

**Town of Hinsdale
Budget Committee Meeting
Tuesday, November 22, 2022**

Attendees: Dennis Nadeau, Kenny Howe, Bill Nebelski, Josh Green, Karen Johnson, Steve Diorio, April Anderson, Janice Nichols and Alex Duso

Excused: Mike Bomba

6:00 p.m. Chairman Nadeau called the meeting to order.

Budget Committee Secretary

The meeting opened with a discussion regarding the need for a Budget Committee Secretary. Janice Nichols volunteered. Bill Nebelski motioned for Janice to fill Secretary position and Alex Duso seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

A brief discussion followed regarding the \$300 that the Secretary receives and increasing the amount. Bill Nebelski made a motion to raise the Secretary's stipend to \$500 and Kenny Howe seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Steve Diorio will discuss the increase of \$200 with the Selectboard.

Budget Committee Representative for the School Board

During the meeting on Wednesday, November 9, 2022, it was discussed and agreed that Alex Duso would be a good candidate for the Representative. Steve Diorio motioned to have Alex as the School board Representative and it was seconded by Kenny Howe. The motion passed unanimously.

Open Seat on Budget Committee

Chairman Nadeau reported that Dan Seymour is interested in the open seat, however, he was not made aware of his need for attendance at tonight's meeting. Dennis reached out, but Dan was in Keene and unable to drop in.

Dennis listed Dan's experience: Served on Budget Committee, School board and Selectman for three years, Selectmen's Representative to Zoning Board and a volunteer firefighter.

James MacDonell is also interested in the open seat and was in attendance at tonight's meeting. James shared his work history with the Town and his service on Town

committees. He feels he has a good relationship with all Department heads for the Town of Hinsdale and has a lot of knowledge and experience to bring to the table.

Steve Diorio expressed his support for James and feels that James would be an excellent candidate to fill the open seat on the Budget Committee.

During the discussion, Dennis Nadeau reviewed the questions on the application for the open seat. Bill Nebelski shared his concerns around discussing the candidates filling the open seat in front of James McDonnel. Josh Green offered his seat to James, which would allow for both Dan and James to serve on the Budget Committee as he felt it would be “better for the Town and for the Committee.” Dennis Nadeau and Kenny Howe both clarified that Josh was voted in by the townspeople and, although they understand why he suggested this, he was voted in and no one would be taking his seat. At this point in the discussion, James left the meeting so the group could openly discuss both people interested in filling the open seat. Kenny Howe reminded the group that this open seat was only for this budget year and would be vacant again in March and at that time anyone interested could run for election. Other topics that were covered were any conflicts of interest, qualifications, knowledge of Town operations, who could “jump right in” and fill the seat, James being more up to date with current status of Town, James’ prior departure from the Budget Committee and leaving bad impression and the suggestion that James over-extended himself in the past.

Steve Diorio motioned to have James fill the vacant seat and it was seconded by Alex Duso. The motion passed with 7 yes and 1 abstain.

School board

April Anderson reports that the School board will receive the budget on December 14th and the Budget Committee can have it on the 15th. Dennis will grab school budget on the 15th and get them distributed to Budget Committee members.

Miscellaneous

Due to the past two years experiencing a vacancy on the Budget Committee, Kenny Howe suggested having a follow-up meeting with Budget Committee members after Town Meeting and the group agreed. This would allow for the Committee to prepare for any vacancies and address it prior to the next session.

Steve Diorio will confirm the Joint Meeting with Budget and Select board, tentatively scheduled on December 19th and 20th.

After a brief discussion regarding what night to hold the Budget Committee meeting it was decided Tuesdays work for everyone.

Bill Nebelski offered to bring the Budget packet to Mike Bomba.

Next Budget Committee Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, December 1, 2022 at 6:00 p.m

Meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.