



**Town of Dublin
Budget Committee Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, February 5, 2019**

Present: Steve Baldwin, Nancy Campbell, Charlie Champagne (Chairman), Judy Knapp, Sturdy Thomas (Selectmen's Representative), Susie Vogel

Absent: Bill Gurney

Also Present: Sherry Miller (Town Administrator), Felicity Pool, Allan Pinney, Beth Pinney

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Champagne.

Minutes from the January 29, 2019 meeting were approved as amended.

Felicity Pool spoke on the **Milfoil fund** issue. The invasive type of milfoil, which is what we are concerned about, spreads very fast and thus having funds available when needed is critical. There is a fear that an existing milfoil mat may have been disturbed by the August 2018 storm and if it reappears and begins to spread it needs to be dealt with promptly. Maintaining the fund also shows that the town is concerned about the health of the lake. The original fund was established for town of Dublin waterbodies and can be used on any body of water if milfoil appears, not just the lake.

Motion made by Nancy, seconded by Sturdy to reconsider this action. Passed 6-0.

Article 20: Discontinue Capital Reserve and/or Expendable Trust Funds (Milfoil Clean-Up and Remediation). Nancy moved to recommend Article 20, seconded by Charlie. Failed 0-6.

Article 21: (by petition) **Dublin Community Center** request for \$8,000 to help fund 44% of the center's program coordinator's salary. Charlie moved to recommend, Sturdy seconded. BOS felt that the Community Center is an asset to the community and the community has been vocal in their support of the Community Center in the past. Charlie feels that since they already receive a tax break on part of their building, that should be considered the Town's contribution. Susie felt that they should work within their budget and not run a capital campaign for additional space before they ask for additional funds

from the Town. Also it was felt that there was still a need for some representation from town government, e.g., BOS, Budget Committee. Failed 1-5.

Petition Warrant Article: Rescind the Recycling Center Fund and move the money into the General Fund. Study moved to recommend and Charlie seconded. Charlie feels that if there is work needed at the Recycling Center they should be funded as any other town building/site. Currently it can be used for any purpose at the Recycling Center. If it went into a revolving fund it could be accessed at any time. If it is put into the General Fund it could be used for any purpose not necessarily the recycling center. Geoff stated that the fund was originally set up to buy equipment before it was modified. It cannot be used to offset operating costs which are currently funded out of the general fund. Geoff stated that it could be modified at Town Meeting if so warranted. Passed 3-2-1.

Judy moved, seconded by Sturdy to reconsider the **Library Budget**: Judy pointed out that the salaries for this year were overspent and no money was sent to the town to offset the higher salary expenditures caused by additional hours as had been stated in the Library Trustee minutes. Charlie indicated that Library would be up 9% and other town salaries are up 7%. Judy withdrew the motion.

Nancy pointed out that we never voted on \$2,041,859 for the total operating budget. Charlie moved and Sturdy seconded to approve the amount. Approved, 6-0.

Charlie asked if there should be any change in the approach that we take on the budget when we present it to the town. Susie said that in looking at the budget she felt we should spend what we must so that we don't end up playing catch up in future years. The Capital Improvement Plan goes on the most prudent information when it looks at potential needs. Charlie stated we will have to explain why we went up 5.65% over last year. No one indicated that they had a specific warrant article that they would like to speak to.

Next meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 12, 2019 at 7:00 to finalize anything before the Budget Hearing at 7:30.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith A. Knapp, Co- Secretary