

**TOWN OF TUFTONBORO
BUDGET COMMITTEE
P.O. Box 98, 240 Middle Road
Center Tuftonboro, New Hampshire 03816
Telephone: (603) 569-4539 Fax: (603) 569-4328
www.tuftonboro.org**

BUDGET COMMITTEE

**Tuesday, January 5, 2016
6:30 p.m. - Town House**

MINUTES

Present: Chairwoman Carla Lootens, Vice-Chairman Steve Brinser, Members Helen Hartshorn, Bob McWhirter, Tyler Phillips, Bob Theve, Selectmen's Representative Carolyn Sundquist, and Karen Koch.

Also in attendance: Selectman Lloyd Wood and Police Chief Shagoury

OPEN MEETING: After declaring a quorum, Chairwoman Lootens opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

CHAIRWOMAN COMMENTS: None

CIP Presentation/Report: Chairman, Bill Marcussen: Mr. Marcussen, CIP Chairman, presented the CIP report to the members of the budget committee. He noted that the capital expense total for the eight projects proposed for 2016 total \$800,000; \$10,000 over capital capacity. Discussion ensued over the Capital Expense History and Capacity Projections for 1991-2025. Marcussen stated that all spending data points go into developing the slope of the curve, nothing is excluded. He also confirmed that the CIP's goal is to gather input for capital improvement projects, evaluate the requests, make recommendations of capital spending and present it so it's useful to the town.

Several compliments were given by members of the budget committee to the CIP committee for their hard work and careful consideration of the requests brought before them.

Discussion was conducted in regards to the eight projects proposed, particularly the article (under "Schedule of Articles Recommended to the Board of Selectmen for the 2016 Town Warrant") to authorize a five-year lease/purchase agreement for \$425,000 to obtain and equip a replacement multi-response vehicle and a new ambulance and to raise and appropriate \$85,000 for the first year's lease payment.

Questions were also raised in regards to the article, under the same section, to raise and appropriate \$235,000 for the paving of town roads and road improvement projects.

Motion: Tyler Phillips made a motion to table this discussion until a further meeting where Fire Chief Thompson and Road Agent, Jim Bean, would be available to comment, seconded by Chairwoman Lootens. Vote passed 7-0.

Second Motion: Selectwoman Sundquist moved to acknowledge the CIP report, Tyler Phillips seconded. Vote passed 7-0.

REVIEW/APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Chairwoman Lootens called for review and approval of the December 15, 2015 minutes. Additional clarifications were noted.

Motion: Selectwoman Sundquist moved to accept the minutes with clarifications, seconded by Vice-Chairman Steve Brinser. Vote passed 7-0.

NEW BUSINESS:

BOS AND/OR COUNTY UPDATE, MEMBER/SELECTWOMAN SUNDQUIST:

No new business.

CIP REPORT, MEMBER HARTSHORN:

Budget Committee Member, Helen Hartshorn, shared an updated 2016 Department Operating Budget Detail Report. Budget committee members once again showed appreciation and compliments for her excellent work.

BUDGET REVIEWS:

BUILDINGS-4194

As requested in the December 15, 2015 meeting, Chairwoman Lootens conducted further research as to whether the demolition of the Dearborn property (or any other property) should be a budget item or a warrant article. She shared her email correspondence with Margaret M.L. Byrnes, NHMA Staff Attorney, which concluded that there is no law that would require an expenditure for this purpose to be in a warrant article as opposed to being part of the operating budget. Ms. Byrnes also stated that it is the decision of the select board whether to propose something as a warrant article.

Lootens also shared her email correspondence from Gary Chehames, former Budget Committee Chairman, which gave a detailed explanation of where the budget committee stood last year. Their understanding was that the land was purchased under authority of a warrant, which created a capital asset, and tearing down the house is a capital improvement to same.

Motion: Helen Hartshorn moved to approve budget 4194 for \$147,952, seconded by Bob Theve. Vote passed 6-1. Bob McWhirter opposed.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Chairwoman Lootens mentioned that the Planning Board's emailed correspondence in regards to a 2016 Budget Amendment request will be tabled until the Board of Selectmen can review it.

Lastly, an email from Vice-Chair Brinser in regards to the date conflict of the scheduled February 9, 2016 presentation to the public being the same day as the New Hampshire primary was discussed. The revised date for the public hearing will now be moved to February 2, 2016, with a snow date of February 3, 2016.

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Meeting Schedule: Next meeting is Tuesday, January 19, 2016 at 6:30 pm at the Tuftonboro Fire Station.
Upcoming public hearing is Tuesday, February 2, 2016, with a snow date of February 3, 2016.

ADJOURNMENT: On a motion made by Tyler Phillips, seconded by Selectwoman Sundquist, vote passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Prepared and submitted by: Karen Koch