

OSSIPEE BUDGET COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

January 16, 2019

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

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

Attendance by Roll Call: – Joe Goss-Chairman, Jonathan Smith, Donna Gridley, Lynne Parker, Marie McConarty, Louise Sutherland, Roland Millette, and Ellen White, Town Administrator

Absent: Rick Morgan-Selectmen's Rep.

Meeting Minutes: The Meeting Minutes from 11/28/2018 and 12/19/2018 were reviewed.

White noted a date of meeting correction from 12/19/2018 should reflect 12/12/2018. Also noted was Roland Millette attended the 12/12/2018 meeting.

A **Motion** by Smith to approve the minutes of 11/28/2018 and 12/12/2018 Budget Committee meeting as amended. Parker seconded. No further discussion. No opposition. All voted in favor. **Motion passed 7-0.**

Unfinished Business:

2019 Proposed Budget Reviews:

Outside Agencies: (Cont.)

Ossipee Revitalization Group (Ossipee Main Street): The 2019 proposed budget is \$5,000.00

The 2019 proposed budget of \$5,000.00 is level funded from last year (Board of Selectmen recommended).

Pat Jones was present to answer question from the committee on the 2019 proposed budget of \$5,000.00 which level is funded from last year.

Discussion: Gridley noted based off last year's presentation, Main Street was in search of new personnel for the board and how many new board members have they obtained. Jones noted Kathleen Souza is on the board and they have approximately 20 volunteers, But Jones is the primary administrator and organizer.

With some contributions up this past year, the fundraising was down; Gridley asked what Ossipee Main Street's goals were for 2019. Pat Jones along with Donna Sargent noted some achievements made during 2018, which include placement of a solar light in the park, with plans to add two more lights. Helping with economic development decision for local businesses, the farmer's market and helping where needed. The farmer's market will be brought back for 2019 along with another group thus making it larger.

Parker addressed advertising awareness is not getting out to the public, in order to draw more people from outside of Ossipee. Jones noted they utilize Facebook, two ads to the Conway Daily Sun, and post bulletins all over Ossipee, when an event is taking place.

McConarty addressed the similarity to Economic Development Council. Discussion ensued over how similar Ossipee Main Street is to what the Economic Development Council is actively promoting. Jones noted the (OMS) does other activities which EDC does not. Jones noted a large portion of their budget goes into

operating expenses such as heat, lights, telephone and internet. But it was also determined that Main Street does not charge other groups/organizations for use of the building.

Millette noted other Main Street program around the State have similar issues, but believes the focus is too narrow for use of the gazebo and park, than what it probably could entail. Jones noted several activities to take place this year around town, which includes a business fair, tax deduction seminar, economic revitalization zone expansion, and will have speakers for 10-15 educational sessions. Old Home Week ice cream social, the gazebo and park are being used for various activities such as wedding photos, weddings, etc. The CC commented again the participants are not being charged for the use to help support the wear and tear of the property.

Smith feels the money would be better served if Ossipee Main Street merged with Economic Development Council and incorporated their goals along with EDC. Jones does not feel it would be appropriate since they are a part of a National Organization and their focus and goals differ from EDC. A discussion ensued with both sides appealing and expressing their rational for combining or not combining both groups. Discussion ended.

Ossipee Concerned Citizens, Inc. - Day Care: The 2019 proposed budget is \$7,000.00

The 2019 proposed budget of \$7,000.00 is level funded for Ossipee Concerned Citizens, Inc. - Daycare Programs (Board of Selectmen recommended).

Discussion surrounded the formula OCC-Daycare uses for determining the figures on the application. Donna Sargent explained the \$270.00 should be weekly, not monthly, which averages out to \$54.00 a day. The actual formula is one they have always used. Discussion ended.

West Ossipee Fire Department:

Carl Huddleston presented a warrant article for the 2019 proposed budget to increase by \$7,500.00; plans were for a dry hydrant installation at Lovell River Bridge and was to be paid from the 2020 budget. But per notification from NHDOT, they are to prepay for the dry hydrant installation at Lovell River Bridge before the bridge replacement project.

A **Motion** by Millette to approve the 2019 proposed budget of \$362,800.00 for West Ossipee Fire Department. Sutherland seconded. No further discussion. No opposition. All voted in favor. **Motion passed 7-0.**

EDC – UNH Program

Joe Goss summarized a letter received from the Economic Development Council requesting to increase their 2019 proposed budget from \$2500.00 to \$5,000.00. The EDC wants to participate in programs offered by the UNH Co-op Extension Economic Development Dept. UNH Co-op offers resources, strategy and implementation of future plans to increase the revitalization of business and industry in our town. Board of Selectmen support the proposal. A brief discussion over the EDC finances occurred.

Tri County CAP Inc. - Carroll County Transit: The 2019 proposed budget is \$3,000.00

The 2019 proposed budget of \$3,000.00 is level funded from last year (Board of Selectmen recommended).

Discussion: concern was raised over the proposed operating budget nearly doubling when it seems to be going straight into the salaries. Verses the minimal number of service provided to Ossipee. Discussion ensued with an increased revenue, the questioned raised was why do they need funding from the town.

Donna Sargent commented when the buses were coming to Ossipee, they were used, and have slowly decreased the services provided to the town. Donna suggested the Board of Selectmen write a letter to Tri-Cap County Transit requesting they return providing bus services to Ossipee, if they want funding.

The Committee chose not to reconsider their previous vote from 11/28/2018; ***“A Motion by Morgan to approve the 2019 proposed budget of \$3,000.00 for Tri County CAP Inc. - Carroll County Transit. Millette seconded. No further discussion. A Morgan, Parker and Millette voted in favor. Smith, Goss, Sutherland, Gridley and McConarty – opposed. Motion failed 3-5.”*** And “Not Recommended by the Budget Committee,” and to be reconsidered at election by the voters.

Schools Out! Program:

Parker requested to revisit the School’s Out! Program. The 2019 proposed budget is \$45,000.00.

Parker went back through the history and the funding request has increased from \$2,500.00 to \$45,000.00 within 10 years. With a \$20,000.00 increase for this year due to the loss of a federal grant, they were previously receiving.

Goss stated in order to revisit the discussion, there needs to be a motion.

A Motion by Parker to revisit the School’s Out! Program request for the 2019 proposed budget is \$45,000.00. Millette seconded for discussion purpose. No discussion. A unanimous vote was taken.

Parker gave a history of how the increases took place during elections and the Annual Town Meeting’s. Parker questioned how the Budget Committee would justify to increase to the voters. But does recognize the program is a value to the town kids.

Discussion ensued over the program being able to obtain more grants and additional funding; other after school program alternatives, Town program verses a private program, being able to decrease the 2019 proposed budget in an attempt to keep taxes down, 2019 warrant articles is bringing approximately a 12% increase to the budget, verses letting the town voters decide. McConarty stated, if this program gets cut or goes away, there is going to be a lot of angry parents, who count on this program.

A Motion by Parker to reduce the School’s Out! Program request for the 2019 proposed budget back to \$25,000.00. Millette seconded. No further discussion. Goss called for a roll call vote: Parker and Goss voted in favor of reducing the proposed budget to \$25,000.00. McConarty, Gridley, Millette, Sutherland and Smith opposed the reduction. **Motion failed 2-5.**

A Motion by Millette to approve the 2019 proposed budget of \$7,000.00 for Ossipee Concerned Citizens, Inc. - Day Care. McConarty seconded. No further discussion. A unanimous vote was taken. **Motion passed 7-0.**

A Motion by Millette to reconsider the 2019 proposed budget of \$5,000.00 for Ossipee Revitalization Group: (Ossipee Main Street). Parker seconded. No further discussion. A vote was taken by show of hands: Parker voted in favor. Goss, Smith, Sutherland, Millette, Gridley, and McConarty voted in opposition. **Motion failed 1-6.**

A Motion by Smith to increase the 2019 proposed budget from \$2,500.00 to \$5,000.00 for the Economic Development Council. Sutherland seconded. No further discussion. No opposition. All voted in favor. **Motion passed 7-0.**

Warrant Articles:

Town Road Repair & Improvements request for \$300,000.00.

A Motion by Millette to approve Town Road Repair & Improvements request for \$300,000.00. Smith seconded.

Discussion: White noted the Board of Selectmen have made no recommendations on any of the warrant articles because they were just submitted and the Selectmen have not reviewed them. The Budget Committee decided to not vote until the Board of Selectmen render a decision. Millette and Smith withdrew their motion.

The Committee started to review the warrant article but since no vote was taken place, discussion ended. White explained some of the figures she is waiting on from various departments.

Any Other Business Which May Come Before This Meeting

- Discussion on when to meet and review the remaining Warrant Articles, and any last minute Petition Articles.
- Warrant Article due date is February 5, 2019.

Upcoming Meetings:

- Wednesday, **February 6, 2019** - Budget Committee Meeting - 6:30pm - 7:30 pm at Freight House for 2019 Budget Review Schedule.
- Wednesday, **February 13, 2019** - Budget Committee Public Hearing – 6:30 pm at Town Hall for 2019 Proposed Budget. (Budget Committee members to meet - 6:00pm at the Town Hall).

Adjournment:

A **Motion** by M. McConarty to adjourn the meeting. Sutherland seconded. No further discussion. A unanimous vote was taken. **Motion passed 7-0.**

The meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

Next Meeting: **February 6, 2019 @ 6:30 pm**

Minutes approved by majority vote of the Board on – _____
Date

Joe Goss, Chairman
Budget Committee