

BUDGET COMMITTEE

Town of Milton

Minutes of the Budget Committee

Tuesday, April 15 2014

Members Present: Chairman Bruce Woodruff, Jennifer Crone, Larry Brown, Bob Carrier, Stan Nadeau (Water District Representative), Ann Walsh (School Board Representative), Devon Pageau

Members Excused: Jim Kelly, Mike Beaulieu

Chairman Bruce Woodruff called the meeting of April 15 2014 Milton Budget Committee Meeting to order at 6:47 pm.

The meeting was scheduled for 6:30 pm. The Committee had no key to enter the Town Hall and there were some alarm issues.

A Roll Call of seating members was done it was determined a quorum was present.

New Member Ann Walsh is the new (School District Representative)

Approval of Minutes:

The Chair would like to have a motion to approve the minutes of March 24, 2014.

L.Brown stated there's an error in the 3rd paragraph Vote 7-1 Larry B. opposed. He said he did not oppose D.Pageau who was the top write in vote-getter to fill the vacant slot.

A discussion took place as to how this could have happened. S.Nadeau said he doesn't recall anyone opposing the nomination. It was determined there was a misunderstanding and the Chair will change the vote to unanimous.

The 4th paragraph Minutes of March 3, 2014 reviewed is incorrect. It was March 4th 2014. The Chair asked if there any more changes. There was none. The Chair called for a motion to approve the minutes with the changes noted. L Brown made the motion seconded by S Nadeau. The motion Passed (5-0-2) 2 abstentions.

School Report:

Bruce wanted to know how can we get the school reports. He said the reports were coming in and now they stopped. Ann asked how we received the reports.

Stan said that Doug S. would bring the reports with him for the meeting.

Ann ask Bruce how would he liked to get the reports? He said he would like to have them e- mailed a week before the meeting to him and hard copies to be left at the Town Hall.

The balance of the Milton School District general fund as of March 31st 2014 was \$431,452.00. this is where we were at this time last year. There are still items that have not been encumbered but the school district is not anticipating any new major expenses. Stan ask if there any Unanticipated revues. Ann replied that they received a little more than expected under catastrophic aid and Special ED.(\$25,000) but nothing major.

Ann said that there were a few things coming up this year that we need to pay attention to. She reminded everyone that the teachers were working without a contract this year. The school district and the teacher's union plans to go back into negotiations soon and hopefully have the contract completed at the beginning of the budget season.

Ann also informed the BC that the school district has been contacted by both the Farmington School District and the Somersworth School District to see if we would be interested in possibly outsourcing our high school students. The school district is looking at both of those options along with other options including the renovation of Nute or putting a second floor on the middle school.

The Superintendent is in the process of gathering academic and financial information on all options and the school district will be presenting this information to the community this fall.

Bob C. had question for Ann about unfunded lines and why there's financial activity in those lines. The committee had a discussion on the Zero funded lines.

It was recommended that a \$1.00 be placed on all lines in the budget that will not be funded but may need to be used that way money can be spent in those lines.

Review of Town Budget: Representative or the alternate were not present.

Members Comments: Bruce will provide the committee with a written schedule of meetings next month. He will also send the by-laws this week.

Bruce gave out handouts for the committee to read there's good information in them and urged the committee members to read them.

He will be going through this book (The Municipal Budget Process)the BC has asked him to do this it's going to be time consuming. He will pull out the important parts that we'll need for the year and will make copies for everybody at the next meeting.

Stan he may not be able to attend next month meeting. He will be going to night school for six weeks. He will ask Steve Elliot if could sit in if Stan can't attend the meeting.

Stan would like thank the voters for supporting Article 22 Police Retention.

Bob C. This is just an observation with the recent election that took place in March. The default budget is higher than the proposed budget with the passing of article 22 Police retention line.

The majority voters decided to go with the default budget and pass the Police retention article the reason could be that we our losing Officers and the Town Hall is still functioning and the Town employees are not leaving.

The rest of the warrant articles Bob thought only half would pass due to the economy but all but 4 passed

The Fire Station and lease vehicles for Hyw Dept. have tried three times to get these articles to pass and the recent article to repair the Hyw Dept. He concluded that cost is one factor and the other is that Fire Dept. and Hwy Dept. and the Town trucks are still functioning, To the voters where's the need? It seems that it was wants vs needs and the voters choose the needs.

Bob thought the raises for the Officers would be in this year's budget Stan said it would start in the next budget due to the fact the voters already passed the default budget and it was not known if the article would pass.

Stan also said that the voters are trying to fix one problem at a time.

The board also expressed their opinion on how the voters cast their ballots on the Articles.

Larry looking at the revolving fund report he noticed the Recreation line the revenues in the Beach, Soccer and Camp have done well. He questioned the expenses and try to figure how the expenses were calculated. It was explained to him how the revolving fund works. Jen said she never seen these new accounts before. Ann said these are separate checking accounts for each program.

Stan said the revolving fund comes under the control of Pam Arnold and not the trustees.

New Business: Bruce sent an e-mail to the BC that the BOS are having budget workshop

Wed April 16th at 5:00pm with all Department heads. Bruce stated he would not be able to attend due to work commitment. He asked the Vice-Chair if he could attend Bob said he will be there. Larry will be representing the Library Trustees.

Bruce ask Kim to post a meeting notice the possibility that the BC could have a quorum Present at the meeting.

The next meeting Tues May 20th 6:30pm

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn made by Stan second by Larry the vote was U/A at 7:23pm.

Prepared by
Bob Carrier Vice-Chair

Minutes approved by the Committee on May 20, 2014.


Bruce W Woodruff, Chair