

MINUTES *approved minutes*

Budget Committee Meeting: February 9, 2017 **Present:** Jim Jennison, Sue Metsack, Conan Cook, Linda Christie, Bruce Bascom, Steven Holt **Public:** Frank Emig, Glenn Elsesser, Brenda Melius **Meeting began:** 7:00PM

Minutes: **Motion** LC/JJ to approve, passed.

It was noted DRA had accepted articles as submitted with the exception of moving funding to be raised by taxation in Article 10 to after funding from fund balance.

CC revisited Crane Brook shimming. GE noted delay would prove most costly.

There was discussion as to whether \$20,000 for paving Allen Road Bridge approaches could come from the Bridge CRF with consensus room could be found in the budget.

SM introduced individual spending articles for consideration:

Article 7 regarding Allen Road Bridge replacement: **Motion** LC/SH to recommend, passed.

Article 8 regarding funding the Reval CRF: **Motion** JJ/SH to recommend, passed.

Article 9 regarding funding the Bridge CRF: **Motion** BB/SH to recommend, passed, JJ opposed.

Article 10 regarding replacing the grader: **Motion** JJ/LC to recommend, passed.

Article 11 regarding increasing AVFR contract: It was not clear whether this request was intended to set a precedent. **Motion** LC/BB to include "2017" in article, passed. **Motion** LC/JJ to recommend, passed.

Article 6 regarding funding the operating budget: The budget was further reviewed for areas where savings could be found in an effort to keep any increase in the tax rate as low as possible. It was noted the Town applied funds in 2016 and 2017 to replacing bridges. There was consensus that funding the Bridge CRF in the same year as funding a bridge replacement could be excessive and funding the CRF for future bridge work could be resumed next year. **Motion** JJ/SH to delete article 9 funding the Bridge CRF, passed. **Motion** BB/SH to recommend Article 6 regarding funding the operating budget, passed.

It was noted the estimated tax rate increase resulting from the overall recommended budget could be 16 cents. Increases in 2015 and 2016 were .94 and .81 respectively.

The budget public hearing is scheduled for Wednesday, February 15.

Motion JJ/SM to adjourn, passed; 8:30PM. Respectfully submitted, Kathi Bradt