

OSSIPEE BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

July 20, 2022

Minutes summarized by Matt Sawyer, Town Administrator; 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, Roland Millette, Dallas Emery, Matt Sawyer Jr (Town Administrator) and Andrea Picard (Finance Director)

Absent: Donna Sargent, Cameron Quigley, Brian Keyes, Jonathan Smith (Selectmen's Rep.), Patricia Pustell and Lynn Parker

Regular Meeting

Meeting Minutes: Review of Meeting Minutes from April 6, 2022. There was no vote to approve due to lack of quorum.

Selectmen's Report: Sawyer reported that the Town has tax deeded 13 properties this year, many of which are campers in campgrounds. Several of the properties have already been bought back. He said that the Selectmen are holding strong and continuing to follow the law and not enter into any payment plans that are not allowed per RSA.

Sawyer informed that the Board of Selectmen had voted last year 2-1 to approve a charitable exemption for the Masonic Lodge's property taxes based on the history of them receiving it and the good work they do. However, that was against the ***advice*** of the Assessor because fraternal organizations are not eligible for the exemption in NH and the Town has been in a yearlong case with the Board of Tax and Land Appeals over it. Sawyer said the result was that new processes and procedures are in place and that the administration is committed to following the RSAs and DRA rules going forward.

Sawyer explained that they fuel price lock just expired so although the expenditure report looks good and on track, we will now be paying 2-3 times more for fuel and will possibly use some ARPA funds to cover overages due to the extreme prices.

2022 YTD - Expenditure Report: 01/01/2022 – 06/01/2022 was reviewed noting most budgets are on target with 50% or more of their appropriations remaining available. There was a question about the dams and Sawyer replied that the report showed both the Upper Dan Hole and Lower Dan Hole River dams were found to be of "moderate" risk by state standards, putting them in the middle category, and that the Mill Pond Dam (lower Dan Hole River Dam) has significant seepage and will likely need work or to be removed eventually, but that would likely be in several years to come, with more engineering work to be required by the state in the meantime. Sawyer reiterated that the first step was simply to determine the risk category which gets the town compliant with DES, but that we don't know for sure what their next requirements of us will be.

There was a brief discussion regarding the improvements to cash flow resulting in the non-utilization of the TAN. Sawyer said we may have to use it this year, but only because the cash flow issues due to the pay and request reimbursement process for the state/federal funds.

The Committee asked Sawyer if he had any major concerns about specific budget overruns or other upcoming budgetary issues for the remainder of the year. Sawyer said no, other than fuel which had been discussed.

Sawyer also cautioned the Committee that the 2023 budget presented will surely show a large jump due to the inflation and uncontrollable cost rises of everything from petroleum products like tires to technology, which we are behind on. There was a robust discussion regarding technology and a suggestion that we bring our networking/IT company to a BC meeting in the fall.

2022 YTD - Revenue Report: There was a review of the revenue report, with no questions and some passing comments that it looked good.

Next meeting: September 21, 2022 and BC members will be assigned to departments at that meeting.

Any Other Business Which May Come Before This Meeting: None presented.

Adjournment:

A **Motion** by Gridley to adjourn the meeting. Millette seconded. No discussion. A unanimous vote was taken. **Motion passed.** The meeting adjourned at 7:30 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)