

MINUTES  
Budget/Finance Committee Meeting  
For Town and School Budgets  
Monday, January 26, 1998

**ATTENDANCE:** Rolf Olsen, Chairman; Phil Hamilton; Louise Murray; Royce Moore; Louise Lester; Neil Southwick; Jane Jordan; Ralph Bartholomew; Howard Williams; Michael McClellan, Chairman of the School Committee; and David Bois, Superintendent.

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Rolf Olsen called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm at the Town Hall.
2. 1998/1999 School Budget.

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Hamilton felt that if the school(s) will be needing a new bus each year that possibly it should be a CIP item. Mr. Olsen said that would be up to the School Committee and felt that the school's recommendation should be enough to request a new bus whether it is annually or not. He also felt that the fleet is now diesel and would last longer than the old gasoline buses. Mr. Bois informed them that Paul Godwin, school mechanic, takes care of the buses and gives the School Committee his recommendation when he feels a bus should be retired. He added that a State Trooper inspection is done twice a year on the buses. Mr. Southwick asked about putting in a new well. Mr. McClellan said that they keep a close watch on the present system and it would probably be sufficient until the school renovations are done. Mr. Bois indicated that engineers have recommended getting a smaller pump to help the situation. He felt that a new well would be driven when the renovation was done or before that time using contingency money. Mr. Bartholomew asked what was left out of the budget in order to "hold the line". Mr. Bois said that they had to draw down on extra programs i.e. music, physical ed by using the same staff for more children which leads to fewer classes per week per child. Mr. Hamilton noted that Special Education director made about 10% more than the principal and asked why. Mr. Bois replied that the Special Education director had more time and experience to her credit. Mr. Hamilton asked about the longevity bonus for those over 20 years seniority. Mr. Bois replied that those people would not be getting raises in this contract and that they would get a \$500 bonus.

**MOTION:** Phil Hamilton motioned to adopt the School Budget as presented.  
Seconded by Neil Southwick.

**VOTE:** Unanimous.

3. School Renovation Fund.

**DISCUSSION:** Rolf Olsen asked if the Committee would consider putting away \$225,000 for the next three years and finish with the necessary balance the fourth year in order to pay for the Jordan Small School renovation. This action would save the bonding interest if we had to borrow this amount of \$885,000. Mr. Bois felt that some improvements will be made in the meantime i.e. required ramps for handicapped access which will take away from the total amount needed for the rehab. He also indicated that the architect planned conservatively which means he planned for more money needed than possibly necessary. Mr. Bartholomew asked if the bonds which we now are paying for the new bond overlap. Mr. Bois replied yes for about two years. There was more discussion about the CIP versus bond service.

**MOTION:** Royce Moore motioned to approve the school renovation plan for a CIP account in the amount of \$225,000. Seconded by Ralph Bartholomew.

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Bois said the first seventh grade class would use the renovated school in 2001.

**VOTE:** Unanimous.

4. Fire Truck.

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Poore informed the Committee that the Town Attorney recommended that there be two articles one for the purchase of the truck and the second for the funding. He said that a motioned to reconsider the purchase would be permissible if 1) it was made by a member on the prevailing side of the last vote or 2) a person not present at that vote requested it. Mr. Hamilton said that our guidelines said that nine members of the Committee needed five votes for an affirmative vote even if only 5 members are present. He read a part of Robert's Rules. He felt they had a binding motion which did not pass. He added that revisiting this motion would be setting a precedent. Mr. Olsen said that the last motion didn't have five members voting one way or another and that the Committee has no recommendation at this time. Mr. Poore indicated that this article voted on is now null and void because of the attorney's rewriting of the article. He felt the Committee could vote on the new article because there was a substantive change from the previous article. Mrs. Jordan thought that the Committee should be able to believe our legal council and go with his recommendation to vote on the new article.

**MOTION:** Howard Williams motioned to revisit this issue. Seconded by Ralph Bartholomew.

**VOTE:** 6 in favor ( Olsen, Bartholomew, Lester, Jordan, Williams, Southwick) 3 opposed (Hamilton, Murray, Moore)

**MOTION:** Jane Jordan motioned to approve Article 44 as printed. Seconded by Ralph Bartholomew.

**DISCUSSION:** Fire Chief Pellerin reported that Chris Champagne said that at a Frye Island meeting in October Vic Richards, manager, was directed by their Board to pay up to \$30,000 for Engine 6 if Raymond decided to purchase a new truck.

**VOTE:** 6 in favor (Olsen, Bartholomew, Lester, Jordan, Williams, Southwick) 3 opposed (Hamilton, Murray, Moore)

5. Unclassified.

**MOTION:** Neil Southwick motioned to approve as revised: Tri-County \$1000 and Southern Maine Agency on Aging \$750 and Raymond Village Library \$10,000 in the amount of \$27,905.00. Seconded by Ralph Bartholomew.

**VOTE:** Unanimous.

6. Article 5. \$30,000 limit for disposal of Town personal property.

**MOTION:** Neil Southwick motioned to approve. Seconded by Jane Jordan.

**VOTE:** Unanimous.

7. Article 6. Borrowing from or appropriating from undesignated surplus.

**MOTION:** Louise Lester motioned to approve adding "needs of the community" that occur. Seconded by Neil Southwick.

**DISCUSSION:** There was discussion about having "either/or" wording.

**VOTE:** Unanimous.

8. Article 7. Transfers between appropriation accounts.

**MOTION:** Neil Southwick motioned to approve. Seconded by Royce Moore.

**VOTE:** Unanimous.

9. Article 22. Septic Spreading Facility.

**MOTION:** Neil Southwick motioned to approve \$30,000. Seconded by Howard Williams.

**VOTE:** Unanimous.

10. Article 23. Tax Map 5, Lots 18 & 19. Old Landfill Site.

**MOTION:** Neil Southwick motioned to approve. Seconded by Jane Jordan.

**VOTE:** Unanimous.

11. Article 24. Administration Account.

**MOTION:** Neil Southwick motioned to approve. Seconded by Royce Moore.

**VOTE:** Unanimous.

12. Article 25. Oí Donnell CAMA program.

**MOTION:** Neil Southwick motioned to approve. Seconded by Royce Moore.

**VOTE:** Unanimous.

13. Company 1 renovation.

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Olsen asked if an appraisal of Company 1 would be made to make the building more useable. Mr. Poore hoped that we might find a volunteer in Town to give an appraisal. Chief Pellerin planned to look at this review next year.

14. James Gerry reception

**NOTE:** Chief Pellerin reported that the reception was very nice and that he thanked everyone who helped organize it.

15. Attendance of Committee.

**NOTE:** Mr. Olsen indicated that anyone who missed the October 6, 1997 meeting without notice would not be held absent without notice because of notification problems for that meeting.

**MOTION:** There was a motion and second to adjourn.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Rolf Olsen adjourned the meeting at 9:43 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Louise H. Lester  
Secretary