

Orford Budget Advisory Committee

Minutes

November 29, 2021

Members: Ruth Hook, Chair, Larry Duffy, Lawrence Hibbard, Bob Palifka, Bill Paxton, Tom Thomson. Ken Wiren via phone

Meeting called to order 5:30

Approve Minutes

- Tom T made the motion, Lawrence 2nd to approve the minutes of 11/17/21 as amended. Motion passed.

New BUSINESS:

Meeting with PD, FD, HWY Dept. Heads

- The BAC wants to make it very clear that NOT having the Heads of Dept. from the PD, FD, and HWY has left the committee in limbo. The largest amount of monies spent in the town's budget involves Police Dept., Fire Dept., and Highway Dept., being the largest Budget.
 - November 19 SB/BAC meeting BAC, requested PD, FD, Hwy Dept. Heads attend November 22 SB/BAC. Lead to believe that would happen.
 - November 22 SB/BAC meeting, informed PD, FD, Hwy Dept. Heads would not be attending till December 6's SB/BAC meeting.
- Highway Dept. line item – Road Signs, 2021 budget \$800.00, Appropriated as of 11/29/21 \$97.00 and 2022 Request \$1,500. Would like to see the statue on replacing current road signs.
- The lack of getting information from the PD, FD, and Hwy Dept. Heads delays the BAC process, especially as December 6 SB/BAC meeting is our last scheduled meeting before the SB has schedules December 15, for the BAC to provide its draft recommendations on the budget and warrant articles via a written report.

Questions that still exist:

Highway Budget Line 4312.20-865 Road Signs - \$1,500

- 2021 budget \$800.00, Appropriated as of 11/29/21 \$97.00
- 2022 Request \$1,500.
- Would like to see the NH statute on replacing current road signs.

Article 6. \$68,101 add to Broadband CRF from the American Rescue Plan Act

- What unseen strings are attached to this money?

Article 9. \$68,500 to purchase a new 4WD/AWD replacement police cruiser.

- Can the current radio be used in the new PD vehicle?
- What is the anticipated trade-in or sell of the cruiser?

Article 10. \$7,000 purchase a mobile Solar Radar Feedback Trailer Sign.

- Where will this be placed because of its size and not obstruct traffic?
- Where will it be stored during the winter?

Article 11. \$218,400 purchase 10-wheeler International dump truck. BAC was presented with specs for a 6-wheeler & 10-wheeler.

- The BAC questions why the Road Agent was not available earlier in this process. Questions were submitted, but not all were answered as we received the answer “Discussion there are many unanswered questions without him be available earlier in the process. At least at the being of the Budget process to include the BAC during the Selectboard’s meeting with Dept. Heads.
- What is the turn-around radius of the 10-wheeler with a plow and wing on it?
- Why a 10-wheeler rather than a 6-wheeler?
- What impact will it have on our roads – can it access the smaller roads?
- What is the weight of a loaded 10-wheeler? Will our bridges hold up? In past years, it has been noted that the 6-wheeler trucks have been overloaded. What happens when a 10-wheeler is overload? How well will our roads and bridges hold up?
- BAC suggest to contact another Highway Dept. with a 10-Wheeler to see if it will fit into the garage as it is wider and longer than the 6-Wheeler.

Article 11. Purchase property

- Change “*asking price*” to “*negotiated price*”. Is it possible that these words may not even appear, only a dollar amount is filled in? The concern was competition for the property.

Nest meeting, December 6th SB & BAC and December 7th BAC. Meeting in the Niles Room, 5:30.

Adjourned 7:33

Bob P Motion to adjourn, Lawrence H 2nd. Motion Passed

Respectfully Submitted

Ruth Hook