

**ADVISORY BUDGET COMMITTEE
TOWN OF MADISON
September 26, 2017
MINUTES**

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

Others Present – Selectmen Josh L. Shackford and Robert J. King, Jr.; Recording Secretary Linda Shackford; Madison TV Videographer Carol Dandeneau

Where and When Posted – Town Hall upper & lower bulletin boards and Madison & Silver Lake Post Offices on October 19, 2017.

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

Pledge of Allegiance: Lord led those assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Lord and the Committee offered a fond farewell to their long-time committee member Hersh Sosnoff who passed away. Lord reminded the committee of a quote from Sosnoff, “Agree to disagree and not be disagreeable about it”.

Lord welcomed School Board Chairman Jim Curran to the committee and noted that the committee is still in need of an alternate.

Lord asked for a nomination for Chairman of the committee. Force noted the outstanding job that Lord has done for years and made a **motion** to nominate Lord as chairman of the committee, seconded by Balogh. The motion passed **unanimously**.

DRAWDOWN REVIEW

Arruda noted that we are 74.5% of the year with 70.4% of the budget utilized.

The committee reviewed and discussed each section of the 2017 budget. Discussion points are listed:
Highway – Replacement of engine for Truck #14 cost \$69,000 which had \$20,000 taken from the Highway Heavy Equipment ETF and the balance from the Highway Budget. The Town received \$86,903.03 from the State for SB 38. These funds will be used to make improvements to Boulder Road and Colby Hill Road.
Legal – Ledge Pond Road has had issues for the Selectmen and Planning Board. Instead of two lawyers the boards have combined to use one attorney. It is expected that these expenses will be reimbursed.
Parks & Rec – Damage has been discovered to the blocks at the East Shore Drive Boat Ramp. This repair would be an expense for 2018.

Discussion of large budget items for 2018:

Ambulance – Rogerson updated the committee that the current ambulance can be used for as long as it can pass inspection. It currently has 22,000 miles and is in good condition. No action to be taken. J. Shackford added that it will be 5 years before this will need to be readdressed.

Fire Department – Arruda stated that the fire department is considering a dual-purpose hose tower/ventilation addition. Brooks and Clark are obtaining a pricing.

Transfer Station – King told the committee that SWAC has been looking into a new compactor to be placed at the existing cardboard pad and eventually run two compactors. OSHA standards and regulations need to be taken into consideration. A two-phase plan to purchase a new compactor for \$25,000 and refurbishment of current compactor at \$7,000.

Capital Reserve – J. Shackford suggested that the Highway Heavy Equipment ETF that had \$20,000 used for the repair of Truck #14 be replenished.

ENERGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE – Nordlund stated that the last meeting was cancelled. There are no current plans to present.

SCHEDULE REVIEW – Chairman Lord listed the meeting dates for 2017 which will be held at the lower level of Town Hall commencing at 6:00 pm:

- October 24
- November 21
- December 19

PUBLIC COMMENTS – There were none.

SCHOOL BUDGET – Curran updated the committee about the decision to outsource transportation this year. Eldridge Transportation of Effingham was chosen. The school is holding the note on the busses for five years with a re-evaluation of the agreement to be done after one year. Arruda asked for an idea of the extra expense incurred. Curran guesstimated \$75,000. Chairman Lord asked Curran to inform the committee of the School Board budget timeline. Curran expected to have this information next week.

Rogerson brought up the Ambulance Committee for discussion noting that the Town currently does not have enough qualified volunteers to man it. J. Shackford added that Chief Clark discussed with the Ambulance Committee an old suggestion of working on a co-operative ambulance agreement with the Town of Freedom as they have the personnel and no ambulance.

Balogh noted that West Shore Drive is in need of attention. Force suggested that some of the \$100,000 annually used for road improvements could be used for West Shore Drive.

NEXT ADVISORY BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING – The next Advisory Budget Committee Meeting will be on Tuesday, October 24, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. in the lower level of Town Hall.

6:46 PM – Balogh made a **motion** to adjourn, seconded by Force. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Shackford
Recording Secretary