

OSSIPEE BUDGET COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
January 6, 2021

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

Call to Order: Joseph 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, Lynne Parker, Donna Sargent, Roland Millette, Cameron Quigley and Matt Sawyer, Jr, Town Administrator

Absent: Rachel Ciarmella, Martha Eldridge (Selectmen's Rep.) and Laura Nash.

Meeting Minutes: Review of minutes from December 16, 2020.

A **Motion** by Sutherland to approve the meeting minutes of December 16, 2020. Gridley seconded. No discussion. A unanimous vote was taken. **Motion passed.**

Selectmen's Report:

Sawyer reported the final numbers show approximately 7% under budget for the year. Which gives a decent surplus to add back into the Unassigned Fund Balance. The block grant for the Meals and Rooms tax was received by the State for \$220,000.00. The new accounting software, which is built for municipalities is being implemented and will provide better oversight into the budget.

2020 YTD - Budget Report:

Noted above.

2020 Revenue Report:

Noted above.

2020-2021 Budget Schedule

2021 Town Budget Proposal by Department: Chairman Goss stated all budgets will be taken under advisement at this time.

Warrant Articles:

Article #: To Purchase LED Street Lights in the amount of \$14,000.00

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of fourteen thousand dollars (\$14,000) for the purpose To Purchase LED Street Lights.

Sawyer spoke with Eversource and confirmed this quote covers only Center Ossipee Fire Precinct. Sawyer spoke with Center Ossipee Fire and suggested it can go in as a warrant article under their budget, but it won't be under the Town's warrants since it only includes their precinct.

Article #24: Town Records Restoration in the amount of \$15,000.00

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) for the purpose of Town Books Restoration.

A **Motion** by Millette to recommend **Article #:** Town Records Restoration in the amount of \$15,000.00 for the purpose of Restoration of Town Books. Sutherland seconded. No discussion. A unanimous vote was taken. **Motion Passed 7-0.**

Article #23: Discontinued Highway Building Fund - in the amount of \$0.00

To see if the Town will vote to Discontinued Highway Building Fund - in the amount of \$0.00 as previously established. No action required for non-monetary items.

Article #7: Transfer Station Scale - in the amount of \$50,000.00

Sawyer asked for a re-vote because of additional funds in the Capital Reserve Fund from receipt of a \$5,000.00 grant from the baler after the fact.

To see if the Town will vote to purchase the Transfer Station Scale - in the amount of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) with seventeen thousand – five hundred dollars (\$17,500) coming from the Capital Reserve/Expendable Trust fund and the sum of thirty-two thousand – five hundred dollars (\$32,500) to come from general taxation.

A **Motion** by Sutherland to approve **Article #: Transfer Station Scale** in the amount of \$50,000.00 for the Transfer Station Scale - in the amount of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) with seventeen thousand – five hundred dollars (\$17,500) coming from the Capital Reserve/Expendable Trust fund and the sum of thirty-two thousand – five hundred dollars (\$32,500) to come from general taxation. Millette seconded. No discussion. A unanimous vote was taken. **Motion Passed 7-0.**

Goss estimated the proposed budget total \$4,922,438.00 which is \$452,195.00 over last years budget. Sawyer explained the increase.

Outside Agencies

School's Out Program in the amount of \$45,000.00, level funded.

Discussion: New paperwork has been submitted to aide in the request for \$45,000.00. Gridley recalled the funding was voted to decrease to \$30,000.00 at the last meeting and Sawyer confirmed the revised totals reflect the change. Review of the annual budget does not reflect last years expenditures. Suggestion was made to have the financial information format reflect all other applications requesting funding. The committee continues to seek accurate numbers of children being supported, what town are they coming from, program overlap with the recreation department, town liability of supporting a for profit business with tax payer money. General consensus is and suggestion made that all outside agencies should be a 501c3 organization and for the Selectmen to consider. Discussion ensued over if the town is providing funding, does the liability, in the event of injury, fall to the town or does the School's Out Program carry its own liability insurance. Evaluation and discussion of the submitted budget report ensued, noting the number of participating children, fee rates. Discussion ensued over providing any funding, and the 501c3 process.

Gridley proposed for the Budget Committee believes that Outside agencies should only be a 501c3 Non-Profit Organization and request the Board of Selectmen seriously consider and adopt that policy. Sawyer will add it to the Selectmen's agenda for discussion. Discussion continued over other after school programs, children from other towns who participate, contributions from other towns and organizations and how to proceed going forward.

A **Motion** by Gridley to keep the School's Out Program funding for the 2021 proposed budget at \$30,000.00 and discuss with the Selectmen about adopting a policy that all Outside Agencies should only be a 501c3 Non-Profit Organization. Millette seconded. No further discussion. Opposed: Goss. All others voted in favor. **Motion passed 6-1**

Precinct Updates:

West Ossipee Fire Precinct:

Sutherland reported for West Ossipee Fire Precinct that Greg Howard is working on the final wording for the warrant article. There is no encumbrment fund from last years budget for this year, due to a medical issue within the WOFP the funds were used to purchase, in the amount of \$6,795.00 for a protective washer system, and two antimicrobial lockers in the amount of \$1,732.00 due to a potential health issue within the WOFP. They purchased turn-out gear for a new firefighter member. A new laptop was purchased because the current laptop is Windows 7 and is no longer supported by Windows and the software only runs on Windows 10.

Center Ossipee Fire Precinct: is pending the LED Street Lighting added to the budget.

Ossipee Corner Fire Precinct: will be voted on at the January 20, 2021.

Discussion to add fire precincts to the January 20, 2021 agenda. Discussion ensued on setting dates for upcoming meetings and public hearing on the proposed budget.

Next Meeting:

Budget Committee Mtg. - **January 20th, 2021** – 6:30 PM at the Freight House

Budget Committee Mtg. - **February 3rd, 2021** – 6:30 PM at the Town Hall Bud Avery Memorial Gymnasium

PUBLIC HEARING – **February 3rd, 2021** – 7:00 PM at the Town Hall Bud Avery Memorial Gymnasium

Budget Committee Mtg. - **February 4th, 2021** – (Snow Day or Second Mtg. Date) – 6:30 PM at the Town Hall Bud Avery Memorial Gymnasium

PUBLIC HEARING – **February 4th, 2021** – (Snow Day or Second Mtg. Date)– 7:00 PM at the Town Hall Bud Avery Memorial Gymnasium

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: None presented.

Adjournment:

A **Motion** by Gridley to adjourn the meeting. Millette seconded. No further discussion. A unanimous vote was taken. **Motion passed.** The meeting adjourned at 7:55 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)