

Budget Committee
April 8, 2019
Meeting Minutes

Present:

Selectmen's Representative-Les Dion, Walter Waring, Joe Caristi, Janet Cavanagh, Thomas Kaempfer, and David Carr.

Absent:

Joseph Dillier

Others Present: Town Administrator, Nik Coates

Mr. Nik Coates spoke to the committee saying that the voters decided to drop the membership from 13 members to 7 members. Nik also said that over the next few months that they would be going over organizational skills so every member will understand what they need to be aware of while being a member of the committee.

Call to Order:

Mr. Caristi called the meeting to order at 6:05 PM.

Introductions:

The members introduced themselves.

Election of Officers:

Mr. Waring motioned that Mr. Carr be chair, seconded by Ms. Dion.

Mr. Carr motioned that Ms. Cavanagh be chair, Ms. Cavanagh declined.

The motions were all recinded by the committee.

Ms. Dion motioned that Mr. Caristi be chair of the committee, seconded by Ms. Cavanagh with discussion the vote was **5 in Favor – 1 Abstained – 0 Opposed.**

Ms. Dion motioned that Mr. Carr be Vice Chair of the committee, seconded by Mr. Waring with discussion the vote was **5 in Favor – 1 Abstained – 0 Opposed.**

Review and Approval of Minutes:

Motion by Ms. Dion, seconded by Mr. Waring to approve the minutes as written of February 11, 2019. The Committee voted **5 in favor - 0 Opposed – 1 Abstained**, the motion passed.

Schedule:

Mr. Coates wanted to touch a little on the new schedule for the committee. Nik said the April 22nd meeting would be with the town attorney to explain baseline information for the committee and the expectations. Nik also said that in May the committee will finalize the schedule and adopt the by-laws and what the goals of the committee are. Nik said he had changed the meeting time to 6:00 P.M. hoping that was good with everyone. Nik said he would like the members to meet with Department heads so they could better understand each department.

Member Comments:

Mr. Waring said that Ms. Cavanagh and Mr. Carr had done a lot of work on the side last year for the committee. Walter also said that the people are telling him that the committee can't keep giving everything away. Mr. Carr said that this committee doesn't work for the Select Board or the department heads we work with them. Mr. Waring went on to say that this committee did do a lot of things this past year but they were all necessary. Walter said that the people are afraid that the economy may take a down turn. Mr. Caristi said he does identify with key priorities saying the committee needs to have transparency with the voters. Joe said the schedule is set up for the committee to have success this year. Mr. Coates mentioned that in the back of the town report is the budget committees RSA which governs the committee. Nik asked that each member go over that to prep for the upcoming year. Nik also told the members that the NH Municipal Association has sessions that they could attend and he would send the members information on that.

Select Board Comments:

Ms. Dion welcomed the members to the committee.

Staff Comments:

Mr. Caristi asked about the fiber plan. Mr. Coates said they had hired a design company and had received a grant. We have a lot of projects on the table that are not complete so we will be working on that.

The next meeting will be April 22, 2019 at 6:00 P.M.

Adjournment:

Ms. Cavanagh motioned to adjourn at 6:45 PM, seconded by Mr. Kaempfer, the motion passed with all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Vogan