

BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 20, 2013

THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER at 6:03pm by Budget Committee Member Mr. Clifford.

ROLL CALL: Present were Mr. Clifford, Mrs. Nadeau, Mr. Puccetti, Ms. Vallee, and Mr. Zambarano

MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES of the 2-13-13 meeting with the correction that Mr. Zambarabo was not present for that meeting as made by Mr. Puccetti, seconded by Ms. Nadeau and unanimously approved.

Upon opening up and entering the building to begin the meeting, Mr. Clifford, Ms. Nadeau, and Finance Director Ms. MacDonald were startled by the presence of a man, in the dark, on the upper balcony. The man had a video camera and would not identify who he was, why he was present, or how he got into the building. The man refused to respond to repeated questions from Mr. Clifford and Ms. Nadeau. Mr. Vadenais was present in the audience and acknowledged that he knew the individual but would not tell Mr. Clifford or Ms. Nadeau who he was. Eventually the individual identified himself as Tim McGee and he left the premises shortly after the meeting began.

OLD BUSINESS:

I. North Smithfield 2013-2014 Budget: Mr. Benoit presented the budgets for both the Inspection Division and the Zoning Board.

II. Finance Director Ms. MacDonald advised Committee members that there would be a cost for having the Town Auditor attend a Budget Committee meeting. Ms. MacDonald suggested that Budget Committee members provide a list of questions regarding the Town Audit to her, and she would obtain answers from the Auditor. This solution is agreeable to the Committee. Mr. Clifford asked Committee members to email questions to him by Monday 3-4-13 and he would send them to Ms. MacDonald.

III. The Library Budget was presented by library director Ms. Dubois and trustees Ms. Peirce and Mr. Dupuis. The library budget has been level funded for 5 years and for 2013-14 the budget request reflects a 5.97% increase.

IV. Town Solicitor Mr. Lombardi presented the Solicitor's Budget.

A motion to move out of the order of the agenda to ask Mr. Lombardi a question about the School Department budget was made by Ms. Nadeau, seconded by Mr. Puccetti and unanimously approved.

V. School Department Budget: During the Town Council meeting Tuesday 2-19-13 Mr. Lombardi was asked by the Town Council to

respond to 2 questions: 1) Is the submitted School Department Budget compliant with Title 16 and 2) is the submitted School Department Budget compliant with the Town Charter. Mr. Lombardi indicated to the Committee that he is not quite ready to respond to those questions.

VI. Police Chief Reynolds presented the Police Department Budget. In response to Mr. Clifford's question regarding the Dispatcher positions Chief Reynolds explained that the 2 new officers joining the department are not being hired to replace the dispatchers. The dispatcher function will become part of the rotational duties of every officer.

Additionally at the request of the School Department to employ a School Resource Officer, Chief Reynolds indicated that North Smithfield will be sending a recruit to the Police Academy in July to fill this position. The officer will be part of the department and will report to Chief Reynolds.

NEXT MEETING:

2-27-13 at 6:00pm at Kendall Dean

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:57pm was made by Mr. Puccetti, seconded by Mr. Zambarano, and unanimously approved.

Minutes respectfully submitted,

Merrie Nadeau