

OSSIPEE BUDGET COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
February 3, 2021

Minutes summarized by Laura Nash, Budget Committee Recording Secretary, amendments are noted by ***bold/italic*** type.

Call to Order: Joe Goss called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance – was recited

Attendance by Roll Call: – Joe Goss, Donna Gridley, Louise Sutherland, Donna Sargent, Roland Millette, Rachel Ciarmella, Martha Eldridge (Selectmen's Rep.) and Matt Sawyer, Jr, Town Administrator

Absent: Lynne Parker

Late Arrival: Cameron Quigley arrived at 6:36 pm.

Meeting Minutes: Review of minutes from January 20, 2021.

Ciarmella noted on page 1 "Joe Goss did not Call to Order: but was ***Donna Gridley***.

A **Motion** by Sutherland to approve the meeting minutes of January 20th, 2021 as amended. Millette seconded. No discussion. Eldridge and Goss abstained. All others voted in favor. **Motion passed.**

Selectmen's Report: Martha Eldridge reported per Kellie Skehan, Town Clerk/Tax Collector that tax collections and motor vehicle registration money is coming in better this year than last year. The Selectmen will be putting a policy plan together to collect back taxes.

2021 YTD - Budget Report: Matt Sawyer commented a year-to-date report for 2021 was not generated because they just closed out 2020. Sawyer noted a point of order on warrant article #17 for the pick-up truck. Per DRA they need to account for the trade-in value. So, they had to increase the total amount by \$15,000.00 to \$40,000.00 and increase the Funding Resource by \$15,000.00. The \$15,000.00 is reflected on the revenue side with no addition to the tax burden it's just clarifies it for DRA purposes. In order to reconcile the MS 737 form with the DRA forms the overlay and war service credits needed to be removed from the MS-737's, which increased the percentage slightly. Sawyer noted on page 10 of MS 737 form, DRA separates Special Warrant Articles and Individual Warrant Articles, but numbers reflect the same as presented.

2020-2021 Budget Schedule:

- **Center Ossipee Fire Precinct:** Cameron Quigley reported that DRA has approved the warrant articles for COFP. The Committee reviewed COFP budget bottom line is \$644,842.00. Chairman Goss called for any discussion. Fire Commissioner, Joe Deighan arrived and presented an updated proposed budget. Deighan noted the new total budget is \$644,715.00 per the MS 737 draft copy, because the yearly expense from taxation of the new truck decreased from \$87,127.00 to \$87,000.00.

Hydrants:

Deighan informed the Committee that the precinct is being charged for 48 hydrants but Deighan counts they are responsible for 43 hydrants with 5 hydrants unaccounted for. After speaking with the Town, Deighan reported there were some hydrants that were not on the COFP list and two hydrants that are not being charged for.

Deighan submitted a revised budget with warrant articles.

Warrant Articles:

Article for LED Street Light Replacement: in the amount of \$27,781.00

Deighan noted the cost to replace 45 Halogen street lights to LED lights is \$27,781.00 with \$9,400.00 to come from Eversource Incentives, and \$10,000.00 from a USDA grant, which leaves a balance of \$8,381.00 to come from taxation.

Article for Fire Apparatus (New Truck): in the amount of \$642,000.00

Deighan noted the cost of the truck is \$642,000.00 with \$110,000.00 coming from the Capital Reserve Fund and leasing the remaining \$532,000.00 over a 7-year lease for a yearly payment of \$87,000.00 to come from taxation.

Chairman Goss called for a motion on the 2021 proposed budget for Center Ossipee Fire Precinct with warrant articles in the amount of \$644,715.00.

A **Motion** by Millette to recommend the 2021 proposed budget for Center Ossipee Fire Precinct with warrant articles in the amount of \$644,715.00. Gridley seconded. No discussion. A unanimous vote was taken. **Motion passed 8-0.**

- **West Ossipee Fire Precinct:** \$446,175.00 which was voted to recommend at the January 20th, 2021 meeting.
- **Ossipee Corner Light & Power Precinct:** \$497,382.00 which was voted to recommend at the January 20th, 2021 meeting.

Next Meeting:

Budget Committee Mtg. - **February 11th, 2021** – to sign MS 737's - 6:30 PM at the Freight House

Any Other Business Which May Come Before This Meeting: Sawyer is to confirm with DRA if they could sign one set of the MS 737 form as the original and make copies or do all MS 737's forms need original signatures. Sutherland informed the committee that WOFP will hold it's Annual Meeting on March 6th, 2021 at the Jewell Hill location.

Adjournment:

A **Motion** by Gridley to adjourn the meeting until 7:00 pm for the Public Hearing. Sutherland seconded. No further discussion. A unanimous vote was taken. **Motion passed.** The meeting adjourned at 6:44 PM.

Minutes approved by majority vote of the Board on –

_____ Date

Joe Goss, Chairman
Budget Committee

Donna Gridley, Vice-Chair
(In the absence of the Chairman)