Budget Committee Meeting 12/11/13

Attendance: Chairman, Donna Sargent, Jane ter Kuile, Joe Goss, Marie McConarty, Lynne Parker, Matthew Trahan, David Babson, Jim Fitzpatrick, Harry C. Merrow, Selectmen's Representative; Tom Kondrat, West Ossipee Fire Precinct Representative, Martha B. Eldridge, Town Administrator, who recorded the minutes. Ellen White also attended to observe the process.

Chairman Sargent opened the meeting at 6:30 pm.

Goss made a motion to accept the minutes of 11/13/13. ter Kuile seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

Goss made a motion to accept the minutes of 12/04/13. ter Kuile seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

Sargent asked for the Long Term Debt budget. Eldridge stated that the town has no long term debt at this time. Eldridge stated that the budget amount of \$5,000.00 is being proposed for the Interest on the Line of Credit. Goss made a motion to take this amount under advisement. ter Kuile seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

The Insurance Budget was presented in the amount of \$150,118.00. Goss made a motion to take this amount under advisement. Kondrat seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

Maria Moulton presented the Library Budget in the amount of \$209,188.00. Moulton reported that this amount is a \$9,768.00 decrease from the 2013 appropriation. Moulton and Trustee Ray Wright explained that they have funds available to them for the purchase of books and maintenance to the inside of the library. At the present time this fund has a balance of \$84,000.00 +. Parker made a motion to take this amount under advisement. Goss seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

Fire Warden Adam Riley presented the amount of \$20,400.00 for the Fire Warden's Budget. Riley stated that this amount is level funded and he still has invoices that need to be paid out of the 2013 budget. Kondrat asked what the difference is from the Fire Departments budgets. Riley stated that this is for forest fires and permits. Goss made a motion to take this amount under advisement. ter Kuile seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

Bob Freeman presented the amount of \$6,700.00 for the Emergency Management Budget. Freeman stated that this amount is level funded. Freeman stated that they have expenditures to come out of this budget before the year ends. Freeman stated that for an example of what they do is to respond to floods and is responsible for the paperwork to FEMA. Goss made a motion to take this budget amount under advisement. Fitzpatrick seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

Chairman of the Supervisors of the Checklist Janice Tully presented the budget for the Registration Budget in the amount of \$18,137.00. Tully stated that they have four (4) elections this coming year. They are also working on a mandated project with registration cards which requires more time for them to work. Tully reported that they are not seeing an increase in their hourly rate of pay. Goss made a motion to take this amount under advisement. ter Kuile seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

Town Clerk Kellie Skehan presented the budget for the Elections Budget in the amount of \$18,137.00. Skehan stated that the increase from the last budget she submitted is because of an additional election. Goss made a motion to take this amount under advisement. ter Kuile seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

Commissioner Greg Howard presented the West Ossipee Fire Precinct Budget in the amount of \$402,520.00. Howard stated that this is a 2% decrease from last year. Howard reported that on-going projects are being worked on and that training has been increased. The membership has also increased. Howard stated that they will also have a warrant article for \$20,000.00 for maintenance and repair. No motion taken.

Commissioner Jim Dolan presented the Center Ossipee Fire Precinct Budget in the amount of \$406,120.00. This is an increase of \$50.00. Dolan stated that gasoline costs are up. He stated that he does not believe they will have any warrant articles that will be money related. No motion taken.

Commissioner Jim Spencer presented the Ossipee Corner Light & Power Precinct Budget in the amount of \$422,440.00. This amount includes funds for Capital Reserve. They use their surplus funds to build their Capital Reserve Accounts. They choose to use a private insurance company rather than use NHMA.

Superintendent Doug Sargent presented the budget for the Water & Sewer Dept. in the amount of \$448,158.00. Sargent stated that this is a 2% increase from last year. Babson asked how much of a raise was in the budget. Sargent stated fifty cents (.50) for each employee. Fitzpatrick made a motion to not recommend this budget. Goss seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

Eldridge & White presented the Selectmen's Office Budget in the amount of 501,898.00. The cost of insurance was discussed. Eldridge stated that she is coming off the insurance in March and the new administrator requires a family policy, an additional two-person policy has been added also. The Town Administrator's Salary line is up because they are paying both Eldridge & White until Eldridge leaves. Babson asked Eldridge about the time she had accumulated and where is it in the budget. Eldridge explained that this will be taken out of the Benefit Pay Capital Reserve Account. Goss made a motion to take this budget amount under advisement. ter Kuile seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

Goss made a motion to not review the Water & Sewer Budget without the Commissioners. Babson seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

Sargent stated that they had not yet voted on the recommendation of the Fire Precincts. Goss made a motion to recommend the Fire Precinct Budgets. ter Kuile seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

The following are the dates for the future meetings for the budget committee:

1-08-14	Workshop	6:30 PM
1-15-14	Workshop	6:30 PM
1-22-14	Workshop	6:30 PM
1-29-14	Workshop if needed	6:30 PM
2-05-14	Public Hearing	6:30 PM
2-06-14	Storm date	6:30 PM

Ter Kuile made a motion to adjourn. Fitzpatrick seconded. A unanimous vote was taken. Adjourned at 8:15 PM.