

Alstead Advisory Budget Committee

Minutes for the December 13, 2017 meeting

Members in attendance:

Glenn Elsesser
Chris Hansen
Joe Levesque
Marge Noonan
Chris Rietmann
Priscilla Sawa
Sam Sutcliffe
Barbara Viegner
Mary Ann Wolf

Review agenda and minutes

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved as amended.

Committee Reports:

Ambulance Committee:

Mary Ann will give an update on billing status at the Select Board meeting December 19. This year there have been 45 transports and 28 non-billable calls.

Comms Committee:

Sam has not worked further on the Q4 report. He has been working on an algorithm to rationalize appropriations for long-term capital purchases.

We wondered how much are we being charged for the management of the trust funds and where is this figure reported. We are also concerned about the ROI on the funds.

Internet Services Committee:

Joe has asked Kelly for the cable bills so that we can see whether we are overpaying. He hasn't received anything yet.

2018 Budget Progress:

We still have concerns about the payroll budget in the DPW. Also Mike wants to use the SB38 to buy a sweeper instead of using it for paving.

Warrant articles:

Chris H. talked with Bruce Bellows about the Cemetery Budget. He is going to update the draft budget with new numbers. He has dropped off a proposal for a warrant article to establish a new Cemetery Maintenance CRF with \$45,000.

We discussed the warrant article that Sam drafted to ratify the creation of the AABC.

Unpaid taxes report:

We reviewed the unpaid taxes report and the tax lien list. The UFB will probably be reduced by \$100,000 because of the auction of the seized properties.

Grants:

The Library Trustees agreed that putting the Library on the clock for ADA compliance at this time would be a bad idea. The Library would require an elevator, a much wider and automatic entrance, a much larger and completely renovated bathroom, a least one ramp, closer handicap parking, and a few other changes, so we are not pursuing a grant from the USDA for the stairs.

For the Library, we will be pursuing an LCHIP grant from the state, to repair the stairs, because there are no ADA compliance strings attached to that money. I am also looking at some private foundations that may wish to help us.

As for the USDA, Kelly and Joe are pursuing two grants. One for the town hall, because the cost for ADA compliance is about 1/10 of the cost for the Library, and one for the DPW maintenance building, which again is about 1/10 of the cost of ADA compliance for the Library.

Annual report:

Our blurb for the annual report is due on January 10.

Action items

- Priscilla will check the trust fund reports to find whether the management fees are reported there or not.
- Priscilla will draft the annual report.

Next meeting

December 27

Agenda items for next meeting

Submitted by Priscilla Sawa