

## **Alstead Advisory Budget Committee Minutes for the November 8, 2017 meeting**

### **Members in attendance:**

Glenn Elsesser  
Chris Hansen  
Joe Levesque  
Marge Noonan  
Carol Reller  
Chris Rietmann  
Priscilla Sawa  
Sam Sutcliffe  
Barbara Viegener

### **Review agenda and minutes**

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved as amended.

### **Committee Reports:**

#### **Vilas Pool Committee:**

The mini-grant for assessing the status of the bell tower was approved and the Select Board has signed off. Carol has offered to help with the registration forms for the State Registry of Historic Buildings/Sites.

The VP Committee wants to deal directly with the Select Board regarding their budget (not with us), so they will not be addressing our list of questions.

#### **Ambulance Committee:**

Mary Ann is working out some details of the paperwork process for submitting insurance claims. She is not yet ready to make a presentation to the Select Board.

#### **Tax Rate:**

The DRA set the 2017 tax rate for Alstead to \$26.67. The town portion is only \$6 or 22.5%. This means that for a property assessed at \$180,000, the town portion of the tax bill is \$1080. Increasing the budget by \$161,000, and thus raising the tax rate to \$7 would increase the town portion of this property owner's tax bill only to \$1260.

We voted to ask Sam to draft an explanation of this fact for possible posting to the town taxpayers. (8/yes, 0/no, 1/abstention)

#### **Grant Writing:**

The Select Board has expressed willingness to fund grant writing for the town.

### CIP Progress:

The current version of the CIP has the following items for 2018:

• Transfer to Bridge CRF	\$ 25,000
• Crack sealing	\$ 10,000
• Paving projects	\$175,000
• Payments on police cruisers	\$ 12,975
• Transfer to Fire Dept CRF	\$ 25,000
• Repairs to Vilas Pool bridge	\$ 10,000
• Transfer to Highway CRF	\$ 60,000
• Transfer to Highway Project CRF	\$ 5,000
• Transfer to Library CRF	\$ 5,000
• Transfer to Ambulance CRF	\$ 10,000
<b>total</b>	<b>\$337,975</b>

Funding sources:

• Move crack sealing and cruiser payments to budget	\$ 22,975
• State grant to local highway departments (SB38)	\$ 77,194
• UFB	\$100,000
• New taxes	\$137,806
<b>total</b>	<b>\$337,975</b>

The tax impact per \$1000 is \$0.85.

This plan does not include the following:

• Repairs to town hall	\$ 66,700
• Repairs to library steps	\$ 50,000

The repairs to the town hall can be financed by the dissolved New Town Hall CRF, now in the UFB. Financing of the repairs to the library steps is TBD.

### Auctions:

The town sold two properties at auction. We would like to know if the fund balance is reduced by the auction of the properties seized by the town for non-payment of taxes. It would seem that the back taxes can no longer be counted as an asset.

### Current Budget Status:

The year is 85% complete and we have spent 79% of the budget.

### **2018 Budget Progress:**

The departments are still working on finalizing their budgets.

### **Action items**

- Chris H. will make sure that the list of questions that the AABC Vilas Pool subcommittee compiled is forwarded to the Select Board.
- Barb will call the DRA and ask if the back taxes from the auctioned properties are deducted from the UFB, since they are no longer a town asset.

### **Next meeting**

November 29

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

*Submitted by Priscilla Sawa*