

Vice Chairman Sanderson called the meeting to order at 6:30pm in the Town Hall.  
Present: Carrier, Ebbighausen, Hartnett, Klein, Major, Sanderson, Schill, Zavorotny.  
Excused: Shaw.

Absent: Mitchell.

No replacement for the open position has been named.

Ms. Collins attended for review of some Town budget items.

Mr. Major moved to accept minutes for meeting 578 as printed. Mr. Hartnett seconded and the motion carried with Mr. Ebbighausen abstaining.

Revenue items still need to be reviewed. It was decided to meet prior to the Public Hearing to discuss this and the final School District details. Mr. Zavorotny will contact the School District to determine that contract agreements are complete.

Ms. Collins noted that the Planning and Zoning budget request had been increased by \$1,000 in the postage category. This covers mailings of requests for information and are mostly recovered from fees. Mr. Major moved to Tentatively Approve the new \$3,000 amount for that line item. Mr. Hartnett seconded and passage was unanimous. Mr. Major moved to Tentatively Approve the new department total of \$78,618. Mr. Carrier seconded and passage was unanimous.

Extensive discussion took place concerning the Police Department budget: Animal Control Officer has been removed several times in the past. Ms. Schill made a motion to remove \$8,395 which is the total of all Animal Control Officer lines except Vaccinations, Miscellaneous and Humane Society. This results in a new department total of \$811,130. Mr. Klein seconded the motion. The motion carried with Klein, Major, Carrier, Schill, Zavorotny voting yes and Ebbighausen, Hartnett, no. Ms. Schill then moved to reduce the incentive program line to zero. The motion died for lack of second. Ms. Schill then moved to reduce the Telephone line to \$9,000. This also died for lack of a second. She then outlined several areas in multiple departments she felt could be reduced without causing undue hardship. Several members felt it was not acceptable to be revising budgets without the department head present to defend them and that it was very late in the process for this type of scrutiny. However, there is concern that the tax burden is becoming excessive, particularly in the present economic climate. Mr. Zavorotny moved to leave the budgets as tentatively approved, including the removal of the Animal Control Officer lines and that in a future meeting we specify our intention as to what level of detail and when we will plan to go over the budget requests. Mr. Carrier seconded and passage was unanimous. This will allow the Selectmen and School Board time to prepare and be sure department heads have the opportunity to discuss budget items.

Articles discussed:

North Hinsdale Well; \$395,000. Wording has been added to establish 50% User Fees and 50% Tax Funds for payment. Mr. major moved to Recommend. Mr. Zavorotny seconded. The motion carried with Ms. Schill abstaining.

Fire Apparatus capital Reserve; \$60,000. Added wording that this article will be passed over if Article 5 passes. Article 5 is for purchase of a new fire truck. Mr. major moved to Recommend. Mr. Carrier seconded and passage was unanimous.

Monument Road Design Capital Reserve; \$50,000. Some members feel this can wait as there is not that much activity in the TIF district which would be one of the major drivers of this

project. Mr. Klein moved to Not Recommend. Ms. Schill seconded. The motion failed with Schill, Klein, Zavorotny voting yes and Hartnett, Ebbighausen, Carrier, Major voting no. Mr. Major moved to Recommend. Mr. Ebbighausen seconded and the motion carried with Hartnett, Ebbighausen, Carrier, Major voting yes and Schill, Klein, Zavorotny voting no.

Transit Service; \$15,500. Winchester is supportive of this project. This is subject to receiving a grant. The initial plan is for three trips per day, three days a week. Ms. Schill commented that she feels this is not the right time to add a new expense. Mr. major moved to Recommend. Mr. Carrier seconded. The motion carried with Ms. Schill voting no.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 10, 2010 at 6:00 in the Town Hall. Mr. Zavorotny will contact the School Board concerning having information available at that time for final committee action preceding the Public Hearing.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Peter W. Zavorotny  
Recording Secretary