

Approved
Candia Budget Committee Meeting Minutes
January 6, 2009

Attendees: Chairman Carla Penfield, Kristine Pouliot, Kim Byrd, Allyn Chivers, Judith Szot, School Rep. Karen Smith, Selectmen's Rep. Tom Giffen.

Absent: Ann Tierno, Stephen Higgins (Resigned)

Chairman Penfield called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Public Hearing for Town Budget

- Chairman Penfield explained how the Budget Committee came up with the 2009 budget.
 1. Discussed the economic situation on a Federal and State level and how it may or may not affect our community.
 2. Impact on our Revenues. The fact that they have dropped and fair to say will continue to drop.
 3. The possible increase in real estate taxes if everything remains the same.
 4. Explained the format of the budget report.
 5. The Budget Committee hope the taxpayers will consider their recommended budget, which happens to be approx. \$5,000.00 less than what was approved in 2008.
- Resident, Mary Plant asked if any of the departments that were asked previously to reduce expenses came forward. The response was the Building Inspector, Police Department, and Solid Waste reduction in 1 employee and the Road Agent reduced his budget by removing the Asphalt Maintenance.
- Resident, Brian Beauchamp asked why the Budget Committee did not approve the Warrant Article for the CYAA. The BC feels the CYAA, being a private entity and did not provide documentation as to how the money

- will be spent. They also charge the Town as well as the school when the facilities are being used. They feel this is charging the town twice.
- Road Agent, Dennis Lewis spoke to the Board regarding his concern that if the Warrant Article for winter road maintenance does not pass. Dennis informed the Budget Committee that the Highway Department is currently at "bare bones". There is also an increase in sand and salt since the proposed budget. He requested that the Board reconsider adding back the Asphalt Maintenance line. Carla mentioned that Dennis should be prepared to speak at the Deliberative Session. However, the previous warrant articles have always been approved. Dennis recommended increasing Winter Payroll \$45,000.00, and sand by \$5,000.00. The BC will decide before the end of the evening.
 - Selectmen Joe Duarte spoke on behalf of the Fire Chief who was not able to be at the meeting. The Fire Chief presented a letter to the BC requesting that they reconsider the recommended budget for the Fire Department. The Fire Chief is concerned about the reduction in the water supply line. Carla commented about the amount remaining in the Fire Departments budget. Jim Wilson, Capt. Of the Fire Department commented that they are conservative with their funds due to the fact that there may be a need for those funds if something catastrophic happens.
 - Resident, Mary Plant commented on the combined Warrant Articles and the total budget amount that the Fire Department requested is a substantial amount of money.
 - Comment by Capt. Jim Wilson that Deerfield is the only other town that has a Volunteer Fire Department.
 - A Change will be made to Warrant Article 24 (Re-evaluation). Originally the amount was for \$24,000.00. The Selectmen received information as to what the cost will be and the new amount will be \$31,000.00.
 - The Warrant Article submitted for \$500.00 for the YWCA did not have documentation. They have since submitted that documentation and the Selectmen have approved that amount.
 - The amount submitted in Warrant Articles total \$600,000.00 - \$620,000.00 dollars.
 - Resident, Brian Beauchamp questioned why the BC pick & chooses rather than cut across the board and why they would have recommended the Patten Hill Rd Warrant Article which happens to be the largest. Carla's response was yes, we had to pick and choose, but the Road Agent, Dennis Lewis, made a strong argument related to Patten Hill Rd. The fact that we are so far behind on road maintenance. There will be no other road maintenance done this coming year and Patten Hill Road has deteriorated to such a degree that it makes it difficult to plow.
 - Kristine Pouliot commented on the Fire Department related to the letter the Fire Chief submitted. She asked Capt. Jim Wilson if there were one thing they would like the BC to reconsider what would that be? His response was the water supply. The biggest concern is getting the broken hydrants repaired. This continues to be delayed year after year.

- The BC recommends an additional \$50,000.00 for the Highway Department. \$45,000.00 for winter payroll and \$5,000.00 for sand.
- Recommendation to remove the new Police Department cruiser line (\$24,500.00) and apply \$20,000.00 towards the Highway Department winter payroll and \$5,000.00 towards sand. This will increase the bottom line budget by \$500.00. Motion was approved.
- Bottom Line of recommended budget for the Budget Committee was \$2,317,771.12. All were in favor.
- Selectmen voted to change Warrant Article 24 from \$25,000.00 to \$31,000.00. (Actual estimates were received). Recommended by BC.
- Selectmen added the YWCA back in for \$500.00. (Supporting documentation was received). Recommended by BC.

Motion to Adjourn at 9:25 pm. All were in favor.

Recorded by Mary Phillips