

FREMONT BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING
Fremont Public Library
7 Jackie Bernier Drive
Fremont, NH 03044
May 3, 2017
7PM

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Mary Anderson called the May 3, 2017 Budget Committee meeting to order at 7:00 PM on the first floor of Fremont Town Hall. Present were: Budget Committee Chair Mary Anderson, Gene Cordes, Mary Jo Holmes, Pat Martel, Joe Miccile, and Josh Yokela, Town Administrator Heidi Carlson, and School Board representative Jennifer Brown. Members of the public included Kathy Miccile.

REORGANIZATION

Gene Cordes nominated Mary Anderson as Chair. Gene Cordes seconded the motion. Motion passed, 8:0.

Mary Jo Holmes nominated Pat Martel as Vice Chair. Joe Miccile seconded the motion. Motion passed 8:0.

Gene Cordes made a motion to appoint Kathy Miccile to the Budget Committee in the open position through March 2018. Josh Yokela seconded the motion. Motion passed 7:0.

UPDATE PHONE/CONTACT LIST INFORMATION

The Committee members updated the contact list.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: PUBLIC HEARING OF JANUARY 11, 2017

Mary Jo Holmes made a motion to approve as written the minutes of the public hearing of January 11, 2017. Gene Cordes seconded the motion. Motion passed, 5:0:2 (abstention from J. Yokela and K. Miccile).

Ms. Anderson reviewed the results of the public hearing. Ms. Brown clarified that the school warrant article #6 to put \$100,000 into the tuition expendable trust fund did not pass.

Warrant Article	Description	Result
Town		
5	Town budget	Passed
6	New police officer	Passed
7	Library building maintenance fund	Passed
8	Bookmobile service	Passed
9	Bridge re/construction fund	Passed
10	Highway fund	Passed
11	Emergency management equipment fund	Did not pass
12	North Road reconstruction	Passed
13	Town Clerk/Tax Collector	Passed
14	Mosquito control	Passed
15	Capital reserve fund	Passed
16	Museum renovation fund	Did not pass
17	Cable	Passed
School		
2	Teacher CBA	Passed
4	Budget	Passed
5	\$20,000 to expendable trust fund	Passed
6	\$100,000 to tuition expendable trust fund	Did not pass

SCHOOL BUDGET UPDATES/INFORMATION

There was discussion about confusion on having the School Financial Administrator attend Budget Committee meetings. The questions that Ms. Anderson had dealt with the \$441,132 surplus in tuition (that the School Board approved for sequestration at their October 19, 2017 meeting, as well as the \$55,000 savings encumbered for FY16. Ms. Anderson figured that about \$500,000 would go back to taxpayers. Ms. Brown thought that the formal motion was to return \$400,000, which has been set aside as promised; she will double-check this. Ms. Brown apologized for miscommunication regarding having Ms. Penny attend meetings, based on past history of her only attending school-budget related meetings during the budget season. Ms. Brown said that Ms. Penny had mentioned that the auditors removed the \$55,000 from the general fund since it was from FY16; she will double-check this. The Board felt that this money should go back to voters. Projects accounted for before the \$700,785.55 fund balance include the roof top air handler, bathrooms and hall tiling.

There was discussion about the heating system options that were reviewed with the School Board last night and that the Board voted to go with option 4 (which would eliminate the need to replace two boilers in a few years):

Description	Total Capital Cost	Simple Payback vs. Option 1
Remove existing oil boilers; replace with high efficiency condensing propane boilers; re-engineer heating of domestic hot water to reduce energy use; recommission control system to optimize performance and heat delivery; remove oil tank and repave disturbed area; install (3) 1,000 gallon underground propane tanks behind athletic storage building to be owned by school district.	\$242,525	return on investment in 12.5 years

The Committee members appreciated the information brought in regarding the oil tank issue, agreeing that it is important to plan long-term and to get competitive bids. Ms. Anderson noted that there have been nice improvements in the school building this year and it was suggested that the first Budget Committee meeting of the season begin with a tour of Ellis.

Ms. Brown noted that interviews have been done for the full-time Spanish teaching position (FY18) and that Allyn Hutton has been hired as the part-time Superintendent next year (about 28 hours/week).

Ms. Brown mentioned that Ms. Penny tries to get the audit done as early as possible but has said that auditing in October does not prevent returns from coming back. She will ask Ms. Penny to send out the budget before the August Budget Committee meeting

TOWN BUDGET UPDATES/INFORMATION

Ms. Carlson mentioned that the town filled the Parks & Recreation position in April (for the ballfields and old differed items), the sprinkler heads have been done, roadwork is in the planning stages and Town Hall renovations are ongoing (to be done around September 2017). There was brief discussion about Beede Road being in poor condition due to use and a lot of truck traffic; Mr. Cordes and Ms. Carlson said that the road agent is looking at this.

SCHEDULE/THOUGHTS RE. FALL PLANNING/BUDGETING PROCESS

Ms. Anderson said that the town is fortunate to have had the budgets pass. She felt that the Selectmen should advise department heads to prioritize and bring forward realistic budgets next year. Ms. Carlson will check with the auditors about getting FY16 year-end results (any surplus revenues being returned) soon.

OTHER NEXT MEETING DATE: AUGUST 23, 2017

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:10 PM, Gene Cordes made a motion to adjourn. Mary Jo Holmes seconded the motion. Motion passed 5:0.

Respectfully submitted by, Susan Perry, Secretary