Budget Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, January 12, 2021 6:30 p.m.

Virtual Meeting on Zoom Meeting ID 845 1769 5045 Password 711101

Chairman Ronald Mitchell called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and confirmed the following were in attendance via Zoom or by telephone; Norma Patten, Mark Roberts, Justin Borden, Tracey LeClair, Mark Ekberg, Ken Ellis, Gary Grant, Selectman Representative Ruth Mooney, TA Jeanne Beaudin, and ATA Alicia Jipson. Absent were Robert Chapman, and Roland Coffin.

On behalf of the Committee TA Beaudin made the following announcement regarding the format of the meeting; we are utilizing the Zoom platform for this electronic meeting. All members of the Committee have the ability to communicate contemporaneously during this meeting through the Zoom platform, and the public has access to contemporaneously listen and, if necessary, participate in this meeting through dialing the following phone # 1-929-205-6099, Meeting ID #845 1769 5045, Password 711101 or by visiting www.belmontnh.org.

Meeting Minutes

Norma Patten moved to approve the minutes of the January 5, 2021 meeting; seconded by Tracey LeClair. Chairman Mitchell called the vote and motion was approved unanimously.

TA Beaudin discussed a proposal to add funds to the Information Technology Non-Capital Reserve fund. In 2018, the Town received from FEMA funds for the spring snowstorm that took out power lines and internet service town-wide for days. When the funds were received, the Selectmen accepted them as unanticipated and earmarked them for a Fiber Optic project for Town offices. We had planned to apply for a matching grant to assist with the project. The grant never became a reality, but the funds were encumbered in hopes of getting a grant in 2019. At this time there are no grant opportunities, so I am recommending that the funds lapse to unexpended fund balance and that we appropriate them into the Information Technology Non-Capital Reserve for which the Selectmen are agents to expend. This will preserve the funds as they were intended for a use related to technology. Ken Ellis moved to approve appropriating the sum of \$20,000 for fund balance for the purpose of adding the funds to the Information Technology Non-Capital Reserve Fund; seconded by Mark Roberts. Chairman Mitchell called the vote and motion was approved unanimously.

Public Hearing

Chairman Mitchell opened the Public Hearing in accordance with RSA 40:13, II-a (c). on the 2021 Proposed Town of Belmont Budget. He reviewed the budget as proposed on the MS737 including proposed revenues, noting that the final budget as presented will be \$10,519,148.

Chairman Mitchell reviewed the proposed 2021 budget for the Sunray Shores Water District, noting a total requested appropriation of \$63,196.

Norma patten moved to accept the 2021 Proposed Town of Belmont Budget; seconded by Tracey LeClair. Chairman Mitchell asked for any omissions or changes, there being none, the motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Mitchell closed the public hearing at 7:01 p.m. noting that the budget would move forward as recommended by the Budget Committee and previously approved during the budget process.

TA Beaudin reminded members to sign up during the period January 20 – January 29 to run again for their positions on the committee. TA Beaudin noted the Deliberative Session will be held on January 30, 2021 beginning at 10:00 a.m. at the Belmont High School Gym.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:07 p.m. by motion of Norma Patten seconded by Mark Roberts.

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