

SPECIAL SELECTPERSON'S MEETING
Department Budgets (1)
June 18, 2013, 6:00 p.m.
Rumford Falls Auditorium

PRESENT: Chairperson Gregory Buccina, Vice-Chairperson Jeffrey Sterling, Selectperson Bradford Adley, Selectperson Jolene Lovejoy, Selectperson Frank DiConzo, Town Manager Carlo Puia.

ATTENDEES: Judy Collette, John Goff, Jessica Goff, Mark Davis, Bill Leavitt, Victor Collette, Lynden Clarke Jr., Richard White, Ryan Palmer, Arthur Chappell, Thelma Giberson, Rhonda Zitzelberger, Daryl Simard, Henry Zinck, Candice Casey, Bill O'Neill, Mark Belanger, Lucille Belanger, Josanne Dolloff, Louanne Cameron, Kevin Saisi, Eric Davis, Daniel Garbarini, Tracey Higley, Mike Arsenault, Alan Gerace, Fred Stone, Stacy Carter, Pam Carter, Dottie Blood, Dot Cayer, Cynthia Kelley, Wendall Broomhall, Vicki Amorosso, Robert Chase, Richard Coulombe, Susan Stagner, Sue Milligan, RL Pratt, Hannah Davis, Phil Blampied, Terry Smith, Barbara Arsenault, Cecilia Arsenault, Kim Kelcourse, Mike Kelcourse, Cindrie Cormier, Shawn Murphy, Andrea York, Diane Mitchell, Becky Hall, Kelly Gorham, Wayne Gallant, Doreen Dupuis, Sherry Milligan, Maurice & Bernadette Belanger, Linda Macgregor, Steve Zadakis, Andy Russell, Michael Mills, Bruce Farrin, Linnell Geronda, Tom Bourret, Michael Peter Chase, Len Greaney, Terri Palmer, Deborah Laurinaitis, Douglas Freeman, Doyle Woods, Marie Woods, Carolyn Kennard, Elaine McKenna, Judy Whitemore, Keith Freeman, Gayle Sirois, Terry Karkos, Beth Bellegarde, Roger Arsenault, James Windover, Amy Bernard, Susan Adley, Donna Knowlton, Salya Knowlton, Abby Harding, Rob Cameron, Hal Watson, Gary Dolloff, Rachel Meisner, Beverly Thorne, Bradlee Gallant,

1. Meeting Called to Order
2. All Present Pledged Allegiance to the American Flag
3. Approval of new budget recommendations for defeated budgetary articles
 - A. Police Department

Police Chief Stacy Carter and Captain Daniel Garbarini were present to discuss the budget recommendations for the Police Department.

Mr. DiConzo noted the vote of the people and believes they would like a spending cut. He would like to see us transfer to Oxford County Sheriff's Department to see at what cost they can provide protection to the Town. He would like to cut \$417,000 from the Police Department budget and leave it at \$400,000.

Ms. Lovejoy believes the Department Heads who have met with the Town Manager, should be allowed to present the cuts they feel can be taken. She does not feel the Board should throw out figures without any backing.

Mr. Adley wanted to keep two officers available 24/7, and believes we would have to lose the dispatch officer.

Candice Casey suggested the budget be reduced by four positions.

Josanne Dolloff was concerned about safety in the community for various reasons and believes the Police Department could sustain some small cuts, but the magnitude of the cuts may need to come from other departments such as Fire and Parks.

Mr. Buccina stated that when he worked on his proposed budget cuts within the departments, he was concerned about making cuts that were significant enough that the budgets would be passed by the voters.

Mark Belanger spoke in general about the current situation in Town and believes "signs" are around, such as that people cannot pay their taxes, houses cannot be sold, and possible closure of the paper mill because of the taxes they pay. He stated that there is a spending cap proposal in progress at this time which may contain an injunction to stop what is happening tonight.

The Town Manager reminded those present that the Charter directs the Board to make a recommendation for new budgets within ten days after defeat of any budgetary articles. The Board can also meet on Wednesday and Thursday to continue this process. The Finance Committee will also need to meet to vote on their recommendations.

Jim Windover asked why the Town of Turner can have no police coverage at all by relying on the county sheriff or state police and would like us to explore those options.

Rick Greene stated that he is a social worker in the community and sees the real need for the police in the community. He believes the voters want cuts, but we must be careful of the loss of services that we depend upon.

Mr. Buccina read through his list of budget cuts for the Police Department budget. He also noted that the state of the finances for the Town was just reported on by the Town Auditor as "rock solid" because the money that is not used for budgets is turned back into the General Fund which is superior to how other towns handle this. He chose figures based on what we actually used in the past, yet realizes that we must make cuts that include the level of service.

Mr. Sterling believes we must use the same logic to cut the budgets as was used to make the budgets and the Board should give a basic overview of what the new level of service should be. He believes the Town will need to do what it must with less people here based on what the voters told us.

Mr. Adley made a motion to approve \$711,355 for the Police Department.

Ms. Lovejoy asked how that amount would affect the department.

Captain Garbarini responded that they would lose a detective in criminal investigations, a dispatcher at the window and also a utility position.

Chief Carter said he would not be comfortable putting forth a budget with less than 2 officers on the street for the safety of citizens and officers. Mr. Adley asked if there was a shift that could absorb a loss in staffing. Chief Carter said that crime happens around the clock and that we cannot rely on mutual aid.

Vote on the motion: 1-4, Mr. Buccina, Mr. Adley, Ms. Lovejoy, Mr. DiConzo opposed.

Mr. Buccina made a motion to approve \$716,274 for the Police Department. Vote: 4-1, Mr. DiConzo opposed.

B. Animal Control

Police Chief Carter explained that he will be proposing a change in animal sheltering services to save money for the Town at the Board of Selectperson's meeting of June 20, 2013.

Ms. Lovejoy made a motion to approve \$23,563 for Animal Control. Vote: 4-1, Mr. Buccina opposed.

C. Fire Department

Ms. Lovejoy made a motion to approve \$625,528 for the Fire Department. Vote: 3-2, Mr. DiConzo and Mr. Buccina opposed.

D. Emergency Management

Mr. Adley made a motion to approve \$6,237.00 for Emergency Management. Vote: 5-0

E. Sewer Maintenance

Mr. Adley made a motion to approve \$42,071 for Sewer Maintenance. Vote: 4-1, Mr. DiConzo opposed.

E. Summer Roads

Mr. DiConzo made a motion to approve \$250,000 for Summer Roads. Vote: 2-3, Ms. Lovejoy, Mr. Buccina, Mr. Sterling opposed.

Mr. Adley made a motion to approve \$280,910 for Summer Roads. Vote: 4-1, Mr. DiConzo opposed.

F. Winter Roads

Mr. DiConzo made a motion to approve \$400,000 for Winter Roads. Vote: 1-4, Mr. Buccina, Mr. Adley, Mr. Sterling, Ms. Lovejoy opposed.

Mr. Buccina made a motion to approve \$458,250 for Winter Roads. Vote: 3-2, Mr. DiConzo, Ms. Lovejoy opposed.

G. Bituminous

Mr. Adley made a motion to approve \$25,000 for Bituminous. Vote: 4-1, Mr. DiConzo opposed.

H. State Aid Construction

Mr. Buccina made a motion to approve \$20,000 for State Aid Construction. Vote: 4-1, Mr. DiConzo opposed.

I. Sidewalks

Mr. Adley made a motion to approve \$10,000 for Sidewalks. Vote: 4-1, Ms. Lovejoy opposed.

J. Bridges

Mr. Adley made a motion to approve \$5,000 for Bridges. Vote: 4-1, Mr. DiConzo opposed.

K. Building Demolition

Mr. Adley made a motion to approve \$6,000 for Building Demolition.

Mr. Adley amended his motion to approve \$10,000 for Building Demolition. Vote: 5-0

L. Puiia Business Park

Ms. Lovejoy made a motion to approve \$14,000 for the Puiia Business Park. Vote: 3-2, Mr. Adley, Mr. Buccina opposed.

M. Town Garage

Mr. DiConzo made a motion to approve \$51,000 for Town Garage. Vote: 5-0

N. Park and Recreation

Mr. DiConzo made a motion to approve \$180,000 for Park and Recreation. Motion died for lack of a second.

Ms. Lovejoy made a motion to approve \$183,430 for Park and Recreation.

Mr. DiConzo made a motion to move the question. Vote: 2-3, Mr. Adley, Mr. Sterling, Mr. Buccina opposed.

Vote on the motion of \$183,430: 2-3, Mr. Adley, Mr. Buccina, Mr. Sterling opposed.

Ms. Lovejoy made a motion to recess this meeting until June 19, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. Vote: 5-0

Carlo J. Puia
Town Manager

CJP/tp