

Minutes
Nottingham Budget Committee Meeting
September 14, 2017

Members Present: Jennifer Biron, Suzanne Edin, Miska Hadik, Michael Koester, Carrie Lee, Karyl Martin, Erin Maskwa, Anthony Dumas – BOS Rep, Susan Levenson – School Board Rep

Excused Absences: Les Thompson

Other in Attendance: Secretary Dawn Calley-Murdough, Peter White

Chair Hadik called the meeting to order and introductions were completed.

Candidate Interview: Mr. White introduced himself to the committee and reviewed the reason why he wanted to join the committee, stating he has experience with accounting of private companies and non-profits.

Motion: by Ms. Martin to nominate Peter White as a member of the Budget Committee. Second by Ms. Biron.

Vote: 9 – 0 in favor.

General Town Updates: Mr. Dumas reminded the committee the Select Board is interviewing for the replacement of the Road Agent and Recycling Supervisor, as a new single position of Director of Public Works. Duties are being established and salary negotiated because of the combined duties and it being a new position. There is the possible expectation to hire an additional laborer position for the Highway Department once the director is hired.

The Select Board is expected to sign a contract with ReVision Energy for solar installation at the Fire Station and Town Offices.

The PLIA should receive their funds for the Lake Host boat inspections program soon.

The town has some unexpected expenses seen with the Recycle Center budget with an illegal disposal of asbestos. Mr. Dumas reviewed the reasons for closing the Swap Shop, and stated volunteers are needed to help monitor its use and help clean the building periodically, if the building opens again.

The Select Board received a request to add a new section of road to an Emergency Lane status, and the request was denied. The Select Board will continue to review Emergency Lane road issues.

The Select Board also accepted unanticipated revenue from the NH Department of Transportation; Nottingham received approximately \$128,000.00 for use on yet to be funded roads projects. After discussion the board decided to complete the Lake View Drive construction in 2017, which was originally slated for completion in 2018. There were apparent benefits to completing the project this year with the knowledge from the exiting Road Agent and the company who completed phase 1 earlier this year.

General School Updates: Ms. Levenson distributed the preliminary 2016/2017 year-end financial statements, which included final expenses amounts, estimated year-end surplus of \$323,166.67, and stated the audit should be complete in October.

The School Board has undertaken a space needs study in order to use the School impact fees to expand for needed school space, as well as the possible introduction of a full day kindergarten program. Initial information appears to indicate the incoming number of students may not warrant the building of a whole new space for full day kindergarten classrooms. The School Board determined, based on current enrollment numbers, and that space could be found for full day

Minutes
Nottingham Budget Committee Meeting
September 14, 2017

kindergarten using existing classrooms by reducing the number of kindergarten and first grade classes and shifting class locations. The School Board is moving forward with the space need review to also consider introduction of world language and science based classrooms. A final report should be available in October, and the board expects to hold a public forum to get additional details about what other services parents would like to see.

The new playground construction was completed at the end of the summer. The new equipment was installed and additional space was opened up for the students to use. Committee Members expressed positive thoughts and appreciation about the new playground space.

Ms. Levenson stated the School Board will look for a Budget Committee member to participate in the upcoming transportation contract negotiations. The school is down one bus again for 2017/2018 because of a lack of drivers. Dail Transportation has offered higher salaries and bonuses for new hires as additional incentive, but continue to be short drivers in a number of schools.

Additional Smarter Balanced data is now available for review regarding core subjects, with grade to grade comparison, as well as local to state-wide comparison. Nottingham appears to be doing better than the state averages in many subjects.

The School Board made a decision to add irrigation to the ball fields in an effort to maintain them for continued community use.

Approval of Minutes

Motion: by Ms. Edin, second by Ms. Lee to approve the June 20, 2017 minutes as amended.

Vote: 7 in favor; 2 abstained.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Review of NHMA Budget Conference: Chair Hadik encouraged members to attend and participate in the workshop, as it is beneficial in giving an overview of the budget process, things to consider in the process, and the legal requirements that need to be taken. There is also a question and answer session that provides a lot of additional interesting information as well.

Sub-Committee Appointments: Chair Hadik reviewed the sub-committees that need a Budget Committee member. These included the CIP Committee, School Transportation Sub-Committee, and Default Budget Sub-Committee.

Ms. Edin previously volunteered for the CIP Committee and the decision was confirmed by Budget Committee vote.

Motion: by Mr. Koester to nominate Suzanne Edin to the CIP Committee. Second by Ms. Lee.

Vote: 8 in favor; 1 abstained.

Discussion took place about the needs for the Transportation Committee, timing, number of meetings, and duties.

Ms. Martin volunteered to be on the Transportation Committee.

Motion: by Mr. Koester to appoint Ms. Martin as the rep to the Transportation Committee. Second by Ms. Biron

Minutes
Nottingham Budget Committee Meeting
September 14, 2017

Vote: 8 in favor. 1 abstained.

Discussion took place about the Default Budget Committee. Mr. Koester offered to put together a small presentation regarding the default budget process.

2017/2018 Meeting Calendar: General discussion took place about the 2017/2018 meeting calendar, and a second draft would be presented at the next meeting. The secretary expressed the goal in setting meeting dates for the school budget was to work with the School Board schedule to provide the Budget Committee copies of the draft school budget prior to the day of the meeting.

The secretary would send out an MS Outlook meeting reminders that members could use to add to their own electronic calendars.

ROUNDTABLE: Ms. Levenson asked about the Vice Chair Position and Chair Hadik asked for a nomination.

Motion: by Ms. Levenson to nominate Mr. Koester as Vice Chair. Second by Mr. Dumas.

Vote: 8 in favor. 1 abstained.

Mr. Dumas expressed thanks to the retiring Road Agent John Fernald Jr. and Don Cinfo. The Select Board made a decision to name a local bridge after John for his 30+ years of above and beyond wonderful service.

Ms. Edin welcomed the new members.

Mr. Koester thanked the secretary for the calendar and the information provided on it, and thanked Mr. Dumas & Ms. Levenson for their full reports.

Chair Hadik thanked the secretary for her hard work, and looks forward to a positive budget season.

Ms. Maskwa thanked the members for a warm welcome and is looking forward to participating on the committee.

Ms. Martin appreciates the warm welcome and is looking forward to participating on a town committee.

Ms. Lee thanked the Board Representatives for bringing their knowledge & loves the new playground.

ACTION ITEMS: None

ADJOURNMENT: Having no further business,

8:27 PM Motion: by Ms. Lee, second by Ms. Edin.

Vote: 9 – 0 in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dawn Calley-Murdough