

**Town of Durham
Board of Selectmen
Budget Workshop Meeting Minutes
February 1st 2016**

Call to Order: Vice Chairman called the Selectmen's Budget Workshop to Order at 6:00 p.m.

Members Present: Vice Chairman Sarah Hall, Selectman Mark Blake, Selectman Michael Stewart. Chairman Jeffrey Wakeman and Selectman Joshua Libby excused.

Quorum: Vice Chairman Hall announced a Quorum had been met with three (3) members present.

Also Present: AA/TA Ruth Glaeser, Secretary Jill Toher. Fire Chief/EMA Director William St. Michel, Fire Department Budget presentation - deferred until Monday, February 8th 2016.

Pledge of Allegiance: Completed.

Amendments to the Agenda: None.

Public Present: Cori Holt, Wade Caplinger

Public Comments: Cori Holt requested when scheduling Budget Committee Meetings the week of the RSU#5 school vacation be considered.

Budget Discussion Items:

a. Animal Control: After some discussion, it was the consensus of the Board to add \$300.00 to the requested budget for the purpose of purchasing a Hav-a-Hart trap making the total requested \$13,042.00. It was also suggested that instead of the \$25.00 late fee being applied to Clerk Revenue it be applied to Animal Control to defray costs.

b. Assessor: The \$20,050.00 requested is per contract and remains the same as last year's request.

c. Cemetery: After some discussion, it was decided to table any decision pending recommendations from Joe Donovan regarding any need for repairs in the Town Cemeteries using monies from perpetual care.

d. Donations: AA/TA included each entity's request which totaled \$5,326.00 for the Board's review. After some discussion, it was decided to raise \$3,000.00 and apportion \$500.00 to the same recipients as last year as follows: LACO, Androscoggin Home Care and Hospice, Community Concepts, Seniors Plus, Western Maine Transportation and Lifeflight.

e. Eureka Community Center: The group decided to defer a decision on the amount requested pending a decision as to whether the Eureka Community Center's budget include a reimburse the Emergency Fund from the Eureka Community Center's Capital Fund for the \$1,650.00 needed to repair the sink hole.

f. Conservation: The amount requested, \$2,150.00 remains the same as last year.

g. General Assistance: AA/TA Glaeser proposed decreasing the amount from \$5,000.00 to \$3,000.00 due to the fact that the Town is now receiving a seventy (70%) reimbursement from the State.

h. Parks and Recreation: A lengthy conversation ensued regarding budget requests from various recreational entities. Also discussed was how much money should be allocated for the War Memorial Park projects as well as which projects should be proposed to the Town. This topic will be revisited when a full Board is present. Boat Excise Tax funds this budget line.

Questions were raised as to why the RSU#5 does not support the Durham Community School's Outing Club. AA/TA Glaeser will follow up and report back at next Workshop. It was the recommendation of the Board to defer the Athletic Booster Club of Durham's request of \$7,500.00 on the Town Floor.

i. Planning Board/Board of Appeals/Historic District Commission: The amount requested, \$16,424.00, reflects a net increase of \$2,234.00, based on the fact that three Appeals were heard and the anticipation that one of those Appeals will be going to Superior Court. Also included is a request of \$5,000.00 to continue work on the Town's Ordinance Review project. A request of \$850.00 for Historic District training for the Codes Official has also been added.

j. Solid Waste: AA/TA Glaeser reduced the amount for residents bringing hazardous waste to the Hazardous Waste Facility by \$715.00, as Durham is now associated with GPCOG. She has budgeted for ten (10) units of waste at \$28.50 per unit for up to ten residents on a first come first serve basis. The net increase of \$6,350.00 also includes a bulk purchase for trash tags which lasts an average of three plus years.

The amount budgeted for the Hauler Contract line reflects an increase of \$4,615.00 per contract, or seven months at \$16,065.00 per month and five months at \$16,547.00 per month. She also stated the current contract ends June 30th 2017 and RFP's will need to go out in mid-2016 for a new contract.

k. Telecommunications: The amount budgeted \$52,658.00 reflects an increase of \$24,999.00, \$10,000.00 of which reflects monies from an equipment grant, and includes

\$3,000.00 for security cameras for the Fire Department, technology software, publishing software for the Town Reports, a lap top, monitors, a large screen TV for the Eureka Center and upgrades to the Town website. The Telecommunications budget is self-supporting, funded from the receipt of Franchise fees.

Vice Chairman Hall announced the Selectmen will meet tomorrow evening, February 2nd 2016 at the Town Office to discuss the DPW Budget beginning at 6:00 p.m.

Adjournment: **Vice Chairman Hall Moves** to Adjourn at 6:50 p.m. Selectman Blake Second. Motion Carried 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill S. Toher, Secretary