

**BARRE TOWN BUDGET REVIEW
FOR THE PROPOSED BUDGET 2014-2015**

February 18, 2014

BUDGET COMMITTEE MINUTES

February 18, 2014

The duly warned meeting of the Barre Town Budget Review Committee for the proposed 2014-2015 fiscal year budget was held February 18, 2014 at the Barre Town Municipal Building, Emergency Operation Center, Lower Websterville at 6:30 p.m.

The following members were in attendance: Jeff Blow, Rob LaClair, William Wolfe, W. John "Jack" Mitchell, Chris Day, Jay Perkins, and Jeff Newton. Members not present included: JP Isabelle, Greg Donahue, and Rolland Tessier.

Also in attendance were: Town Manager Carl Rogers, Town Clerk-Treasurer Donna J. Kelty, EMS Director Dave Jennings, Aldrich Library Representatives: Nancy Pope, Rob Spring, Karen Lane, and John Poeton.

CALL TO ORDER

Town Manager Rogers called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

ALDRICH LIBRARY PRESENTATION

The Library Board did a power point presentation and led a discussion on the fiscal health of the Library. Their request this year is for \$150,000. The past five years the Town's contribution has been \$103,000 plus payment of a bond issue. A loan was obtained to make improvements to the Barre City branch to include a handicap entrance.

Handouts giving a brief history/facts about the Aldrich Library, the changing role of today's library, and general service information (hours, staffing, programming) were distributed.

AMBULANCE FUND

The proposed budget is increasing 6.06% or \$101,920. The bottom line is the per capita charge to customer Towns is maxed out. Barre Town's per capita charge is increasing \$51,162 which accounts for half of the proposed budget increase.

The majority of revenue comes from public insurances (Medicare, Medicaid, and V.A.). Rules are changing constantly and the amount of reimbursement due to bundle billing (packaging everything into a lump amount) is not what it should be.

With the high cost of defibrillators one idea floated was to create a capital reserve line item for future replacement just like we do for Fire Department gear. Other items noted are the rising cost of supplies, procedure and training changes all of which mean a higher cost.

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

There was a brief discussion regarding the Green Mountain Care and impact to the Town at this time.

HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT

Next week the Committee will receive the Highway Fund. Be prepared to discuss them at the meeting next Tuesday. If you have questions prior to the meeting feel free to call (479-9331) or email (crogers@barretown.org) the Town Manager.

Should you be unable to attend a meeting or will be late, contact the Town Manager as soon as possible. He will also be available if you want a one-on-one session to catch up on the information you missed. The Budget Committee meetings are audio taped and will be another

BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING OF February 18, 2014 continued:

resource available to you. All meeting minutes are posted on the website (www.barretown.org). From the homepage, look under the Boards/Commission button, and click on Budget Committee.

MINUTE APPROVAL

Due to time the item was passed over until next week.

NEXT MEETING

The Budget Committee meeting will reconvene on Tuesday, February 25, 2014, 6:30 p.m. at the Emergency Operation Center, Municipal Building in Lower Websterville.

RECESS

The meeting recessed at 8:08 p.m.

Donna J. Kelty, Town Clerk-Treasurer

Barre Town Budget Committee

x _____
Committee Chair

x _____

x _____

x _____

x _____

x _____

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