

## Alstead Advisory Budget Committee Minutes for the March 1, 2017 meeting

### Members in attendance:

Glenn Elsesser (first 10 minutes only)  
Chris Hansen  
Carol Reller  
Priscilla Sawa  
Juliana Stevens  
Sam Sutcliffe  
Mary Ann Wolf

### Also present:

Chris Rietmann

### Review agenda and minutes

The minutes from February 8 were approved (6/yes, 0/no, 1/abstention).

### Select Board meeting

**Building maintenance:** Glenn is working with David to prioritize building repairs. Possible repairs are the East Alstead Fire Station and the well at the town barn.

**Transfer station trucking:** The Select Board will review transfer station numbers at their next meeting. The proposal is to use funds allocated for Sanitation Part Time Wages to pay for trucking. That means Randy's pay has to come out of Highways and Streets.

**Power to the tower:** We need to find out whether the town has rights to string a power line over land we don't own.

**Back taxes:** The town office is contacting residents with overdue taxes to define payment plans.

**Role of the AABC:** There was a discussion about AABC's input to the town meeting mailing, in particular the sentence that says the committee "provides ... recommendations to Alstead residents and the Board of Selectmen". Some selectmen think this line contributes to the perception that the Select Board reports to AABC.

It was noted that the SB did not review input to the annual report from AABC or any other board, commission or department.

The SB will probably edit our input to the mailing to remove this wording. Also, the Select Board will reconsider the role of the AABC after the town meeting.

We agreed to review the motion to establish the AABC that was approved at a Select Board meeting on September 24, 2014. At our next meeting, we will consider asking

that the motion be placed on the agenda for the Select Board meeting on March 21 or 28.

**Meeting with Bernie Waugh:** Two of the Selectmen agree that the town has some responsibility for funding Vilas Pool. However, there is still a lack of clarity about exactly what that responsibility is. Similarly, there is no clarity yet about the cemetery trust funds.

It was noted that the town needs a policy on making calls to the attorney. The town went over budget on calls to the town's attorney in 2016.

**Roger Landry** has left the Alstead Police force for a position in Walpole. Chief Bromley and Ed Reller are looking for suitable replacement candidates. Action will have to wait until after the town meeting.

### Status of the C.I.P

We noted that the 2017 warrant articles don't reflect the CIP that has been approved by both the Planning Board and the AABC. The Select Board needs to consider how to implement the CIP by skillful use of leasing or financing instead of outright purchase of expensive equipment.

### Budget review

There are still some high numbers in the FICA lines, some negative numbers and some questions about certain line items, including Road Detail, Comingle Charge, and so forth. The changes to line items voted on at the Deliberative Session have not been made.

### Action items

Glenn will follow up with David Crosby regarding building maintenance.

Priscilla will send out the AABC establishment motion that Sam created.

Mary Ann will follow up with the FD regarding physical exams.

Mary Ann will follow up with the Ambulance crew regarding billing.

### Next meeting

March 15

### Agenda items for next meeting

Review the AABC establishment motion and discuss the role of AABC.

Discuss "off-season projects.

Edit the punch list?

Punch list items: budget review, town employee job descriptions, building maintenance, transfer station, CIP and Bragg Lane.

*Submitted by Priscilla Sawa*