

Alstead Advisory Budget Committee Minutes for the November 9, 2016 meeting

Members in attendance:

Glenn Elsesser
Chris Hansen
Marge Noonan
Carol Reller
Priscilla Sawa
Juliana Stevens
Sam Sutcliffe
Les Thomas
Barbara Viegner

Also present:

Chris Rietmann

Review agenda, minutes and action items from the last meeting:

The meeting minutes of October 26 were approved with corrections. (9/yes, 0/no, 0/abstentions).

Select Board

The Select Board set the tax rate without using funds from the UFB to reduce it. The transfer station will accept pre-paid punch cards starting this Saturday. The pad is being poured for the compactor that we received from Langdon.

The Select Board met with the three engineering firms. They like the Dubois and King firm the best.

Subcommittee reports

The FP&A committee has created a new format for the monthly revenue report, and is still working on graphic presentations of multi-year data.

Dept. budgets

The DPW budget is pretty stable. The DPW has not asked for overtime hours since the new policy of requiring Select Board approval was instituted. The DPW has not yet started winter hours. We thought that we selected a specific date for winter hours to start. We wonder if the town has to pay a higher rate for unemployment because of the regular layoffs from the DPW.

No interest has been expressed in reviving the idea of hiring a town administrator. The "girls" are preparing the budgets for General Government and Executive departments.

Priscilla spoke with Gloria and Trish about the budgets for Town Clerk and Tax Collector.

C.I.P

Glenn has made some small modifications to the CIP to align it with our discussion at the last meeting. We approved a motion (9 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions) asking Glenn take the CIP to the Planning Board for approval.

Possible warrant articles

In addition to the CIP, the following items will possibly be warrant articles:

- Purchasing a UTV (side-by-side) \$34,000
- Purchasing fire alarms for town buildings \$12,000
- Rewiring the cell tower \$3000
- Authorizing the Select Board to accept unanticipated grants
- Authorizing the Select Board to print AABC recommendations on town documents

Punch list

- No further progress on job descriptions. The first priority is to follow up with Dave Crosby regarding DPW job descriptions.

Action items:

- Glenn will take the CIP to the Planning Board and try to get their approval.
- Chris R. will follow up with Bruce Bellows about his presentation on the use of cemetery funds.
- Chris R. will contact LGC about whether the Select Board can modify the Town Clerk and Tax Collector budgets.
- Carol will contact the PD and FD to get hard numbers for the RTV, the alarm system, and the cell tower wiring.
- Carol will ask Kelly which dept head is scheduled to present at the next Select Board meeting.
- Priscilla will update the town calendar with the meeting schedule for December.

Next meeting:

Next meeting is December 7 at the Town Offices.

Agenda items for next meeting:

- Draft our warrant article, and review the entire budget.
- Items from the punch list: budget review, town employee job descriptions, building maintenance, transfer station, CIP, and Bragg Lane.

Minutes submitted by Priscilla Sawa