

## **Alstead Advisory Budget Committee Minutes for the October 11, 2017 meeting**

### **Members in attendance**

Chris Hansen  
Joe Levesque  
Marge Noonan  
Carol Reller  
Chris Rietmann  
Priscilla Sawa  
Sam Sutcliffe  
Barbara Viegener  
Mary Ann Wolf

### **Review agenda and minutes**

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved with corrections. We agreed not to send the AABC minutes to the members of the Select Board since the minutes are posted as soon as they are approved. (8/yes, 0/no, 1/abstention).

### **Summary of SB meeting**

The Select Board will allow the Family Meals/Food Shelf to assemble the Thanksgiving baskets at the Alstead Village fire station and the Town Hall as usual.

### **Tax auction**

Sam is investigating the risks and benefits of tax auctions. If the town exercises the tax collector's deed for a property, the town is responsible for maintaining the property until it is sold, although the owner can regain the property by paying back taxes. If the property is sold for a sufficiently high price, the town can recoup the back taxes. The main benefit is to have a new owner who is hopefully willing and able to pay the new taxes. (The new owner is not responsible for the back taxes.)

### **Committee Reports**

#### **Vilas Pool**

The Vilas Pool committee (not the AABC VP subcommittee) has sent the mini-grant application to the Preservation Alliance for approval.

#### **Ambulance**

Mary Ann will meet with Kelly this week to assemble the 2017 data she needs to assist with ambulance billing. Joe is helping to make sure that the process for faxing data is secure and timely.

Jesse says the ambulance has a clean bill of health and a new one is not needed this year. He wants \$5000 put into the ambulance CRF.

### **CIP**

Chris R. has forwarded Glenn's extensive CIP List to Gordon Kemp so he can help Glenn with the CIP.

### **Trust Fund Return on Investment**

We agreed that Sam should investigate the return on investment of the town funds. (9/yes, 0/no, 0/abstentions)

### **IT policy**

The Select Board has asked for our draft of the IT policy.

### **Department budget process**

We have preliminary 2018 budgets from Highway, Fire and Ambulance. Here is Kelly's schedule *verbatim* from her email sending us the budgets:

- 10/17 Tax Collector/ Town Clerk & Ruggiero contract
- 10/24 Police, CIP
- 10/31 CIP & will schedule departments
- 11/07 DPW & Cemetery
- 11/14 FD, AMB & Library ( discussion about the steps and potential warrant article)
- 11/21 PD & Buildings and Maintenance

### **Action items**

- Chris H. will contact Juliana and see if she wants help writing an interim report on Vilas Pool.
- Sam will investigate the ROI on the town funds.
- Joe and Chris R. will expand the IT policy and send it to us by email within a week. They will present it to the Select Board at the Oct. 24 meeting.

### **Next meeting**

Oct 25. Joe will take the minutes.

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

The usual.

*Submitted by Priscilla Sawa*