

ADVISORY BUDGET COMMITTEE
TOWN OF MADISON
September 28, 2021
MINUTES

Members Present – Chairman Ron Force; Steve Bartlett; Doug McAllister; Tino Fernandes; Ned Rogerson

Members Excused – Selectmen Representative Bill Lord; School Board Representative Mike Brooks

Others Present – Selectman Josh Shackford; Town Administrator Linda Shackford; DPW Director Jon Cyr

Where and When Posted – Town Hall upper & lower bulletin boards and Madison & Silver Lake Post Offices on August 26, 2021.

Meeting Called to Order – By Force at 6:04 p.m.

Schedule of 2020-2021 ABC meetings: Using calendars with scheduled selectmen's meetings noted, the committee decided to schedule 2021 meetings for October 12, November 9, December 7; and a 2022 meeting for January 4. These meetings will commence at 6:00 pm.

Bartlett asked about inviting the School Board to join these meetings. This will be discussed again at the October 4th meeting.

Selection of Committee Chairman: Discussion of appointment of a new chairman for the 2021-2022 budget year was discussed. Force, opting out of nomination having served as chairman, expressed the importance of rotating the chairman. Bartlett offered to accept a nomination with the understanding that he will serve one year with Rogerson holding the position next year.

Motion by Force, seconded by Fernandes to nominate Bartlett to serve as chairman for the 2021-2022 budget season. The motion passed unanimously.

Current Drawdown Budget Status – The committee reviewed the document with Fernandes asking for clarifications on some lines:

Assessing – Fernandes asked why the line is so over spent. L. Shackford responded that the Expendable Trust Fund will reimburse the line. Fernandes suggested considering a better way to make the amount spent more transparent;

Fire Member Reimbursement – It was explained to Fernandes that the members are reimbursed each November for points earned November through October of the previous year. The only funds expended from the line this year so far was because a member left the department;

SW Vehicle Maintenance – The vehicle line is considerably over with Director Cyr being able to explain that there was a truck to haul MSW purchased from that line. This truck has been doing the hauling that our previous contract with North Country Incinerator covered. Cyr expects a considerable savings in the new method with enough to balance the overage.

Recycling – The line still has quite a balance unspent; Cyr was able to explain that he has been able to get returns on some recyclables such as cardboard and aluminum, stockpiles the glass, and Cyr follows the market changes for paper and plastic.

Uniforms – The Solid Waste budget has spent a large amount on uniforms. Cyr explained that uniforms have always been in the that line of the Solid Waste but were for all the departments. That will rectify with the new bottom-line budget for DPW.

Preliminary Review of 2022 Budget – L. Shackford first explained that with the plan to handle Highway, Solid Waste and Parks & Rec under one bottom line amount the Department of Revenue will allow us to present our warrant to the voters in a different format called Article by Function. This will change our one large valued article to four or five smaller valued articles. Each of these smaller valued articles will contain different titles such as Safety, DPW, General Government, etc. The preliminary budget was reviewed with L. Shackford narrating the review.

Anticipated Large Expenses for 2022 Town Budget – Director Cyr anticipates a warrant article for paving and road improvements in the amount of \$215,000. This amount will follow the plan enacted for future paving in town. Pound Road, Mooney Hill Road, Fox Road, Rabbit Run Road and King Pine Road are on the list for 2022.

The Police Department may be asking for two cruisers in 2022 but it all depends upon availability.

Capital Improvement Plan Review – The committee reviewed the CIP that was reviewed by the Board of Selectmen. Bartlett noted that the main expenditures come from Fire, Police and DPW. The committee was pleased with the content.

Public Comment: There was none.

7:58 PM – Fernandes made a **motion** to adjourn, seconded by McAllister. The motion passed unanimously.

NEXT ADVISORY BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING – The next Advisory Budget Committee Meeting will be on Tuesday, October 12, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. in the Town Hall Meeting Room.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Shackford,
Town Administrator
Recording Secretary