

**ADVISORY BUDGET COMMITTEE
TOWN OF MADISON
January 30, 2018
MINUTES**

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

Others Present – Selectman Josh Shackford; Resident Adam Leiser; Finance Director Su Stacey; Recording Secretary Linda Shackford; Madison TV Videographers Amy Boyd and Jenna Boyd

Where and When Posted – Town Hall upper & lower bulletin boards and Madison & Silver Lake Post Offices on December 26, 2017.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Curran, seconded by Rogerson to approve the minutes of January 8, 2018 as written. The motion passed **unanimously**.

CHANGES TO BUDGET;

There were some changes to the budget which included General Government and Solid Waste lines. Solid Waste equipment maintenance line went down to \$4,000. A new line was added for Solid Waste as maintenance which included \$5,000 which will be used for a new concrete pad. Chairman Lord noted there were no big bottom line changes with 2.6 million dollars.

AND TOWN WARRANT ARTICLES:

Library Boiler will be put out as an RFP as what was received was not an ‘apples to apples’ comparison. The Selectmen’s office, in conjunction with the Librarian will do that.

Fireworks shall be placed on the warrant with a \$1.00 amount allowing for amending the amount on the floor of Town Meeting.

Keno will be added for potential future business in town. Purity Spring is the only currently eligible business in the town.

Reclassification of Goe Hill, Kiljockety and Thomas Harmon Roads from Class VI to Class A Municipal trails. J. Shackford explained that it will still be open to the public but the Selectmen can gate the property at certain times of year. These roads are entered through Freedom’s Town Forest with the only access that Freedom did not gate. This will prevent damage to the area.

Replace dock at Foot of the Lake is different from the boat launch. This will replace the dock where the boats load and unload passengers. The Selectmen are considering a user fee for the boat launch; this is where the warrant article for RSA 41:9a will come into play.

DISCUSSION OF TOWN EMPLOYEE HEALTH INSURANCE CONTRIBUTIONS:

As of the beginning of 2018 the employees taking advantage of the town’s health insurance plan will be required to contribute 5% of the premium. These amounts are already reflected in the budget.

DISCUSSION OF PETITION WARRANT ARTICLES:

Tri-Cap Fuel Assistance: \$5,000 – 70 Madison recipients

Gibson Center: \$3,500 – 4,743 meals for Madison

Ossipee Children’s Fund: \$1,500 – 14 Madison children assisted

Children Unlimited: \$3,100 – 10 Madison families assisted

Northern Health Services \$2,149 – 33 Madison Clients in 2016

Starting Point: \$1,365 – 7 Madison residents; 162 calls

White Mountain Community Health Center: \$6,942 – 242 Madison Patients at \$28.69 each
Carroll County Transit: \$3,500 – 172 Madison trips, 25 unduplicated

The Committee discussed Carroll County Transit to some length. Concerns of vehicle maintenance, computation of trips and the sustainable nature of a volunteer venture in such a rural area was expressed. They do also collect a fee from each passenger. J. Shackford will be voting against this article in honor of the late Hersh Sosnoff. Nordlund noted a large difference in the contributions of Madison versus Conway with relation to trips made. There were 2,500 Conway trips with a requested \$4,500 and 172 Madison trips with a requested \$3,500. Chairman Lord noted no financials have been received as of yet. Force suggested abstaining should they not be received.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL REPAIR WARRANT ARTICLE:

Chairman Lord noted that this discussion was not on the agenda and asked School Board Chairman Curran for an updated. Curran explained that it looks good for the school to receive the \$400,000 grant. The \$160,000 in the capital reserve fund has been expended. The repairs are moving along with some structural inspections still necessary. Town Meeting’s date looks good for holding it at the school. Curran explained that the 1.5-million-dollar bond warrant article now looks like it will be lower taking into consideration the \$400,000 grant. Force noted that there will be this bond and a huge tuition increase coming; Force hoped that this would all be taken into consideration when deciding on how many years to pay back the bond; 10 years versus 15 years. Force also noted that the Advisory Budget Committee vote taken prior to this meeting on this specific issue would no longer be valid if the final bond warrant article exceeded 1.5 million dollars and/or was not reduced by all grant funds received because these items were the basis of our decision to support this article.

SCHEDULE/LOCATION OF UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Chairman Lord announced upcoming important dates:

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| February 5, 2018 | School Deliberative Session at the Elementary School |
| February 6, 2018 | Town Budget Hearing at Town Hall Meeting Room |
| March 13, 2018 | Voting at Elementary School |
| March 17, 2018 | Town Meeting at Elementary School |

PUBLIC COMMENTS –

Resident Adam Leiser commented on the Carroll County Transit discussion and suggested that there would be other options available for the Town such as a town sponsored UBER. Leiser also offered his opinion that the school department should be able to give upfront amounts on tuition bills so that budgeting can be done appropriately. Discussion amongst all began about options for years down the road regarding tuitioned students to the Middle and High School and a combining of Madison and Freedom Elementary schools.

NEXT ADVISORY BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING – The next Advisory Budget Committee Meeting will be on Monday, February 5, 2018 attending the School Deliberative Session immediately followed by and Advisory Budget Committee Meeting.

7:22 PM – King made a **motion** to adjourn, seconded by Force. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Shackford
Recording Secretary