

**TOWN OF HOPKINTON**  
**Budget Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday, January 4, 2017**  
**\*DRAFT\***

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairwoman Janet Krzyzaniak called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm, at Maple Street School.

**ATTENDEES**

Janet Krzyzaniak, Mark Zankel, Don Houston, Ken Traum, Richard Houston, Deborah Norris, John Wuellenweber, Amy Bogart, Ginni Haines, and Bill Chapin, Jr.

**PUBLIC ATTENDEES**

Arnold Coda

**APPROVAL OF DECEMBER 7, 2016 DRAFT MINUTES**

Ken Traum motioned to accept the December 7, 2016, draft minutes. Don Houston seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.

**FINANCIALS – Board of Selectmen**

Ken Traum shared it was too early in the month to have a report to present.

**FINANCIALS – School Board**

Bill Chapin presented the 11/30/2016 Financial Report.

**FINANCIALS AND PRESENTATION OF 2017 PROPOSED BUDGET – Hopkinton Village Precinct**

John Wuellenweber will have his Financial Report and 2017 Proposed Budget at the next meeting. They meet later in the month.

**FINANCIALS – Contoocook Village Precinct**

Don Houston presented the CVP Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual through December 2016. He noted that on the last page of the report it shows that they had a \$4,101.09 profit for the year. The total income for the year was up \$19,325.36 from last year. Expenses included the first payment of \$29,000 due to the lawsuit. He further explained that a second payment of \$29,000 will be made next year and that there will be about \$100,000 in work that needs to be done over the next 5 years.

**PRESENTATION OF 2017 PROPOSED BUDGET – Contoocook Village Precinct**

The 2017 Proposed Budget was presented. Mr. Houston highlighted the changed items in his report:

**Income**

- Line 3379 – Local taxes – expected to be down \$300

- Line 3402.00 – Warrants – expected to be up \$5,000 in water billing
- Line 3915.01 – Transfer-Into Operations from Reserve – expected to be up \$100,000 for projects that comes out of the \$250,000 request each year for capital improvements
- Total income is expected to be up \$104,700 from last year’s budget.  
These projects will be explained later in the report.

#### **Expenses**

- Line 4130.06 – Building & Grounds – will remain \$10,000 for hiring Dave White to shovel out fire hydrants
- Line 4130.07 – Assistant Operator – up \$9,500 for Kent Barton coming on as Assistant Operator to be trained under Steve, so that when Steve leaves there will be a trained, highly skilled person to take over being the superintendent
- Line 4153 – Legal Fees – up \$8,000 to \$33,000 in anticipation of the next \$29,000 payment for the lawsuit
- Line 4909.14 – 2017 Projects – up \$150,000 for new project work

The Kimball Tank Project has been completed. The tank holds 300,000 gallons. That project cost \$750,000 spread over 2 years. It has been paid for, finished, and is on line and operating.

Mr. Houston said that there are about 4 projects that engineering studies need to be done on. It will take about 5 years to come into fruition.

- Project 1: Kimball Reservoir drain line. As part of the law suit, the abutter is wanting the existing line ripped out because of asbestos. To start the design, it will cost about \$16,000. Total project will be about \$100,000.
- Project 2: Upper Main Street water system improvements. This will improve the piping and connections, going up Main Street, leaving town, onto Hopkinton Road. The engineering part of the project, this year, will be about \$13,000.
- Project 3: Hardy Spring Brook ground water supply. The precinct is trying to decide which way they are going to go in the next 10-40 years. Will they continue to use the pond water or drill wells to supply the water? There are legal and state requirements that need to be taken into consideration. To start that engineering study, it will cost about \$3,500.
- Project 4: Replacement of the water system piping. There are 15 miles of piping, some of which is 50-80 years old. A complete analysis is needed of all that piping so that replacement can be prioritized and scheduled. The complete study will be about \$16,000.
- Project 5: Woodwells Garrison water lines replacement. No engineering study needs to be done, they know exactly what needs to be done. It will cost about \$100,000. It needs to be done this next year because the Town is repaving that road and the water work needs to be done before the paving.

The Total Appropriations Recommended is	\$493,750
Less the Amount of Estimated Revenue & Credits	<u>- 219,050</u>
Estimated Amount of Taxes to be Raised	\$274,700 (\$300 less than last year)

Questions for CVP (Don Houston answers):

Has CVP been working with proposed development of upper Maple Street area and water being supplied up there?

*CVP had not been approached by the Economic Development Committee directly. He has heard that the EDC has asked the same engineering firm that the CVP uses to do an analysis of what it would cost to extend the line down there.*

What is the nature of the law suit? What are their concerns?

*The present owner's grandfather asked for the tank to be put up there. He gave the land to the water precinct to do that. The current owner, a relative, thought that it was not done correctly and filed suit. The law suit has been settled with \$58,000 (to be made in 2 payments) and redoing of the piping over in the field, which they are estimating to come in at around \$100,000.*

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Coda said that he and Jeff Taylor contacted DRED about upper Maple Street development when they formed the Economic Development Committee about 20 years ago, and they were quite helpful and it didn't cost them a penny. DRED said that they'd need to get water and sewer up there to attract any businesses that would be significant to the town, but that it would be cost prohibitive. DRED had suggested a warehouse might be the best answer because they don't have major water or sewer needs.

It was asked, who would pay for the water and sewer to be extended to the area?

*Mr. Houston said that the developer or business owner would pay for that, not the town or tax payers.*

**PRESENTATION OF 2017 BUDGETS FOR HVP AND CVP**

Contoocook Village Precinct will present their budget at another time.

Hopkinton Village Precinct presented their budget earlier in this meeting.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

Regarding the School Budget presented at the School Board Meeting before this meeting, was Tier 2 discussed? *Mr. Chapin said that nothing on Tier 2 was touched and it's all part of the budget.*

It was clarified that the Tax Impact for the budget is .86 before the addition of the \$100,000 for the contingency fund – bringing the total Tax Impact to \$1.02, for the school portion.

Mr. Chapin said that there was no contingency fund last year. Title 10 money was used last year and will be used again this year to help stabilize the tax rate. Whatever isn't used of the contingency fund gets rolled back into an income line item in next years' budget. The contingency fund money will need to be raised.

Is the Football request in the Tiers? *Mr. Chapin said he thought it is in the General Fund.*

There were other questions/concerns brought up. Mr. Chapin said questions would be more clearly answered at next week's presentation of the FY18 School Budget Proposal with School Board Members present.

Don Houston passed out some informational sheets that include web sites that you can go to for statistical information, the actual tax breakdown sheets for the town, and a sheet on how the school district gets their numbers to match up to line items.

#### **NEXT MEETING**

The FY18 School Budget Presentation will be on Wednesday, January 11, 2017, at 5:30 pm, at the Town Hall.

Follow up discussion on the School Budget Presentation, HVP and CVP Presentations will take place on Wednesday, January 18, 2017, at 5:30 pm, at the Town Hall.

#### **ADJOURN**

Don Houston motioned to adjourn at 7:40 pm. Bill Chapin, Jr., seconded. The motion to adjourn passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,  
Tammy Clay