

Barre Town Budget Committee Meeting

Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2015 - 2016

Minutes for February 17, 2015

The duly warned meeting of the Barre Town Budget Review Committee for the proposed 2014-2015 fiscal year budget was held February 17, 2015 at the Barre Town Municipal Building, Emergency Operation Center, Lower Websterville at 6:30 p.m.

The following members were in attendance: Chair Rolland Tessier, Jeff Blow, Rob LaClair, Tom White, W, John "Jack" Mitchell, JP Isabelle, Scott Hutchins, Paul Malone, Chris Day, and Jaimes Fewer (arrived at 6:38 p.m.).

Also in attendance were: Town Manager Carl Rogers, Town Clerk-Treasurer Donna J. Kelty, Town Engineer Harry Hinrichsen, DPW Superintendent Richard Tetreault, and Shop Foreman Mike Martel.

CALL TO ORDER

Town Manager Rogers called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m.

MINUTES

On a motion by White, seconded by Malone, the Budget Committee voted unanimously to approve the minutes of February 10, 2015.

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

JP Isabelle asked that the Cemetery line item 200-459-470 in the amount of \$2,600 be placed on the board for future discussion. The thought is to eliminate asking the voters for additional money.

OTHER INFORMATION

The Manager distributed the Ambulance Fund budget and Year 1 of the 5-Year Gravel Road Plan which had been excluded.

He reminded the Committee that the Citizen Budget Tour will be held on Saturday, February 21st, 8:00 a.m. It will begin at the Municipal Building. JP Isabelle, Jaimes Fewer, and Scott Hutchins will not be present.

EQUIPMENT FUND

Review began with the 5-Year Equipment Plan (located in the Appendix section of the budget book). The Equipment Fund expense budget uses this document to prepare the proposed budget. The major discussion points were the equipment inventory list, replacement schedule for vehicles, and identifying the lease payment or cash purchase within the plan. Blow requested ambulance information on the Chevrolet ambulance versus Sprinter ambulance with regards to mileage and repair costs. The Shop Foreman will prepare the data.

This proposed FY 15-16 budget is increasing 2.83% (\$38,925). Some changes impacting the increase include costs associated with installing a new generator (including concrete pad & electrician's expense), share of accounting services (first time), and bond payment adjustments. There were also some significant decreases which include a reduction in the pricing of gasoline and diesel due to falling prices, the purchase of office equipment, and the reduction to the heat account because of price of propane.

The majority of the revenue is from rent and charges to other funds. Equipment rates being proposed were increased 3% this year. Some pieces of equipment pay a flat monthly rate (no need to track hours) while others pay a per hour rate. A fairly new revenue items (second

BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING OF February 17, 2015 continued:

year) is the annual rent payment from the solar farm located off the Websterville Road (\$7,000).

On the expense side of the equation, expenses of interest to the Committee were: various town insurances, generator purchase (local share), purchase of a tire balancer, and outside services (towing).

At the last meeting a request was made for additional information pertaining to the sewer vactor. An inquiry was made as to when it might be available. Rogers stated it would be completed soon.

HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT

Next week the Committee will review the Highway and Ambulance Fund budgets. If you have questions prior to the meeting feel free to call (479-9331) or email (crogers@barretown.org) the Town Manager.

Reminder: 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 resource available to you. All meeting minutes are posted on the website (www.barretown.org).

NEXT MEETING

The Budget Committee meeting will reconvene on Tuesday, February 24, 2015, 6:30 p.m. at the Emergency Operation Center, Municipal Building in Lower Websterville.

RECESS

By consensus the Budget Committee recessed the meeting at 7:54 p.m.

Donna J. Kelty, Town Clerk-Treasurer

Barre Town Budget Committee

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Committee Chair

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