

DUBLIN BUDGET COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes
January 20, 2021

Present: Steve Baldwin, Nancy Campbell, Bill Gurney (Chairman), Judy Knapp, Walter Snitko (Selectmen's Representative), K Vanderbilt and Susie Vogel

Also present: Kate Fuller – Town Administrator, Tom Kennedy - Solid Waste

Meeting was called to order via Zoom at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Gurney.

Minutes from the January 12, 2021 meeting were moved by Judy and seconded by Steve and approved as amended. 6-0 (K not present for this vote)

Bill asked if there were updates on any of the warrant articles. We have not yet received a petition warrant for the Dublin Community Center.

Kate said that there might be a couple of steel buildings available. Bill asked Tom what he thought of the possibly of one of these units. Tom said that he couldn't comment until he knew where we stood re recycling. He feels that the current building is inadequate if we are going to continue to recycle. Steve stated that he feels that the trailer floors are unsafe and dangerous to use.

Warrant Articles:

Health Agencies: \$7,890. Nancy moved and Judy seconded a motion to recommend the Health Agencies for \$7,890.

a)	Big Brothers Big Sisters	\$ 500.00
b)	CASA	\$ 500.00
c)	Southwestern Community Services	\$ 500.00
d)	Monadnock Family Services	\$1,996.00
e)	Home Health Care	\$1,690.00
f)	River Center	\$ 500.00
g)	Community Volunteer Transportation Company	\$ 500.00
h)	Monadnock Region Child Advocacy Center	\$ 500.00
i)	Keene Community Kitchen	\$ 500.00
j)	MCVP Crisis Prevention Center	\$ 204.00
k)	Hundred Nights, Inc.	\$ 500.00

Steve pointed out that this year's budget is \$300 more than last year. Bill asked if the Committee was voting on the entire article or whether we could amend it. Walter felt that at this point it was an up or down vote. Walter felt that the increase was not the issue but more one of philosophical position. If the increase makes the difference between the Budget Committee recommending or not recommending this article he would take it back to the BOS to reconsider, but his feeling is that money is not the issue. Motion to recommend failed 1 (Walter) - 6

Review and voting on operating budget by departments:

Personnel Administration: Walter moved to reopen **Personnel Administration**, seconded by K. Passed 7-0. Kate explained that Primex returns money if they don't spend all the money. This has resulted in a reduction in Workmen's Comp by \$3,557 from \$17,073 to \$13,516. Unemployment Compensation is down \$413 from \$836 to \$423. Judy moved and Susie seconded a motion to recommend **Personnel Administration** at \$222,473. Passed 7-0

Insurance: Walter moved and Susie seconded reopening **Insurance**. Passed 7-0. The new projected number for 2021 for Property/Liability Insurance is reduced by \$206 from \$34,755 to \$34,549. Bill moved and Nancy seconded a motion to recommend **Insurance** at \$34,549. Passed 7-0.

Building Inspector: Kate said that Twin Bridges suggested increasing the Equipment line by \$300 to \$1,300 in order to buy a laptop. Nancy questioned why this item was not in **Other General Government**, Computer Expenses, where these items normally are. Judy moved and K seconded, Building Inspector at \$21,342. Passed 7-0. Susie moved to reopen this budget seconded by K. Passed 7-0. Judy moved, seconded by Nancy to reduce the equipment line from \$1,000 to \$1. Nancy said that she believes that the \$1,000 was, in fact, not for a computer but for code books. Judy withdrew her motion. Discussion was had over whether we needed a hard copy of the code book rather than an electronic copy that is available online. Department budget tabled. Kate will verify with the building inspector to see if having a link to the code book on the web site would be sufficient. Do we in fact have to have a hard copy in the town hall.

Other General Government: Nancy moved, second by Susie to reopen **Other General Government**, passed 7-0. Computer Expense line should increase by \$1,300 to \$16,680. Judy moved and seconded by Susie to approve **Other General Government** at \$36,999. Passed 7-0.

Kate asked Nancy if she should include the 4 names of the individuals that make up the Perpetual Care Trust. Should they be included in the warrant article for the Cemetery Trust Fund. Nancy said if that is allowed by DRA the names should be included. Kate asked if she should put the \$2,450 in the Payment to Cemetery Trust Fund line (01-4915.3-911). Nancy said it sounded right to her.

Kate said that Neil is due for a longevity increase, 2021 is his 10-year anniversary, totaling \$197.40 (based on \$20 hours) for Deputy TC/TX. He got a 2% increase between 2019 and 2020. The longevity increase is 2.5%. Judy asked if he is due for any other longevity increases. He was shown in last year's compensation study as having been eligible for a longevity increase in all of his positions. Kate will bring back the adjustments for all of his longevity eligible positions.

Kate suggested increasing Town Meeting expenses by \$1,200 due to possible need to mail information twice to every registered voter. A different sound system would also be needed. Since we are not sure what the plan for town meeting will be, Kate will bring this back after we know what the plan will be.

Total operating budget will be voted on at next meeting after we get the information on the Building Inspector, Town Meeting expenses and Neil Sandford's salary.

We will finalize the notice about the Budget Hearing next week. Currently, we have the date of February 9th and thus it has to be noticed in the *Monadnock Ledger Transcript* by January 28. Does it depend on when we will have the Town Meeting? Walter said that he wasn't sure what guidance the town attorney could give us until we have a date for town meeting. Kate will check with NHMA legal on the timeline for noticing the Budget Hearing if we don't have a date yet for the town meeting.

Kate asked when we would be finalizing the budget and warrant articles since she needs to get the copy to the printer by February 15th. Bill stated that we are waiting for further information from the board of selectmen and when we get that information we will move on the budget.

Bill asked if anyone had any changes to the Budget Committee report for the 2020 town report that he forwarded to the Committee. Nancy noted that Kate should not be listed as a member of the committee but only in the body of the report as the Town Administrator. Susie suggested some minor edits. Bill will rewrite before he submits to Kate.

Judy moved and K seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting. Meeting was adjourned at 8:29 p.m.

The next meeting to continue the approval of the Operating Budget, Revenue Budget and Warrant Articles will be Tuesday, January 26, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.by Zoom.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith A. Knapp, Co- Secretary