

**OSSIPEE BUDGET COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES  
May 5<sup>th</sup>, 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 6:40 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance – was recited

Attendance by Roll Call: – Joe Goss, Donna Gridley, Lynne Parker, Roland Millette, and Connie Billings,

Absent: Donna Sargent, Dallas Emery, Cameron Quigley, Jonathan Smith (Selectmen's Rep.) and Matt Sawyer, Jr, Town Administrator

**Elect Chairman:**

A **Motion** by Gridley to nominate Joe Goss as chairman. Parker seconded. No other nominations. All others voted in favor. Goss abstained. **Motion passed.**

**Elect Vice-Chairman:**

A **Motion** by Parker to nominate Gridley as Vice-Chairman. Goss seconded. No other nominations. All others voted in favor. Gridley abstained. **Motion passed.**

**Meeting Minutes:** N/A

**Selectmen's Report:** N/A

**2021 YTD - Budget Report:** 01/01/2021 – 05/31/2021

Goss noted that most budgets are within the expected 60 – 65% expenditure range for this time of year. After a closer review of the budget report several line items notably Gas & Deisel, Zoning Officer, PT Wages, Town Reports, Professional Fees, Office Supplies, New Equipment, GOV BUILD – T Hall Fuel, GOV BUILD – Uniforms/Gloves/Shoes, Cemetery – Gas & Mileage, POL DEPT – Office Supplies, POL DEPT – Tires, POL DEPT – Medical, POL DEPT – Retirement, HWY DEPT has numerous line items and REC DEPT – Equip & Facility well below the expenditure range for this time of year. Questions of whether some of the items were purchased for the year or is there over spending taking place.

Billings noted a discrepancy with the figures and after a closer review the Budget Committee believes that the money encumbered was subtracted from the line items instead of it being added, which would provide a surplus. Goss will contact Matt Sawyer, Jr. to discuss the issue.

**2021 Revenue Report:** An email from Matt Sawyer, Jr., Town Administrator provided the following explanation, ***“We won't have a revenues report until the new software is in place because of the mapping of accounts (consolidating a lot of the account lines, reducing the report and making it easier to understand).”***

**Department Distribution:** Gridley raised the issue of assigning departments and Goss suggested holding off until all members of the committee are present.

**Topics for Discussion:**

Parker received confirmation that funds from the Tax Sales is deposited into the General Fund. Billing stated he did not believe there would be a tax sale this year. Discussion ensued over no longer allowing payment plans for paying back taxes because it was determined to be illegal with the state for the Town to do so. Billings reported there are 83 property owners behind on their taxes. Letter notifications for back taxes owed will go out at the end of the month. Property owners, who had prior arrangements made with the town will be honored provided they are paid up to 2019. Any back taxes owed prior to 2019 are eligible to be ceased by the Town. Parker commented so the Town is in transition and will no longer arrange payment plans for back taxes owed.

Discussion ensued over Census report, the influx of second home owners staying, 30% increase in the Governor Wentworth School system, and Town development of housing and business increase. Billings questioned the funding for Whittier Bridge is not on the Budget Report and was informed that funding is carried under a warrant article and would not be listed on the budget report. Billings was informed to contact Matt Sawyer, Jr. for any questions with funding.

**Next Meeting:**

**Scheduled for July 21, 2021 - 6:30 PM at the Freight House**

**Any Other Business that May Come Before the Committee:**

Parker

**Adjournment:**

A **Motion** by Billings to adjourn the meeting. Gridley seconded. No further discussion. A unanimous vote was taken. **Motion passed.** The meeting adjourned at 7:28 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)