

Minutes – 8/17/06

Allenstown Budget Committee

Members Present: Dennis Carmichael, Larry Anderson, Peter Viar, Phyllis Parker, Robin McAfee, Roger LaFleur, Sted Holton, Tom Gilligan, Tom Irzyk

Members Unexcused: Dan Howe, Henriette Girard

Also Present: Bill Barnett and Richard Lamarche, Kelly Collins our Town Administrator

Dennis Carmichael called the meeting to order at 7:04:38 pm/

First order of business was to accept the minutes of the June 15, 2006 meeting. Dennis asked if there was any discussion and at first Roger had a question, but later rescinded it and it was moved and seconded to accept the minutes. The motion passed;

Dennis then read an e-mail message he had received from Jennifer Morin stating that effective immediately she would be resigning from her position as Chairperson of the Allenstown Budget Committee. She had enjoyed being on the Budget Committee for the past 12 years but due to her new work schedule she could no longer give the Budget Committee the time she felt it so richly deserved. A discussion followed on whether she was just resigning her position as chairperson, or leaving the board all together. It was felt that she was leaving the board also. Tom moved and Larry seconded to regretfully accept her resignation. It passed unanimously.

We then moved forward with the task of nominating another person for the job of being the Chairman of the Budget Committee. Robin nominated Tom Gilligan for the position of Chairman and Sted seconded the motion. There was no discussion and it passed by a vote of 7 for and 2 abstaining. Tom graciously accepted the nomination.

Tom said that Dennis was doing such a good job he could finish tonight's meeting and he would start next month.

The next order of business was the appointment of committee members to sit in on the various town departments budget processes. Kelly thought we might like to talk to the two gentlemen that were here to see if they wanted to join the Budget Committee, and then they could be placed if they did. They talked with Bill Barnett first; he had been on the board before, but then because of coaching his son's hockey team he was unable to stay and now would like to come back. He stated he had lived here for about 20 years and was a mechanic for Fed Ex. They then talked with Richard Lamarche and he did not want to join tonight, he wanted to sit in on another meeting. As Bill was ready to accept coming on the Budget Committee Tom Irzyk nominated him and Larry seconded the nomination and it passed unanimously.

The appointments for the various town department budget hearings is as follows:

Police and ACO Sted Holton and Dan Howe
Fire, Emergency Mgmt., Forestry – Tom Gilligan and Dennis Carmichael
Planning and Zoning Boards and Conservation, Henriette Girard and Dan Howe
Building Inspector, Welfare, Health and Health Agencies – Robin McAfee and Bill B
Ambulance, Library, and Parks and Recreation – Robin and Bill Barnett
Elections and Reg., Finance, Executive, Gen'l Gov't Bldg – Tom Gilligan and Roger
Highway, Mapping, Revaluation, Legal, Ins. – Larry and Roger
School Board – Phyllis Parker and Larry Anderson
Sewer – Dennis Carmichael and Phyllis Parker

Next order of business was the expenditure sheets. First Kelly explained that she had paid out from the Capital Reserve Fund \$5,000.00 for the public safety building, \$35,000.00 for the town hall roof, \$1,000.00 for the police station equipment and \$20,000.00 for fire safety equipment. Peter explained that the money could be taken out of that account anytime, not just at the end of the year.

Dennis asked that when there were questions would we please state the page and number so as everyone else could follow along.

On page 8 #1-4915.10-070. Why was the roof repair \$37,223.00 instead of the \$35,000.00? It was explained that the \$2,223.00 was the engineering fee for the work they did.

On Page 8 #1-4312.10-440 it was asked if there were going to be anymore lease payments for the backhoe. They did not believe there would be.

On page 6 #1-4312.60-610 Roger asked why the municipal hydrants was so much more. Kelly then explained that last year before Roger had become a member of the Budget Committee she had made a \$20,000.00 error and money was moved around into various departments to cover the error. This had been approved by the Board of Selectmen and explained to the Budget Committee earlier in the year. Municipal hydrants were one of those placements.

Page 6 #1-4312.10-689 It was asked the reason for the overture on the cold patch and Kelly explained that most of the overtures in the Highway road work was due to the flooding we had back in May.

Page 5 #1-4290-40.610 Forest Fire supplies. Kelly explained that in the spring there had been several Forest fires, the biggest one in Hooksett. Some of that money will be returned to the town as the other towns pay towards our fire fighters who are there.

Page 5 #1-4220.60-661 Ground ladder certification. It was explained by Kelly and Peter that two of the ladders had to be replaced in order for them to be certified. Roger thought it should have come out or repairs or supplies but Peter explained that they came out of Ground Ladder Certification, as they would not have been certified otherwise.

Page 5 # 1-4220.70-390 Physical/shots. This line was over so much as there were new fire fighters that came on the Fire Department and had to have physicals and shots plus some of the regular firemen were due for their physicals and shots also. We have approximately 30 firefighters right now, and we lose 2 or 3 and then new ones come on.

Phyllis questioned where the new pick up truck for the Fire Department was on the budget sheet, but as of yet it has not appeared on it. The new truck also has a new plow on it that they will use if they have to, but mainly they plow out the fire hydrants and the cisterns.

Page 2 # 1-4191.10-540 Planning Board Advertising. Even though it was not over, it was questioned why it was so high, and Kelly explained that everyone one coming before the Planning Board for whatever their reason it had to be advertised in the local papers 2 weeks before the meeting.

Page 2 #1-4191.10-620 Planning Board Postage. This goes along with the above one as all abutters and people within 200 feet, I believe, have to be notified by certified mail of any changes being made to the property that is owned by the applicant coming before the Planning Board. Kelly then explained, that in as much as we see this as an overture in their budget, the applicant actually pays for these costs when he applies for his permits or variances. We just see the money that goes out, we do not get to see what comes back in.

In New Business Tom Irzyk gave us a report from the School Board. This year along with sending back to the town around \$25,000.00 they also were able to do some repairs to both the Armand DuPont School and Allenstown Elementary. They did a lot of repair work to the ball fields down in back of the Elementary School. They remodeled all the bathrooms, both for the students and the faculty, at the Elementary School. At Armand DuPont school they rebuilt the locker rooms and replaced the outside steps to the middle door. They also cleaned up a lot of areas. Tom then told us that Jason Carrier had resigned from the School Board and that his vacancy was open to anyone that wanted it. They should apply at the school administrative office in Pembroke if interested. Dennis asked if they had been able to hire a full time health instructor plus a part time one. Tom said that a full time health officer was hired for the Armand DuPont School and the gym teacher that is at the Elementary school that was only part time is now also the part time certified health officer there. He stated that all positions were filled and ready to go!

Kelly will e-mail us and let us know that the various department budgets are there to be picked up for us to be able to study them before they come and present their budget to us.

It was then decided that the next meeting would be September 21, 2006. We will be doing the fire department budget that night. It was decided to start the meetings earlier 6:30 PM. Please make note of the earlier time.

Kelly has worked hard setting up appointments with the Board of Selectmen for the various departments. If all goes by her scheduling it should be easier for everyone.

As there was no more business it was moved and seconded to recess the meeting.

Dennis recessed the meeting at 8:22:48 PM.

NOTE: This particular meeting took a long time to do the minutes as at several points there were more than one person speaking which takes time to decipher who is saying what. If at all possible, could we limit it to just one person speaking at a time? Also, I think the ones in the back of the room should be closer when they speak; soft-spoken people are very hard to hear. Thank you.