmer vetting process. We are going to request that they provide audits of all monies that come through their organization. How much money comes through Alton and how much money comes back to Alton? We are also motivated strongly to create a single warrant article with a bottom line number with a list of every single organization requesting and the amount they are requesting. During the Deliberative session it will streamline the process but at the same time allowing line by line editing and the modification of the bottom line.

Discussion

S. Miller stated he would like to ask the non-profits for the last three years, what was the date that the organizations requested their check.

Mr. Hershey arrived at 6:50pm and addressed the Committee and gave them a history of his prior public service and expressing his desire to serve on the Budget Committee.

Mr. Hershey answered numerous questions presented to him by members of the Committee. A. McLeod informed Mr. Hershey that he had been voted in as a member of the Budget Committee

There was a discussion on what nights the Committee members meetings would be held on.

VII. **Public Input II**

None

Public Input II closed

VIII. **Old Business**

S. Miller provided the Committee with the end of year School Administrative Revenue reports and informed the Committee that it is not final and has not been voted on by the School Board as not all of the bills have been received. There will be around a \$200,000.00 in surplus generated from savings on fuel and salaries. He also provided the Chairman with a copy of the Audit and stated it was very clean.

S. Miller stated there were no funds remaining for the Fire Suppression Warrant Article. After the cistern was filled the School was billed for the water used to fill the cistern. There is about \$3,000.00 remaining in the construction budget and the school will open on time.

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A. Meeting Minutes Review of July 15, 2015

R. Nelson motioned to approve the minutes as presented and was seconded by V. MacDonald. The Committee voted 4-0-1 to approve with V. MacDonald abstaining.

X. Other Business

The next meeting has not been scheduled at this time.

X. Adjourn

R. Nelson motioned to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by V. MacDonald with all in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 7:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Peggy Hawksley

Budget Committee Secretary

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