

Approved 08/21/2019

CALL TO ORDER

Jonathan Starr called the May 8, 2019 Budget Committee meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:00 PM at the Fremont Town Hall in the basement meeting room. Present were: Steve Bonaccorsi, Gene Cordes, Mary Jo Holmes, Gordon Muench, Jonathan Starr, and Josh Yokela. Also present were Allyn Hutton, Susan Penny, Greg Fraize, Mike Nygren, Heidi Carlson, and Susan Perry.

Jonathan Starr made a motion to nominate Josh Yokela as Committee Chair. Mary Jo Holmes seconded the motion. Motion failed, 3:3.

With the absence of Joe Miccile at tonight's meeting, the Committee decided to hold off on voting in a Chairperson until the next meeting. Mr. Yokela acted as Chair Pro-tempore for the remainder of tonight's meeting.

An updated member list was distributed; Ms. Carlson will forward the final version to members.

APPROVE MEETING MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 4, 2019

Gene Cordes made a motion to table the vote on the minutes of February 4, 2019 until the next meeting. Mary Jo Holmes seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

POSITION VACANCY/POSTING

Whereas Pat Martel, who received the next highest vote after the two winners, has declined returning to the Committee, the Committee considered the letter of interest from and tonight's introduction by Mike Nygren, who also ran for the position and has held the position in the past. Gene Cordes spoke in favor of his prior service to the Committee.

Gene Cordes made a motion to appoint Mike Nygren as a Budget Committee member until the next election (March 2020). Gordon Muench seconded the motion. Motion passed 5:0:1 (Starr, abstention).

Ms. Carlson printed the nomination form, had Mr. Yokela sign it as Chair Pro-tem and swore in Mr. Nygren and he joined the Committee at the tables.

DUSCUSSION OF RULES OF PROCEDURE

Mr. Yokela spoke about the benefit of having an official rules of procedure handbook to address how meetings are organized, elections of members are done, rules of public speech at meetings, etc. He noted that other committees have this (Selectmen, Planning Board). After discussion, Ms. Carlson said she would forward a draft she has to the Committee members and this could be reviewed for the next meeting.

Mary Jo Holmes made a motion to have Ms. Carlson forward the draft rules of procedure document to Committee members for review/action. Jonathan Starr seconded the motion. Motion passed 7:0

SCHOOL BUDGET REPORT THROUGH APRIL 2019

There was review of the balance sheet (ending April 30, 2019), financial statement (expenses) through April 27, 2019, and projected fund balance as of June 30, 2019. Ms. Penny reported that there will not be much of a fund balance. \$47,677.25 is projected to be put into the maintenance trust fund (after taking a hit from the fund for the roof, etc.) The District budgeted below the GMR and took \$100,000 off; the GMR came in to fruition. \$82,000 is being taken from the trust fund to make up unexpected Sanborn cost. Expenses were frozen from February until now; this helped but also hurt in other places – staff realize this. \$4,250 is the anticipating loss in the food service program.

TOWN BUDGET REPORT THROUGH APRIL 30, 2019

Gene Cordes made a motion to move on to discussion of the Town budget. Jonathan Starr seconded the motion. Motion passed 7:0.

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There was review of the operating budget through April 30, 2019. Ms. Carlson gave updates on road/bridge work. The new Fire/EMS coverage was implemented on April 1st; 80-90% of the number of available hours are being covered. There are approximately 12-15 EMT staff. Five new EMS personnel are in the process of finishing testing and getting licensed. Mr. Cordes spoke about initiatives of making the public aware of what the department does and who is involved (e.g. Touch a Truck). The efforts have been positive.

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, August 21st at 7PM, Fremont Public Library

Jonathan Starr made a motion to set the next meeting for August 21, 2019 at 7PM to vote on the Chair, Vice Chair, and minutes, and discuss the rules of order and updated financials.

Ms. Carlson reminded new members of the Right to Know Law and not to "reply all" in emails. She will make a copy of the municipal budget law document for Mr. Bonaccorsi, Mr. Starr and possibly Mr. Muench.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:05 PM, Mary Jo Holmes made a motion to adjourn. Jonathan Starr seconded the motion. Motion passed 7:0.

*Respectfully submitted,
Susan Perry, Recording Secretary*