

**Budget Committee Meeting**  
**APPROVED Minutes (approved 11/1/2018)**  
**October 25, 2018 @ 6:30 PM**  
**Alton Town Hall**  
**1 Monument Square**  
**Alton, NH 03809**

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1. **Call to order** at 6:30 pm by Roger Nelson.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance**

3. **Roll Call**

Roger Nelson, Chairman  
Reuben Wentworth, Board of Selectmen Representative  
Patrick O'Brien, Member  
David Hershey, Member  
Karen Kharitonov, School Board Representative

Liz Dione, Town Administrator

Absent:

Greg Fuller, Member  
Beth Varney, Member

4. **Approval of Agenda**

MOTION by R. Nelson to approve the Agenda as presented. Second by P. O'Brien. No discussion. Motion passes with all in favor.

5. **Approval of Minutes of September 12, 2018**

MOTION by D. Hershey to approve the Minutes of September 12, 2018 as presented. Second by R. Nelson. No discussion. Motion passes with 2 in favor and 3 Abstentions.

6. **Old Business**

**Update on David Hershey's Project** - D. Hershey is working on gathering information to present and will let R. Nelson know when it is ready to be presented to the Budget Committee.

7. **New Business**

1. **Review of Department Budgets with Department Heads**

a) **HHW (4326) - Represented by Liz Dione.**

R. Nelson noted line 134 - do they get a grant? Not reflected on the budget.

L. Dione noted \$69,136 is contractual between Alton and Wolfeboro with Alton paying 30%.

b) **IT(4145) - No representation. To be rescheduled.**

c) **Conservation Commission (4612) - No representation. To be rescheduled.**

d) **Solid Waste (4324) Represented by Scott Simonds**

R. Nelson - 2017 feels the increase on payroll is excessive.

R. Nelson - Line 304. 7 year average \$15, budgeted \$750.

S. Simonds - Line in for emergencies ie. a burner breaks down.

R. Nelson - Line 401 for waste oil removal - nothing spent.

S. Simonds noted for contaminated oil.

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- R. Nelson asked why \$1 budgeted?
  - S. Simonds noted taking items out of General budget to a revolving account.
  - K. Kharitonov asked what makes up the increase in the wages.
  - S. Simonds Cola and merit. Merit is depending on evaluation.
  - R. Nelson noted cola is 2% and merit is 3%.
  - D. Hershey asked about Lines 415 416.
  - S. Simonds noted moved to revolving fund. Currently in the revolving fund \$345360. Received \$97,000 far this year for recyclables
  - R. Wentworth noted funds used from Revolving fund i.e. when bailer broke down the money used for new bailer came from Revolving Fund.
  - P. O'Brien asked if lines reduced to \$1 will that sustain the budget.
  - R. Nelson noted his appreciation of 5% reduction in budget.
  - K. Kharitonov - what else is revolving used for.
  - S. Simonds noted anything used toward recycling, equipment, advertisement to promote recycling.

- e) **Fire (4220) - Chief James Beaudoin.**
- R. Nelson feels budget reflecting increase/feels unfair for taxpayers in this town. Line 15-21 excessive. Line 110 - meetings and conf. \$4000
  - J. Beaudoin noted they are sending 2 people to a national conference. Chief knows this is a great increase and but feels it is important for the Department and Town.
  - R. Nelson noted Lines 24 and 25 - special duty pay. Spent \$1200
  - J. Beaudoin noted set up for reimbursement so the state forest can be reimbursed.
  - P. O'Brien asked does it go back to the line item or general fund?
  - L. Dione answered goes back to the account.
  - R. Wentworth noted the Fire Department does not have a revolving fund.
  - R. Nelson on Line 113 - spent \$1825 and budget \$9400.
  - J. Beaudoin noted for training, important need for training.
  - R. Nelson felt there was overfunded more than level funded last year.
  - J. Beaudoin added also for old equipment that has not been replaced.
  - P. O'Brien asked if there is an inventory log for equipment.
  - J. Beaudoin noted nothing been maintained.
  - D. Hershey suggest having log with equipment that needs to be replaced and expected replacement.
  - R. Nelson Line 131 office supplies
  - J. Beaudoin noted it is a working office and it add up.
  - R. Nelson Line 139 general expenses - does office supply cover any of this
  - J. Beaudoin noted mostly cleaning supplies.
  - R. Nelson asked about combining Lines 181 and 183 why \$800.
  - J. Beaudoin noted - cut a little.
  - R. Nelson Line 206 uniforms - spent \$5986.
  - J. Beaudoin noted getting more up to date with dress uniforms. Used for public events looking more professional (meetings, etc.). adds to morale.
  - D. Hershey suggested to get rid of uniforms all together.
  - R. Nelson Lines 245 and 309.
  - J. Beaudoin monitoring not being done.
  - R. Wentworth noted that general maint and improvements do not include upgrading smoke and fire alarms.
  - R. Nelson Line 304 increase in heating oil fuel.

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- J. Beaudoin noted based on prices last year and what used. Using CNBrown. Town contract with CNBrown. Rhymes came in high.
  - P. O'Brien asked if this a prebuy.
  - R. Wentworth noted yes.
  - K. Kharitonov suggested a consortium available like the school.
  - L. Dione noted this may or may not be able to work for the town due to welfare clients with guidelines and restrictions.
  - R. Wentworth explained what the Board of Selectmen collect bids for commodities. Selectmen are looking at many ways to save monies.
  - R. Nelson Line 451.
  - J. Beaudoin explained personal equipment lasts 10 years and other items need to be replaced sooner. Fire gear for one person is not transferred to another. Left over is used for back up in case of emergency.
  - K. Kharitonov Line 601.
  - R. Wentworth explained the increase. Water department replacing hydrants that are 50 plus year old.
  - L. Dione will correct Line 600 to reflect change.
- f) **Audio Visual (4199)** Represented by Liz Dione.  
Noted level funded at \$3500.  
L. Dione noted Line will be used up. 3 year internal plan for a screen system and projector.
  - g) **Gilman Museum (4575)** No representation. To be rescheduled.
  - h) **Short Term Interest (4723)** Represented by Liz Dione.  
No discussion.
  - h) **Legal (4153)** Represented by Liz Dione.  
L. Dione Line 166, Considering to raise this to level funded due to legal matters impending.  
R. Nelson would like to revisit legal another night. To be rescheduled.
  - i) **Patriotic (4583)** Represented by Liz Dione.  
No discussion.
  - j) **Street Lights (4316)** Represented by Liz Dione.  
General discussion on the number of street light the town is responsible f
  - k) **Welfare (4442)** Represented by Liz Dione.  
R. Nelson noted he is not against welfare but has a question on Line 801 and 802.  
L. Dione noted Line 801 general assistance for regular welfare. Rental/utilities  
Lines 802, 804, and 805 whatever is used is reimbursement to the town from the Heidke fund.
2. **Meeting Dates for Department Reviews**  
Next three Thursdays in a row here. Would like to wrap up reviews before Thanksgiving.
8. **Public Input.** None seen or heard. Public input closed.
9. **Other Business** None.

10. **Adjourn** at 7:55 p.m. MOTION by D. Hershey to adjourn at 7:55 pm. Second by P. O'Brien. No discussion. Motion passes with all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Schaeffner, Recording Secretary