



**Town of Dublin  
Budget Committee Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, April 16, 2019**

Present: Steve Baldwin, Nancy Campbell, Charlie Champagne (Chairman), Dale Gabel (Selectmen's Representative), William Gurney, Judy Knapp and Susie Vogel

Also Present: Sherry Miller – Town Administrator

Meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM by Charlie Champagne.

Judy moved, and Bill seconded, that the minutes from the February 13, 2019 meeting be approved as written. Passed 6-0-1, Dale abstaining. Judy moved and Bill seconded, that the minutes from the February 13, 2019 Budget Hearing be approved as written. Passed 6-0-1, Dale abstaining.

Charlie reviewed the past year. He continues to be concerned about working collaboratively with the BOS, committees and departments. He felt that the transparency that we have sought with the BOS, while improved during the development of the operating budget, was not evident during the discussions about the warrant articles. He expressed concern with things that were said by department heads at the Town Meeting had never been brought to the Budget Committee's attention during the budget period. It was also concerning that the BOS were aware of issues and never brought them to our attention. It came out at the town meeting that the loader being transferred to the Recycling Center would be a "back-up" machine for use by the Highway Department for use in times of emergency. This had also not been brought to our attention during the normal budget process. This is not the transparency that Charlie had hoped for and felt had been demonstrated during the rest of the budget process. There were other issues that only came out at town meeting that might have influenced the way we voted on issues but that instead made it look like we do not have either the town's or the town employees' best interest in mind.

Dale stated that a citizen should not always pursue town issues on their own, including contacting companies and individuals we do business with. Only people who are authorized to speak for the town should contact companies that we have a contractual arrangement with.

Susie felt that since we got closer on the issue of the Dublin Community Center that it might change next year. She felt that people were getting frustrated with continually being asked to assist in financially supporting the Center.

Steve nominated Charlie as chair, Bill seconded. Dale nominated Bill, Charlie seconded. The Committee elected Charlie 6-1. Charlie nominated Nancy and Judy as co-secretaries, seconded by Dale. Elected unanimously.

The following are officers for the 2019-2020 year:

- Chair – Charlie Champagne
- Co-Secretaries – Judy Knapp & Nancy Campbell

Charlie circulated the response from Sherry on the emergency road repairs necessitate by the August 17, 2018 storm.

The Committee reviewed Expenses and Revenues for the first quarter.

**Expenses:**

**Elections:** Advertising only expended when public notices are required.

**Financial Administration:**

**Audit:** should be completed by July

**Revaluation:**

**Property Map Revisions:** a full revision has not been done since 2012 and there were a lot of changes to be made.

**Personnel Administration:**

Are there any plans to look at health insurance this year? Dale will bring up with the BOS

**Police:** Even with the loss of one officer, there should not be an increase in the part-time officers line.

**Building Inspection:** some costs are split between all of the towns he serves, e.g., training.

**Highway:**

**Repairs:** Maintenance expenses are in this line. The employees sometimes do the maintenance and other times they have an outside vendor. Preventative maintenance is done as recommended by the manual. Dale will ask Roger what the maintenance schedule is. New loader is under warranty.

**Miscellaneous:** \$16,493 would have been paid out of the emergency funds or encumbered in 2018 if submitted when received (December 2018). However, since it was not submitted until March 2018 it has to be charged to the 2019 budget year. Roger is aware that he cannot over expend the total budget for the year.

**Street Lighting:** waiting for the electricity to be turned off to the lights by the deflection island before those street lights can be repaired. The damage should be paid for by the trucking company.

**Solid Waste:**

The old loader will be traded in (the Town will still get \$10,000 for it) when the new highway loader is received and the current highway loader is delivered to solid waste.

Recycling is still an issue since it is not clear who is continuing taking recycled material.

**Parks & Recreation:**

**Electricity:** Outdoor light at the ball field.

**Revenues:**

Restricted donations to the Police Dept. are small donations that are designated to the police department.

Trust and Agency Funds: for the mold remediation.

**Other Business:**

There will be a meeting of the citizen's group that wants to withdraw from the Conval district Wednesday, April 17th at the library. The BOS has told the group to make sure that people know that they do not represent the town but are a private citizens' group. The next meeting of the Budget Committee is scheduled for Tuesday, July 16, 2019 to review the 2nd quarter expenses and revenues.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith A. Knapp, Co-Secretary