

# Jan 6, 2020 630pm Town Budget Committee Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Susan Finnegan, Richard Paul, Wesley Staples, Russ Austin, Dean Priebe

Meeting called to order at 630pm by Susan Finnegan.

## **Committee Organizational business:**

Richard Paul recommended having the Committee member on their third term have the option to be the Committee Chair. Wesley Staples is on his third term and motioned to have Susan continue as Committee Chair, Seconded by Richard Paul.

## **Meeting timing for Budget Committee (both Town and School):**

The annual budget workshop at the School was held Jan 4 from 9am till about 11:15. This Annual workshop (typically the first Saturday of the year) is a combined budget committee meeting with the school and town. Most of the budget committee was in attendance. Committee discussed the school budget workshop, status and next steps. Mr Priebe will report out Budget updates from the Jan 13 School Board meeting at our next meeting.

Mr Paul thought the timing of our first Town Budget Committee Meeting occurring after the workshop was not as it was last year. Mr Paul was correct, the town budget committee was able to meet prior to the workshop for 2019 budget discussion. The Westmoreland 2020-2021 Budget Committee Schedule has been fully updated with **our next budget committee meeting planned for Jan 21, Tues 6pm.**

## **FY2019 Financial Performance Review**

Mr Austin presented financial performance YTD with the three page sections of the budget we planned to review and added that overall, the town is looking good against budget with no major expenses outside FY2019 plan. The committee looks forward to see the full financial performance report to include all fund balances at our next scheduled Budget Committee meeting.

## **FY2020 Budget Discussion**

Selectman Austin reviewed the Selectmen's budget worksheet pages 1, 2 & 4. As each line item was reviewed, discussion occurred when 2019 actuals varied significantly from budget. Selectman Austin had line details and rationale for increases in the FY20 budget. The Committee also ensured the 2020 budget number was well planned.

The committee reviewed and approved Sections 4130, 4140, 4150, 4153, 4155, 4191, 4194, 4195, 4196, 4210, 4299, 4316, 4324, 4411, 4414, 4415, 4441, 4520, 4583, 4550, 4611, 4711, 4721, & 4723

The following areas were discussed by the committee in more detail:

Selectman recommendations on Town Employee Salary adjustments in multiple sections.

Section 4155 Personnel Admin RE: health insurance budget.

The challenges towns are having with Revenue vs Costs from Recycling Programs – how are we doing?

The Debt Service Principal and interest expense in 4711 and 4721 was discussed.

Selectmen Austin to firm up the following for next meeting:

- 4130800 finalize number from trust fund trustee.
- 4299 Mutual Aide
- 4520 Parks and Rec – Tennis Court Maintenance
- Page 3 & additional pages of the Selectman's budget worksheets the Committee has not seen.

Meeting adjourned @ 8:30pm

Mr Priebe sent updated meeting dates / times to SAU29 & sent the updated overall Budget Schedule to the Town budget Committee Jan 9, 2020.