

HAMPTON BUDGET COMMITTEE
MINUTES
February 23, 2005

Budget Committee Members Present

Sandy Buck, Chairman
Eileen Latimer, Vice Chairman (7:20 p.m.)
Ginny Bridle-Russell, Selectmen's Representative
Gary Kubik, Precinct Representative
Warren Bambury
Russ Bernstein
Michael Pierce
Mike Plouffe
Mary-Louise Woolsey

Excused

John Bridle, School Board Representative
Pat Collins
Maury Friedman
Dick Hansen

Absent

William Lally
Charlie Preston

Others Present

Commissioners Mike O'Neil and John Kane, Hampton Beach Village Precinct; Sharon Summers, Precinct Counsel

Chairman Buck called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Richard Reniere.

Approval of Minutes – January 13, 2005

Moved by Ms. Woolsey, seconded by Mr. Plouffe, to approve the Minutes of January 13, 2005, as amended.

Vote: 8 yes, 0 no. Motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Buck requested that the following statement be included in these Minutes:

“Chairman Buck polled all members present of the BudCom following discussion on all money warrant articles at the Feb 5th Deliberative session (not present: Hansen, Bernstein, Preston, and Lally). There were three articles that were amended by the session. None of the members polled wished to change the recommendation statement on the articles. There were no amendments for the Hampton School District deliberative session held Feb. 7 attended by Mr. Plouffe and Mr. Buck.”

Hampton Budget Committee
February 23, 2005
Page 2

Commissioner Kane then addressed the General Government section of the budget. He explained that the increase in #4199.00 General Government is due to the bond and that there is a warrant article which will make up \$90,000 of that amount.

Moved by Mr. Kubik, seconded by Ms. Russell, to recommend the following to the Village District Annual Meeting:

<u>Total General Government</u>	\$161,240
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Vote: 8 yes, 1 no (Woolsey). Motion passed.

The Commissioners then addressed the Culture & Recreation section of the budget.

Moved by Mr. Kubik, seconded by Ms. Russell, to recommend the following to the Village District Annual Meeting:

<u>Total Culture & Recreation</u>	\$340,400
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Ms. Woolsey said that she feels the Precinct is an anachronism and she has a problem with the extra taxes being levied. She said she feels it is an unnecessary burden on the taxpayers and that there is no justification for a separate tax district. Ms. Woolsey said she believes these activities should be incorporated into the Chamber of Commerce.

Vote: 8 yes, 1 no (Woolsey). Motion passed.

Moved by Mr. Kubik, seconded by Ms. Russell, to recommend the following to the Village District Annual Meeting:

<u>Total Operating Budget</u>	\$501,640
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Vote: 8 yes, 1 no (Woolsey). Motion passed.

Ms. Woolsey asked about the audit and revenue sheet. Commissioner O'Neil said that the audit is not complete. Estimated revenues are as follows: Parking-\$50,000, Sand Sculpture-\$10,000, Rooms & Meals Tax-\$790 and Ashworth Fund-\$200 for a total of \$60,990.

Moved by Mr. Kubik, seconded by Ms. Russell, to recommend the following to the Village District Annual Meeting:

<u>Estimated Revenues</u>	\$60,990
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Vote: 8 yes, 1 no (Woolsey). Motion passed.

The Commissioners then addressed the Warrant Article which reads:

“To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Hundred and Sixty-Three Thousand Dollars (\$363,000.00) for the purpose of designing and installing the

Hampton Budget Committee
February 23, 2005
Page 3

infrastructure for ornamental lighting to be located on Ashworth Avenue and the Lettered Streets within the District, such sum to be raised through the issuance of notes under and in compliance with the Municipal Finance Act, NH RSA 33:1 et seq., as amended; to authorize the Commissioners to negotiate and execute said notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon and the maturity and other terms thereof; and to authorize the Commissioners to take any other action or to pass any other vote relative thereto. This appropriation is to fund lighting infrastructure only and includes such items as conduits, pull boxes and bases for future poles. This appropriation is not designed to fund light poles or fixtures, and a separate appropriation will be required to fund such items. In accordance with the provisions of NH RSA 33:8-a, a public hearing was held on this matter on February 14, 2005 at the Hampton Beach Fire Station. This matter requires a 2/3 vote by ballot of all voters present and voting at the Annual Meeting on March 25, 2005.”

Moved by Mr. Kubik, seconded by Ms. Latimer, to recommend the following to the Village District Annual Meeting:

<u>Warrant Article</u>	\$363,000
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Commissioner O’Neil said that in the early 90’s there was an agreement between the Precinct and the Town of Hampton that the Precinct would provide lighting within the beach infrastructure. This was prior to the \$12 million bond. It is important to do this work now before sidewalk work is done under the bond.

Ms. Woolsey asked what the length of the bond is. Commissioner O’Neil said that it was five years.

Ms. Woolsey said she does not think it is fair to burden the Precinct taxpayers with this. The \$12 million bond is still in flux and we need to watch and re-visit this.

Ms. Latimer said she felt it was important to be progressive. Mr. Pierce said it is smart to do all the work at one time.

Vote: 8 yes, 1 no (Woolsey). Motion passed.

Chairman Buck then opened the Public Hearing. He said the purpose of the Public Hearing is to receive input from the public.

Rich Reniere of Hampton said that this agreement was made a number of years ago to improve conditions at the beach. This is a good place to start by putting in the conduit.

As no one else came forward to speak, Chairman Buck closed the Public Hearing.

Moved by Ms. Latimer, seconded by Ms. Russell, to recommend the Operating Budget, Warrant Article and Revenues to go forward to the Annual Meeting.

Vote: 8 yes, 1 no (Woolsey). Motion passed.

Hampton Budget Committee
February 23, 2005
Page 4

Mr. Bambury said that this was his last meeting and he would like to thank the Committee for the opportunity to serve with them. He added that he strongly felt having a Budget Committee was very important. Mr. Bambury then commended Mrs. Rice for her work as secretary.

Ms. Woolsey, on behalf of the Committee, thanked Mr. Buck and Mr. Bambury for their service.

Chairman Buck said the next meeting will be Tuesday, March 15, at 7:00 p.m. Vice Chairman Latimer will chair the meeting which will handle reorganization and review of Town Meeting results.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Committee, Ms. Woolsey **moved**, seconded by Mr. Pierce, that the meeting be adjourned. The meeting passed by unanimous vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Rice
Secretary