

Town of Milton Budget Committee Meeting - Water District Public Hearing 3/3/14
Meeting called to order at 6:00 PM by LARRY BROWN - Vice Chair in the
excused absence of Bruce Woodruff. As the Selectmen are not presently
having a recording clerk, the Vice Chair also prepared the draft minutes.
B.C. members present. Mike Beaulieu (BOS), Doug Shute (SB), STAN
Nadeau (WD), Eric Ohlenbusch, Bob Carter, Jim Kelley - a quorum of 7.
Also present Tom Vachon WD, Steve Elliott WD, Gail Pennell who
spoke as a Water District resident and Natalia Kello. The B.C.
meeting was recessed at 6:01 to open the Public Hearing.

Water Commissioner Chair Nadeau reviewed the proposed 2014 operating
budget (warrant #1) and special warrants 2-5. The Proposed budget of \$
310,913,000 is \$10,962 below the proposed 2013 budget and \$3,625 above
2013 Y.T.D. Dollar amounts requested on warrants 2-5 are unchanged. Wages
of the part time operators are flat; No C.O.A. was offered or raises. Highlights
of that presentation are as follows:

- CPA Audit costs are expensive, but prudent, and a federal funds use requirement
- The WD lawyer no longer holds District records. A bank box is required.
- Gail Pennell asked about Meter costs. The WD is now fully metered and
meters are now "supplies". N.H. requires 10 p.yr. to be replaced. Broken
meters count toward that number. Negligence pays its own replacement costs
- Gail Pennell also asked about rising propane costs and Doug Shute (SB) asked
if the W.D. had joined the Town/school contract price. WD Commissioner, ^{STEVE ELLIOT} advised 1) that
propane costs were low as electricity had not failed; propane runs the
backup generator as well as heats the building 2) propane will go up
but the W.D. has a better lock in price (to 2015) than the School contract.
3) Utility costs have been lower because pump 5 has been on
standby and there have been fewer leaks and less pumping/
electrical cost losses
- "RURAL WATER", A NGO, has been a considerable help with water testing/
Monitoring/regulation guidance and compliance costs. \$10,000 is still being
budgeted as Rural Water's funding sources can dry up

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Budget Committee Meeting - 3/3/14 (p. 2)

- operator wages are flat. 2013 shows less as it was a shorter payroll year. Not even a COLA was offered.
- Pump #5 will be rebuilt. its bearing are "shot." it is on light duty. There is no impact on the delivery system. It was last serviced in the early 1970s. Expect \$25 thousand, plus or minus.
- The payout on the well ~~loan~~ project & Charles St. loan is on schedule.

The Chair called for any further comments or questions re the 2014 W.D. operating budget. There were none. The Chair then read each of the 5 W.D. warrants in turn. The Water District Chair noted the purpose of each, as noted on the warrant handout, and that the amounts were as requested in previous years: #2) for small, system repairs, e.g. pipes, #3) building repairs e.g. shingles, paint, #4) vehicle; truck purchase, and, #5) district equipment - major, e.g. "mud sucker" or plate compactor. On the Committee Doug Shute asked about the failure to add to that (or any) fund. Commissioner Nadeau noted that there was no for fit of purpose. Money could be, "bottom line," reallocated. Like the town all trust funds are under the stewardship of the Trustees of the Trust Fund #671.

After a call for further comment the hearing was closed at 6³⁵ pm and the Budget Committee meeting reconvened. Bob Carrier moved, Eric Olsen busch 2nd - to recommend the 2014 Water District operating budget (warrant 1)

Budget Committee meeting 3/3/14 p. 3

DRAFT

of \$310,913.00 together with warrant articles 2-5 in the total amount of \$20,000 to a grand total of \$329,913.00. - There was no further discussion. All in favor, 0 opposed - vote TOTAL 7 to 0. MOTION PASSED

There was no other business of the Committee on the agenda. The Chair, who acted as recording secretary for the meeting and public hearing noted that things are in flux re the Budget Committee budget for 2014: we expect resolution after next weeks election. Chairman Woodruff has already recorded the Committees thanks to Rebecca Dean for her diligence and accuracy. Stan Nadeau emphasized for the record the importance of the Town funding its statutory responsibilities. He motioned for adjournment, 2nd by Bob Canner. All in favor Meeting adjourned at 6:40 PM. Respectfully submitted

approved as written. 3-24-14
Gerald Clawoff, Chair
Lawrence Brown 3/24/14

LARRY BROWN - Vice Chair
acting Chair and
temporary recording clerk

Lawrence Brown 3/3/14

NOTE: THESE MINUTES ARE DRAFT UNTIL REVIEWED
AND VOTED APPROVED BY THE BUDGET COMMITTEE.