

Town of Alton
Town Hall Meeting Room
Budget Committee Meeting
October 28, 2014
Minutes

Approved November 5, 2014

I. Call to Order pm 6:30pm

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Roll Call

Andy McLeod, Chairman
Roger Nelson, Vice Chairman
Ruth Messier, Member
Steve Miller, School Board Representative
John Markland, Member
Lou Lacourse, Selectmen's Representative
Terence O'Rourke, Member

Other Attendees:

E. Russell Bailey, Town Administrator

IV. Approval of Agenda

R. Nelson motioned to approve the agenda and was seconded by L. Lacourse and the motion was approved with all in favor.

V. Public Input

None

Public Input I closed

VI. New Business

A. Review of Town Budget

Tom Sargent – Assessing Department

The proposed budget is similar to last year. There will be an increase in mileage due to having to use his personal vehicle. The Department now has use of one of the old police cruisers.

The Committee reviewed, asked questions and discussed the proposed budget.

John Dever – Building/Code Enforcement

The only increase will be personnel increases Money was shifted from Office Supply to Vehicle Repair in anticipation of repair expenses.

The Committee reviewed, asked questions and discussed the proposed budget.

Shawn Mann, Germaine Glidden and Bonnie Burgess - Cemetery

There was an increase in the sale of lots this year to 18 lots which brought in around \$27,000.00. R. Bailey gave an overview on the full time employee shared between town departments and provided an explanation of the Cemetery Trust.

The Committee reviewed, asked questions and discussed the proposed budget.

Ryan Heath, Police Chief – Police Department

Chief Heath believes it is a very conservative budget, The Animal Control budget is down and there is an increase of \$10,324.00 in the Police Department budget due to a large number of department staff receiving step and wage increases. An overview was provided to the Committee on the cruiser lease program.

The Committee reviewed, asked questions and discussed the proposed budget.

R. Bailey – Budget Committee

There are funds available for any Committee members interested in attending related courses.

R. Bailey – Hazardous Waste

There is only one line item for this budget and is paid out twice a year.

The Committee reviewed, asked questions and discussed the proposed budget.

R. Bailey – Legal Department

There was an increase in the cost of the retainer.

The Committee reviewed, asked questions and discussed the proposed budget.

R. Bailey provided an explanation of the \$1.00 line items that appear in various budgets.

The Benefit Buyout line was discussed and R. Bailey explained that you won't see it in every department. Step and COLA increases take effect April 1st and are retroactive to January 1st.

R. Bailey informed the Committee that the initial figures from the Town's current health insurance carrier show an 11% decrease. The Town is close to a flat budget.

VII. Public Input II

None

Public Input II closed

VIII. Old Business

The JMA budget schedule has not yet been determined.

There was a discussion on the remaining Budget Committee Meeting schedule.

IX. Other Business

The next meeting will be held on November 5, 2014 at 6:30pm in the Town Hall Meeting Room.

X. Adjourn

L. Lacourse made a motioned to adjourn and was seconded by T. O'Rourke with all in favor of the motion.

Adjourned at 9:05pm

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Peggy Hawksley". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Peggy Hawksley
Budget Committee Secretary

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