

Town of Raymond
401 Webbs Mills Road
Raymond, Maine 04071

BUDGET/FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
Monday, April 14, 2008

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE: Rolf Olsen; Ralph Bartholomew; Dennis Cole; Jean Carter; Bob Gosselin; Susan Accardi; Charles Leavitt; Marshall Bullock; and Jerilyn Ward.

BUDGET/FINANCE COMMITTEE ABSENT: None

SCHOOL COMMITTEE: Teresa Sadak, Chairman; and Roger Ginn.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE ABSENT: Wendy Trask, Kevin Woodbrey, and Lisa Friedlander.

SELECTMEN: Dana Desjardins.

STAFF ATTENDANCE: Sandra Caldwell, Superintendent; Randy Crockett, Principal JSMS; Dot Mowatt, Business Manager; Pat Menzel, Special Education Director; and Don Willard, Town Manager.

OTHERS: None.

1. Call to order: Rolf Olsen called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm at the Broadcast Studio.
2. Approval of Minutes dated April 1, 2008.

MOTION: Bob Gosselin motioned to approve the Minutes of April 1, 2008 as written. Seconded by Charles Leavitt.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Bartholomew asked what the 40% referred to? It was that Raymond will have a 40% share of the consolidated budget.

VOTE: Carried.

Make recommendations for the school budget and the municipal budget. School first and town second. Asked for review of any changes which have been made. There was question about the latest version being 4/14/08. Many had only 4/3/08. Olsen suggested they go from the 3/26/08 to present for changes. One additional teacher with benefits. Total operating budget as of 4/14/08 \$8,558,891. The School Board has voted to cap the tuition which will be a savings if the town votes to agree because that savings is not represented in this budget. Mr. Olsen felt that if the capped amount was included in the budget and the budget is approved it follows that the cap is approved by the town and we'll save \$44,000. Mrs. Caldwell said that they intended to have a referendum vote on whether the town wants to have a cap. Mr. Olsen felt that if that amount is in the budget and the town votes to have a cap, then the surplus on tuition will go into the CSU and not kept by the town. Mrs. Caldwell said that their legal councilor has encouraged them to have a referendum on tuition cap. She continued that the surplus would be part of their consolidation negotiation with Windham. It was noted that the legal council said this could be done by a town meeting or referendum vote. Mr. Ginn felt that at town meeting if the cap is approved then the amount going to referendum could be reduced that that amount of money. Mrs. Mowatt cautioned that the \$44,000 is fully an estimate of what tuition costs will be. There will be two articles added to the

warrant which is coming from the legal council. Mrs. Ward had concern with voting on this budget tonight because she hasn't had time to study the new budget changes.

ARTICLES PURSUANT TO 20-A M.R.S.A. SECTION 1485

ARTICLE 45: To see what sum the Town of Raymond will be authorized to expend for Regular Instruction.

School Committee Requests \$ 4,427,292
The Budget Committee
The Selectmen

MOTION: Charles Leavitt motioned to table article 45 through 54. Seconded by Susan Accardi.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Leavitt felt they needed more time to access the information which the Budget Committee hasn't had time to study before we vote on these articles. Mr. Leavitt questioned the reasons why Raymond has been over the EPS level for the last three years. He questioned whether the EPS model is at fault or whether it's a problem with our school budget. Mrs. Ward concurred saying that she would like more time to digest the information provided tonight. Mr. Leavitt asked to have an explanation of their EPS level and also what the professional staff had as their recommendations after the public hearing. Mrs. Caldwell welcomed questions but said that her recommendation was the current budget. Mr. Olsen felt that since the EPS is based on two years he felt that creating a budget in line with it was virtually impossible. Mr. Ginn felt that the EPS was a flawed model which the state has not corrected. Mr. Crockett related his experience with a school district which always came in under the EPS but was not as good a school district as he would have liked. Mrs. Accardi noted that you can't buy a good education because it's the parents' influence which makes the difference. Mrs. Caldwell reported that the public at their hearing was not going to accept the EPS model for their schools. She added that their school policy didn't agree with many of the EPS model standards. She continued that through consolidation their administrative staff will be very different with many positions being combined.

MOTION WITHDRAWN: Mr. Leavitt withdrew his motion.

MOTION: Mr. Leavitt motioned to table Articles 45 through 60. Seconded by Susan Accardi.
VOTE: Carried.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Olsen requested that Committee members submit questions to him by Friday, April 18 for which he will receive answers by April 30th from the School Board.

NEXT MEETING: Monday, May 5, 2008 at 7:00 pm at the Broadcast Studio.

MOTION: Marchall Bullock motioned to table the school entitlement article (Article 61). Seconded by Charles Leavitt.
VOTE: Carried.

ARTICLE 46: To see what sum the Town of Raymond will be authorized to expend for Special Education.

School Committee Requests \$ 1,609,309
The Budget Committee
The Selectmen

MOTION:

ARTICLE 47: To see what sum the Town of Raymond will be authorized to expend for Other Instruction.

School Committee Requests \$ 65,598
The Budget Committee
The Selectmen

MOTION:

ARTICLE 48: To see what sum the Town of Raymond will be authorized to expend for Student and Staff Support.

School Committee Requests \$ 547,979
The Budget Committee
The Selectmen

MOTION:

ARTICLE 49: To see what sum the Town of Raymond will be authorized to expend for System Administration.

School Committee Requests \$ 306,646
The Budget Committee
The Selectmen

MOTION:

ARTICLE 50: To see what sum the Town of Raymond will be authorized to expend for School Administration.

School Committee Requests \$ 287,698
The Budget Committee
The Selectmen

MOTION:

ARTICLE 51: To see what sum the Town of Raymond will be authorized to expend for Transportation and Buses.

School Committee Requests \$ 536,058
The Budget Committee
The Selectmen

MOTION:

ARTICLE 52: To see what sum the Town of Raymond will be authorized to expend for Facilities Maintenance.

School Committee Requests \$ 740,311
The Budget Committee
The Selectmen

MOTION:

ARTICLE 53: To see what sum the Town of Raymond will be authorized to expend for Debt Service and Other Commitments.

School Committee Requests \$ 618,149
The Budget Committee
The Selectmen
MOTION:

ARTICLE 54: To see what sum the Town of Raymond will be authorized to expend for All Other Expenditures.

School Committee Requests \$ 38,000
The Budget Committee
The Selectmen
MOTION:

ARTICLES PURSUANT TO 20-A M.R.S.A. Section 15690

Actions taken pursuant to items 1 – 4 must be taken by a recorded vote (secret ballot).

1. School Administrative Unit Contribution to Total Cost of Funding Public Education from Kindergarten to Grade 12 (as required by Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, §15690(1 A-B)):

1-A. For a municipal school unit:

ARTICLE 55: To see what sum the Town of Raymond will appropriate for the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act (Recommend \$ 7,362,028) and to see what sum the municipality will raise as the municipality's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act in accordance with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 15688.

School Committee requests \$ 6,233,635
The Budget Committee
The Selectmen

“Explanation: The school administrative unit’s contribution to the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act is the amount of money determined by state law to be the minimum amount that a municipality must raise in order to receive the full amount of state dollars.”

2. Appropriation for Non-state-funded Debt Service Allocation (as required by Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, §15690 (2A)):

ARTICLE 56: To see what sum the Town of Raymond will raise and appropriate for the annual payments on debt service previously approved by the legislative body for non-state-funded school construction projects, non-state-funded portions of school construction projects and minor capital projects in addition to the funds appropriated as the local share of the school administrative unit's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12.

School Committee requests \$15,629
The Budget Committee
The Selectmen

“Explanation: Non-state-funded debt service is the amount of money needed for the annual payments on the municipality/district long-term debt for major capital school construction projects and minor capital renovation projects that are not approved for state subsidy. The bonding of this long-term debt was previously approved by the voters or other legislative body.”

3. **Appropriation of Additional Local Funds (as required by Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, §15690 (3 A-B)):**

ARTICLE 57: Shall the Town of Raymond raise and appropriate \$1,774,383 in additional local funds, which exceeds the State’s Essential Programs and Services allocation model by \$ 1,610,733 as required to fund the budget recommended by the (school committee or board of directors)?

School Committee requests \$1,774,383 for additional local funds and gives the following reasons for exceeding the State’s Essential Programs and Services funding model by \$1,610,733.
The Budget Committee
The Selectmen

“Explanation: The additional local funds are those locally raised funds over and above the school administrative unit’s local contribution to the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act and local amounts raised for the annual payment on non-state funded debt service that will help achieve the (municipality/district) budget for educational programs.”

4. **Total Budget Article (as required by Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, §15690 (4A))**

ARTICLE 58: To see what sum the Town of Raymond will authorize the school committee to expend for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2008 and ending June 30, 2009 from the school administrative unit’s contribution to the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act, non-state-funded school construction projects, additional local funds for school purposes under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 15690, unexpended balances, tuition receipts, state subsidy and other receipts for the support of schools.

School Committee Requests \$ 9,177,040
The Budget Committee
The Selectmen

ARTICLE 59: To see if the Town will authorize the School Committee, for the fiscal year 2008-2009 to transfer funds between budget programs so long as the grand total of all appropriations is not exceeded. Any such transfers to be approved only at a properly called public meeting of the School Committee.

The School Committee requests approval of this Article.
The Budget Committee
The Selectmen

ARTICLE 60: To see if the municipality will reduce the additional local appropriation raised pursuant to Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A§15690(3) for public schooling by the amount of any unanticipated state general purpose aid received for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2007/2008 and ending June 30, 2009.

The School Committee requests approval of this Article.
 The Budget Committee
 The Selectmen

ARTICLE 61: Shall the Town vote to accept the categories of funds listed below as provided by the Maine State Legislature and any other funds which become available.

| Category | Estimated Amount |
|---------------------------------|------------------|
| LOCAL ENTITLEMENT | \$166,351 |
| IDEA (Part B) Local Entitlement | \$ 1,197 |
| R.E.A.P. | \$ 38,045 |
| N.C.L.B. | |
| TITLE 11A | \$ 18,458 |
| TITLE 11D | \$ 543 |
| TITLE 1 | \$ 36,515 |
| TITLE IVA | \$ 2,068 |
| TITLE V | \$ 879 |

The School Committee requests approval of this Article.
 The Budget Committee
 The Selectmen

DISCUSSION: Mr. Olsen had a question on the wording of the articles. Mr. Willard said that there will be no changes for this year and that it will be done as in years past that the articles could be lowered but not raised. Mr. Olsen questioned that if the article is passed at town meeting and turned down by referendum which stands. Mr. Olsen said they would be voting the intent of the article and not by number because the numbers may change with insertions.. Mr. Leavitt suggested “pending radification by referendum”. Mr. Willard said that the Board of Selectmen will go by tradition and continue with closed articles.

ARTICLE 12: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen on behalf of the Town to sell and dispose of any property acquired by the Town for nonpayment of taxes pursuant to the policy adopted by the Selectmen, as may be amended from time to time, the policy to remain consistent with State statutes and laws. In all cases conveyance to be made by municipal quitclaim deed.

The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Article.
 The Budget Committee

MOTION: Bob Gosselin motioned to recommend. Seconded by Charles Leavitt.
 VOTE: Carried.

ARTICLE 13: To see what date taxes will be due and to set an interest rate for unpaid amounts.

The Selectmen recommend 1st half to be due October 31, 2008 and 2nd half to be due April 30, 2009 with interest at eleven percent (11%) on any unpaid balances.

The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Article.
The Budget Committee

MOTION: Susan Accardi motioned to recommend. Seconded by Bob Gosselin.
VOTE: Carried.

ARTICLE 14: To see if the Town will vote to set the interest rate to be paid by the Town on abated taxes at eleven percent (11%) for the fiscal year.

The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Article.
The Budget Committee

MOTION: Susan Accardi motioned to recommend. Seconded by Marshall Bullock.
VOTE: Carried

ARTICLE 15: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to dispose of Town owned personal property with value not to exceed \$35,000.

The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Article.
The Budget Committee

MOTION: Bob Gosselin motioned to recommend. Seconded by Charles Leavitt.
VOTE: Carried.

ARTICLE 16: To see what sum the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to borrow from or appropriate from fund balance (surplus) as they deem advisable to meet the unanticipated needs of the community that occur during the fiscal year.

The Selectmen recommend an amount not over \$75,000.
The Budget Committee

MOTION: Susan Accardi motioned to recommend. Seconded by Marshall Bullock.
VOTE: Carried.

ARTICLE 17: To see if the Town will authorize the Selectmen, for the fiscal year 2008 - 2009, to transfer funds between appropriation accounts as long as the grand total of all appropriations is not exceeded. Any such transfers to be approved only at a properly called public meeting of the Selectmen.

The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Article.
The Budget Committee

MOTION: Bob Gosselin motioned to recommend. Seconded by Jerilyn Ward.
VOTE: Carried.

VOTE: Carried.

ARTICLE 22: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Assessing account.
Amount requested: \$66,337

The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Article.
The Budget Committee

MOTION: Bob Gosselin motioned to recommend. . Seconded by Jerilyn Ward.
VOTE: Carried.

ARTICLE 23: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Town Hall account.
Amount requested: \$30,599

The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Article.
The Budget Committee

MOTION: Bob Gosselin motioned to recommend. Seconded by Charles Leavitt.
VOTE: Carried.

ARTICLE 24: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Insurance account.
Amount requested: \$484,244

The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Article.
The Budget Committee

MOTION: Bob Gosselin motioned to recommend. Seconded by Charles Leavitt.
VOTE: Carried.

ARTICLE 25: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the General Assistance account.
Amount requested: \$2,000

The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Article.
The Budget Committee

MOTION: Bob Gosselin motioned to recommend. Seconded by Marshall Bullock.
VOTE: Carried.

ARTICLE 26: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Technology Department account.
Amount requested: \$166,400

The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Article.
The Budget Committee

MOTION: Bob Gosselin motioned to recommend. Seconded by Charles Leavitt.
VOTE: Carried.

ARTICLE 27: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Community Development account.

Amount requested: \$46,612

The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Article.

The Budget Committee

MOTION: Bob Gosselin motioned to recommend. Seconded by Susan Accardi.

VOTE: Carried.

ARTICLE 28: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Fire Department account.

Amount requested: \$593,625

The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Article.

The Budget Committee

MOTION: Bob Gosselin motioned to recommend. Seconded by Charles Leavitt.

VOTE: Carried.

ARTICLE 29: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Animal Control account.

Amount requested: \$9,238

The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Article.

The Budget Committee

MOTION: Bob Gosselin motioned to recommend. Seconded by Marshall Bullock.

VOTE: Carried

ARTICLE 30: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Infrastructure account.

Amount requested: \$21,200

The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Article.

The Budget Committee

MOTION: Bob Gosselin motioned to recommend. Seconded by Charles Leavitt.

VOTE: Carried

ARTICLE 31: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Public Works account.

Amount requested: \$553,354

The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Article.

The Budget Committee

MOTION: Bob Gosselin motioned to recommend. Seconded by Charles Leavitt.

VOTE: Carried

ARTICLE 32: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Solid Waste account.
Amount requested: \$517,466

The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Article.
The Budget Committee

MOTION: Bob Gosselin motioned to recommend. Seconded by Jerilyn Ward.
VOTE: Carried.

ARTICLE 33: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Cemeteries account.
Amount requested: \$17,795

The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Article.
The Budget Committee

MOTION: Bob Gosselin motioned to recommend. Seconded by Jerilyn Ward.
VOTE: Carried.

ARTICLE 34: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Parks & Recreation account.
Amount requested: \$13,321

The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Article.
The Budget Committee

MOTION: Jerilyn Ward motioned to recommend. Seconded by Marshall Bullock.
VOTE: Carried

ARTICLE 35: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Raymond Baseball.
Amount requested: \$1,000

The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Article.
The Budget Committee

MOTION: Bob Gosselin motioned to recommend. Seconded by Charles Leavitt.
VOTE: Carried.

ARTICLE 36: To see what sum the Town will vote to appropriate from the money received from the State for snowmobile registrations to the Raymond Rattlers Snowmobile Club for the maintenance of their system or network of snowmobile trails, on condition that those trail be open at all times to the public for outdoor recreation purposes at no charge, and to authorize the municipal officers to enter into an agreement with the Club, under such terms and conditions as the municipal officers may deem advisable, for that purpose.
Amount requested: \$2,000

The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Article.
The Budget Committee

MOTION: Bob Gosselin motioned to recommend. Seconded by Jerilyn Ward.

VOTE: Carried.

ARTICLE 37: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Raymond Village Library.

Amount requested: \$30,000

The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Article.

The Budget Committee

MOTION: Susan Accardi motioned to recommend. Seconded by Marshall Bullock.

VOTE: Carried.

ARTICLE 37: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Provider Agencies.

| | |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| Amounts requested: | 2008-2009 level |
|--------------------|-----------------|

| | |
|---------------------------------------|---------|
| Family Crisis Shelter | \$1,000 |
| Greater Bridgton Lakes Region | |
| Chamber of Commerce | \$1,000 |
| Home Health Visiting Nurses | \$4,000 |
| People's Regional Opportunity Program | \$5,500 |
| Raymond Extended Day Care | \$3,000 |
| Southern Maine Agency on Aging | \$1,950 |
| Tri-County Mental Health | \$2,712 |
| Raymond Mentoring Partnership | \$1,889 |

Amount requested: \$21,051

The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Article.

The Budget Committee

MOTION: Bob Gosselin motioned to recommend. Seconded by Susan Accardi.

VOTE: Carried.

ARTICLE 39: To see whether the Town will vote to carry forward any existing fund balance in the Capital Improvement Program (C.I.P.) account.

The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Article.

The Budget Committee

MOTION: Bob Gosselin motioned to recommend. Seconded by Jerilyn Ward.

VOTE: Carried.

ARTICLE 40: To see what sum th Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Capital Improvement account.

Amount requested: \$717,464

The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Article.

The Budget Committee

MOTION: Bob Gosselin motioned to recommend. Seconded by Charles Leavitt.

VOTE: Carried.

ARTICLE 41: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the County Tax account.
Amount requested: \$545,548

The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Article.
The Budget Committee

MOTION: Charles Leavitt motioned not to recommend. Seconded by Dennis Cole.
VOTE: Carried.

ARTICLE 42: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the total sum of \$150,000 from estimated non-property tax revenues to reduce the property tax commitment, together with all categories of funds which may be available from the federal government.

The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Article.
The Budget Committee

MOTION: Bob Gosselin motioned to recommend. Seconded by Charles Leavitt.
VOTE: Carried.

ARTICLE 43: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to accept or reject grants, donations and/or gifts of money to the Town of Raymond and to expend monies donated for specific purposes.

The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Article.
The Budget Committee

MOTION: Charles Leavitt motioned to recommend. Seconded by Marshall Bullock.
VOTE: Carried.

ARTICLE 44: To see if the Town will vote to accept certain State Funds as provided by the Maine State Legislature during the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2008 and any other funds provided by any other entity included but not limited to:

- A. Municipal Revenue Sharing
- B. Local Road Assistance
- C. Emergency Management Assistance
- D. Snowmobile Registration Money
- E. Tree Growth Reimbursement
- F. General Assistance Reimbursement
- G. Veteran's Exemption Reimbursement
- H. State Grant or Other Funds

The Selectmen recommend adoption of this Article.
The Budget Committee

MOTION: Bob Gosselin motioned to recommend. Seconded by Charles Leavitt.
VOTE: Carried.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Bullock asked what the mill rate will be if both budgets are passed. Mr. Willard estimated that it will be about 1 mill moving the mill rate to 11.20 mills.

Mr. Leavitt asked if the Department of Education could be asked to send a representative to answer questions at our next meeting on May 5th.

ADJOURNMENT: Rolf Olsen adjourned the meeting at 10:36 pm.

Louise H. Lester
Town Clerk