

## Alstead Advisory Budget Committee Minutes for the May 13 meeting

### Members in attendance:

Bonnie Chase  
Dan Curll  
Glenn Elsesser  
Chris Hansen  
Carol Reller  
Donna Sabin  
Priscilla Sawa  
Nick Sintros  
Sam Sutcliffe

### Also present:

Chris Rietmann  
Marge Noonan  
Barb Viegener

### Topics discussed:

- Chris R. reported that the Select Board is keeping a close eye on DPW expenditures as the summer projects begin. DPW is preparing estimates for projects that were not anticipated in the 2015 budget.
  - Bids came in under budget for the two Vilas Pool projects. They have been accepted.
  - Less than half of the salt budget has been spent, but most of the overtime budget has been spent.
  - The Mt. Vilas project has been postponed until next year. The Select Board will ask an expert to determine the amount and quality of material that is there. For this year, Fuzzy Brothers will crush the material that is at Garland's Pit in Alstead.
  - Work will start soon on the Cobb Hill project.
- The DPW subcommittee recommends that DPW be given better project management tools. Members will meet with Dave at the end of June to work on better methods for tracking resources by project.
- Glenn emailed his analysis of town expenditures to date, highlighting the accounts that are already over budget for the year or for what would be expected for the first half. We discussed the need for a better report format for tracking town expenditures.
- The Quarterly Report subcommittee has finished the Q2 report, including an analysis of town revenue. More than half of the town revenue — and the school revenue — comes from sources other than property tax. Since some tax payers

might assume that these budgets are based entirely on revenue from property tax, it would be beneficial to highlight this fact in a future quarterly report.

- The EMSG report was accepted by the Select Board. The committee will meet with a representative from NH Department of Safety to find out what the town needs to do to meet Homeland Security and FEMA requirements.
- The Employee Compensation Committee will meet tomorrow night for the first time. Tom Dowling, Bob Quagland, Rock Wilson and Les Thomas are members of this committee.
- We would like to understand why the money allocated for capital reserve funds has not yet been invested.

#### **Motions:**

- The meeting minutes of April 22 were approved, with a few changes.
- Carol moved and Glenn seconded a motion that we approve the Q2 report for posting. (9 in favor/ 0 opposed)

#### **Action items:**

- Priscilla will try to set up a meeting with Jonathan, Chris Reitman and members of the financial subcommittees (Dan, Glenn, Carol and Priscilla) to get Jonathan's ideas on expenditure report formats as well as a list of goals for the financial planning subcommittee.
- Chris H. will invite Hans (town treasurer) to one of our future meetings.

#### **Next meeting:**

May 27 at 7:00 pm at the Town Offices.

#### **Agenda items for next meeting:**

- Conversation with the town treasurer

#### **Comments from the public:**

- None.