TOWN OF TUFTONBORO BUDGET COMMITTEE

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BUDGET COMMITTEE MINUTES

Tuesday, February 7, 2023

Present: Chairman Gordon Hunt, Vice Chairman Gary Chehames, Selectmen's Representative

Chip Albee, David Dauphinais, Jeff Reisner, Rob Roriston. Staff: Jane Lemire.

Absent: Chris Sawyer.

Also in Attendance: Selectman Guy Pike, Selectman Bob Murray, Barry Ennis, Susan Weeks,

Mr. Wood.

Call to Order / Open Meeting: After declaring a quorum, Chairman Hunt opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Hearing at 6:30 p.m.

• Budget Committee Suggested Operating Budget

Chairman Hunt stated that the Board of Selectmen approved a 2023 COLA increase of 7.4%. Chairman Hunt proceeded by reading aloud each line item's (department) 2023 budget total and gave a brief overview of each department's goals (report attached). The 2023 total operating budget total is \$4,752,753.00; an approximate 7.8% increase over last year's budget of \$4,409,340.00.

• Warrant Articles

Chairman Hunt proceeded to read aloud all Warrant Articles (attached). He, as well as Selectmen's Rep Albee, explained pertinent details and answered any questions. Chairman Hunt stated that the budget committee will have a re-vote on Article 10 due to the changed dollar amount as well as the committee's previous 3-3 vote. Chairman Hunt explained that DRA does not recommend submitting a tied vote. The committee will also vote on newly added Warrant Article 15.

• 2023 Estimated Revenue

Selectmen's Rep Albee proceeded by reviewing the 2023 Estimated Revenue report with the group and answered pertinent questions. The 2023 estimated revenue total is \$1,855,173.00 (report attached).

Public Hearing Suspended at 7:30 p.m.

Reconvened to Budget Committee Meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Review/Approval of January 31, 2023 Minutes

A motion to accept the Minutes of January 31, 2023 as presented was moved by Mr. Roriston; and seconded by Vice Chairman Chehames. Voted passed unanimously 6-0.

Final Review and Adoption of Budget and Warrant Articles

Chairman Hunt reviewed the following expense warrant articles for discussion and voting purposes.

Adoption of Budget

Budget Committee approval of 2023 Operating Budget of Four Million Seven Hundred Fifty-Two Thousand Seven Hundred Fifty-Three Dollars and .00/100. (\$4,752,753.00)

Motion: Mr. Roriston moved to approve the 2023 operating budget as presented; seconded by Mr. Dauphinais. Vote passed unanimously 6-0.

<u>Article 10</u>: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$30,000.00) for the permitting, engineering, and design of a 100kw solar/electric generation facility. This is a non-lapsing article (December 31, 2028).

Motion: Mr. Roriston moved to approve Warrant Article 10 as written; seconded by Vice Chairman Chehames. Vote passed unanimously 6 – 0.

Article 15: To see if the Town of Tuftonboro will vote to raise the appropriate the sum of \$250,000.00 for the purpose of providing a capital contribution towards the renovation of the Pop Whalen Ice and Arts Center. In 1989, Tuftonboro provided Wolfeboro with a capital contribution which was 12% of the initial arena construction cost \$250,000 is 3.6% of the construction cost for the new facility. (By Petition)

Motion: Vice Chairman Chehames moved to approve Warrant Article 15 as written; seconded by Mr. Roriston. Vote opposed unanimously 0 – 6.

Warrant Articles as previously presented and as previously voted upon:

Motion: Mr. Roriston moved to accept all Warrant Articles as presented and as already voted; seconded by Mr. Reisner. Vote passed unanimously 6 – 0.

Other Business

Chairman Hunt stated to the group that they will need to go to the office next week to sign the MS-737.

On behalf of the group, Selectman Guy Pike thanked Chairman Hunt for all his years of commitment and service to the budget committee as his term has ended and he is not seeking another term.

Adjournment: There being no further business, a motion was made by Chairman Hunt and seconded by Mr. Roriston to adjourn the February 7, 2023 meeting. Motion passed unanimously 6-0. Meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Jane Lemire, Budget Committee Secretary February 10, 2023

