

APPROVED

Town of Gilmanton
Budget Committee
Thursday, December 4, 2008
7:00 P.M. – Gilmanton I.W. Town Hall

Members present: Stan Bean, Robert Potter, Sr., Frank Bosiak, Brian Forst, Mark Sawyer, Betty Ann Abbott, Russell Knowles and Steven Latici.
Absent were Tom Farley and Dana Twombly.

Others present: Recording clerk Rachel Hatch and Michael Hatch.

Stan Bean called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Confirmation was given that this meeting had been duly posted two weeks ago pursuant to RSA 91-A.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

On a motion made by Mark Sawyer, seconded by Brian Forst, the Committee approved the meeting minutes of February 2, 2008.

On a motion made by Mark Sawyer, seconded by Brian Forst, the Committee approved the meeting minutes of February 7, 2008.

On a motion made by Mark Sawyer, seconded by Brian Forst, the Committee approved the meeting minutes of February 9, 2008.

On a motion made by Mark Sawyer, seconded by Brian Forst, the Committee approved the meeting minutes of June 18, 2008.

On a motion made by Mark Sawyer, seconded by Brian Forst, the Committee approved the meeting minutes of October 23, 2008.

December 11, 2008 Meeting

Stan Bean indicated that the next meeting will be held at the Gilmanton Academy rather than at the Town Hall to accommodate the food pantry committee. They will be assembling the holiday baskets at the Town Hall.

Capital Reserve Funds

Tim Warren distributed the 2009 capital reserves budget report for the Committee to review.

Betty Ann Abbott stated that a new capital reserve fund is proposed for the Old Town hall repairs. She stated that the Feasibility Study Committee had decided not to pursue adding on to the Town Hall to create a larger police station due to the cost of completing the construction including digging out the foundation and replacing it with a new

foundation. She stated that the architect had indicated that it would cost \$150,000 to replace the existing foundation and replace the supporting columns, which they felt will be necessary within the next two to three years. She stated that the Board of Selectmen had decided to establish a capital reserve fund and place \$50,000.00 in the account in order to replace the foundation in three years.

Steven Latici stated that rather than put this capital reserve fund on the tax roll now given the poor condition of the economy, why not bond this project in the future?

Brian Forst stated that it is less expensive to save money for any project rather than borrow the money in the future. He stated that maybe the return is much less but it is easier than to pay back a bond loan.

Considerable discussion followed with regard to the need to put a new foundation underneath the Old Town Hall considering its limited use by the residents.

Brian Forst made the motion to not fund this capital reserve fund for Old Town Hall repairs. The motion was seconded by Mark Sawyer and unanimously voted in the affirmative.

Police Department

Stan Bean stated that there is \$20,000.00 currently in the capital reserve account for the replacement of a police cruiser.

Highway Department

Discussion followed with regard to the life expectancy of the pick up truck being eight years. It was the consensus of the Budget Committee members to change the life expectancy from eight years to ten years and to change the annual amount set aside from \$3,000.00 to \$2,400.00.

Fire Department

It was the consensus of the Budget Committee members to change the replacement cost of the fire command vehicle from \$40,000.00 to \$28,000.00 and to change the annual set aside amount from \$4,000.00 to \$2,800.00.

School

Stan Bean stated that the replacement cost of the 1966 school building roof was changed from \$45,000.00 to \$129,000.00. The 10,000 gallon fuel storage tank replacement cost was actually \$85,500.00 rather than the previous amount of \$50,000.00. The tractor replacement has been added in the capital reserve fund.

Brian Forst inquired as to how many hours is the tractor being used per year and what it is used for? Russ Knowles will follow-up with the Committee on this question.

Non-Capital Reserve Funds

Betty Ann Abbott indicated that the Board of Selectmen have initiated a non-capital reserve fund for maintenance to the Academy building and is proposing to place \$25,000.00 in the fund. She indicated that the Selectmen have not yet received bids to make the necessary repairs to the Academy building in order to place the cupola back on the roof.

Tim Warren stated that no funds are earmarked for the non-capital reserve fund for title/survey fees this year due to the fact that this fund currently has \$6,600.00, which is sufficient at this time.

The non-capital reserve fund for court cases currently has \$27,000.00 in this fund and so the proposal is to only place \$10,000.00 rather than \$25,000.00.

Mr. Warren stated that the Selectmen are asking to place \$12,000.00 in the non-capital reserve fund for hydrants to replace three hydrants at the cost of \$4,000.00 each. The cost to replace two additional hydrants will be put in the Fire Department operating budget.

Adjournment

It was the consensus of the Budget Committee members to adjourn the meeting at 8:16 P.M.

Respectfully,

Rachel Hatch,
Recording Clerk