

**ADVISORY BUDGET COMMITTEE
TOWN OF MADISON
November 21, 2017
MINUTES**

Members Present – Chairman Bill Lord; Selectmen Representative John Arruda; School Board Representative Jim Curran; Nicole Nordlund; Ron Force; Ned Rogerson

Others Present – Selectman Robert J. King, Jr.; Police Chief Ted Colby; Fire Chief Richard Clark; Tax Collector/Assistant Fire Chief Michael Brooks; Finance Director Su Stacey; Recording Secretary Linda Shackford; Madison TV Videographer Tim Hughes

Members Absent – Jeffrey Balogh

Where and When Posted – Town Hall upper & lower bulletin boards and Madison & Silver Lake Post Offices on September 18, 2017.

Meeting Called to Order – By Chairman Lord at 6:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Force, seconded by Rogerson to approve the minutes of October 24, 2017 as written. The motion passed **unanimously**.

DRAWDOWN REVIEW:

Arruda announced that with 89% of the year over the budget is 82% spent. Arruda noted that there are still three payrolls left and it looks like we are carrying over a little money. The only problematic standout is that the highway budget, running as it is now, will go over. This was an issue that the Selectmen were aware could happen due to an expensive truck repair. Overall, Arruda feels the drawdown looks pretty good.

Chairman Lord noted that the 2017 tax bills have been mailed. Chairman Lord deferred to Tax Collector Brooks for details. Brooks stated that 46% of the 2017 taxes have been collected. The due date is December 7th.

2018 BUDGET SUMMARY:

Finance Director Stacey made note that there were changes in location of tax mapping funds between Building, Executive and Assessing that did not change the bottom line.

Discussion involved:

Highway – Considering a change in personnel with the hiring of a Department of Public Works Director there may be a change in the salary line.

Insurance – The experience was the reasoning for change in the workman's compensation portion.

Tan – The amount on this line was reduced back to \$1.00. Stacey stated that the need for a TAN in 2018 will be reduced due to a memo that will be sent to department heads stating that no large purchases be made until after collection of P01 tax bill.

Notes Due – The note for the purchase of air packs is in its second year of a 3-year lease with the last payment due in 2019.

Personnel Administration – Health Insurance rates overall went down. These numbers take into consideration the contribution of 5% by employees and the rate decrease.

Planning Board – The rise reflects in increase in the Administrators hourly rate with no increase in hours.
SWAC – Finance Director Stacey noted that no definite numbers have been received from that department. The Selectmen will be reviewing the Hazardous Waste appropriation at their next meeting. Stacey will attend the next SWAC meeting to gather more information.

DISCUSSION ITEMS/NEW BUSINESS

Arruda stated that as the budget looks now it will be presented at Town Meeting at over three million dollars and he will not present it at Town Meeting with a figure that large.

Warrant Articles:

- 3. Street paving/reclaiming** – There will be a new DPW director. Consideration to cut the \$100,000 amount was made as no plan for specific roads have been made. Town Meeting always requests to know which road projects were scheduled. The \$100,000 will remain.
- 4. Transfer Station Replacement Compactor** – The quote amount of \$33,590 was plugged into the budget. It was decided that a Capital Reserve Fund would be established with a warrant article for \$20,000 in 2018 with the remainder added and project completed in 2019.
- 5. Fire Department Command Vehicle Replacement** – Projected estimate \$45,000. Chief Clark explained that the current command vehicle is going in to be serviced and another year of use could come out of it. If the vehicle needs to be replaced it would be done with a lease and spread out.
- 6. Pave Parking lot at Fire Station** – Estimated cost \$30,000. The plan would be to replace and expand the current paved area. The quote is based on last year's price.
- 7. Assessing** – No changes
- 8. Police SPOTS System** - \$28,000 with \$9,000 grant offset. Chief Colby explained that the amount of the system is down to \$17,660 with a \$4,600 grant. This SPOTS System will enable cruisers to be work stations and share information with State Police and the Sheriff's Department. This also sets up the e-ticket system. Chairman Lord thanked Chief Colby for applying for the grant money.
- 9. Fire Gear Washer/Dryer Unit** – Chief Clark explained the need for the \$20,000 unit citing cancer related illnesses. The gear is to be washed after each car or house fire. The Center Ossipee station currently allows our gear to be washer there. Chairman Lord and Force suggested paying Center Ossipee for the use of their unit. Chairman Lord asked if there is room in the station. He was answered with a yes. Force and Nordlund expressed their liking of sharing with another town.
- 10. Library Boiler** – The new heating system is listed at \$11,700 without an actual estimate received. The boiler is 23 years old with a place on the CIP for 2018. Arruda would like to have Jesse Lyman put in an estimate.
- 11. Boat Ramp Repair** – A \$10,000 figure was estimated. Arruda would like to see the Town repair the ramp ourselves. Arruda noted that since this is a use that not all taxpayers benefit from the Selectmen has been considering a fee for non-resident/taxpayers. It was agreed to remove the Boat Ramp Repair warrant article.
- 12. Dock at Foot of the Lake Replacement** - \$5,500.00 is in this article. The amount came as an average of estimates received. Brooks asked if the dock repair line in the Parks and Rec operating budget could come down seeing that there is a warrant article in place to replace it. The warrant article amount is for the Foot of the Lake dock. Alan Libby gathered several estimates for replacement. Some estimates include installation, some do not.
- 13. Fireworks** - \$5,300 for Old Home Week Fireworks. It was decided that this would come off and the OHW committee will be informed to file as a petition warrant article.

14. Conservation Land Acquisition – The amount to be placed on the warrant is \$5,000. The Land Use Change Tax portion collected for the Conservation Commission will be over \$20,000 for 2017. Arruda stated he would not recommend the article as a Selectman. Brooks noted that before land could be acquired it would have to come before Town Meeting for a vote. It was agreed that since the fireworks were being pulled from the warrant, this article would be pulled also.

15. Library Ramp - \$3,500 for the entrance ramp at the Library. The article will be removed from the warrant with an increase in the General Government Building line of \$1,000.

16. Madison TV Balance – This all comes from franchise fees.

17. OHW ETF for Donations – Housekeeping issue for handling of donated funds.

18 – 25. Charitables – No discussion was made as no information has been received from the organizations.

Finance Director Stacey mentioned that the warrant article for monies to be placed in the Grader Fund have not been taken into consideration. The Selectmen will discuss this at their meeting.

King did some figuring and with the changes to the warrant articles just addressed above it lowers the total amount by \$77,830.00 which brings the total amount below three million dollars.

Chairman Lord feels that the Town Meeting is owed an explanation regarding the Ambulance Committee update. Chairman Lord asked if there has been any progress with the Energy Committee, Nordlund responded that there are some things in motion but they have not met recently.

Chief Clark stated that the generator company will be in town on November 29th to offer information about getting the Town Hall and Highway garage set up. Chief Clark has found that we are eligible for a 50% grant through Emergency Management.

School Board Representative Curran informed the committee that school tuition will be going up based on last years numbers. A 9% increase is expected. Force asked if the enrollment continues to drop will cuts be considered. Curran stated that we have no control over how SAU #9 operates.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – There were none.

Chairman Lord thanked the Fire and Police Chiefs for their attendance.

NEXT ADVISORY BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING – The next Advisory Budget Committee Meeting will be on Tuesday, December 19, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. in the lower level of Town Hall.

7:20 PM – Balogh made a **motion** to adjourn, seconded by Force. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Shackford
Recording Secretary