

Attending the meeting; Jon Trefry, Mike Bissonette, Andrea Morgante, Tom Ayer, Joe Colangelo and attached list.

Meeting called to order at 6:00 p.m.

#### Selectboard Budget Deliberations

Board members shared their thoughts on items in the budget that each felt could be cut and items they felt needed funding. They will continue the discussion at the Jan 13 meeting.

#### Listers FY2015 Budget

Marie Gardner reviewed the listers budget with the Board.

Marie also advised the Board that the State recently ruled net-metering solar trackers can be assessed for tax purposes and is seeking direction from the Board on this. Jon said he feels this is similar to the equipment tax the Town has done away with. Marie said the Town can vote to exempt them and to do so will require a vote at Town Meeting.

Fireman's Association Property: A piece of property on Sunset Lake owned by the Fireman's Association will lose its tax-exempt status. Al Barber said the Association held the land for possible future revenue but has not actively tried to sell it. It is connected to a small piece of land owned by the Town. If ownership remains with the Association and the Town wants to exempt the parcel for tax purposes, it will need to be voted at Town Meeting.

The question is if the Town wants to take ownership The Selectboard may consider purchasing this property from the Association. If owned by the Town the parcel is exempt from taxes. This is the only public access to Sunset Lake.

John Kiedaisch said the land trust will have this item on their agenda for discussion about being involved in the possible sale of the property.

Discussed eliminating the office of lister and adopt the position of Assessor. Marie said the Legislature gave municipalities the option to replace the Board of Listers without adopting a charter. Marie is qualified to be an Assessor.

Marie is recommending a town wide reappraisal be done starting in 2015. There is currently \$130,917 in the reserve fund and anticipate receiving another \$20,358 next year which should cover the cost of the reappraisal.

#### Volunteer Awards

Jon presented awards to the following;

Cathy Ryan for serving for 3 years on the trails committee. Cathy is now volunteering with the Hinesburg Record.

To Jo White for 10 years of service on the Planning Commission.

To Jean Isham for 22 years on the Planning Commission. Jean continues involvement in Town with the Hinesburg Food Shelf and Hinesburg Record.

Town Clerk – FY2015 Budget

Missy Ross reviewed the proposed budget with the Board. Missy noted she would like to begin paying those who work at the polls for the elections and reflected that in the line for election salaries.

Carpenter Carse Library FY2015 Budget

Sue Barden and Katherine Kjelleren reviewed the budget with the Board.

Sue noted the large project for the library this year will be work done on the parking lot and funding for that will come from deferred maintenance in the capital budget. She said they have formed a subcommittee of the trustees in anticipation of improving planning of investments.

The library receives \$500 from the town of St George each year so St George residents have access to the library as a user.

Jon asked about the request Phil made last year for information on revenue and how and when decisions are made to use savings and endowment funds toward library costs.

Sue explained they try to use just the interest but sometimes have to use the savings with projects.

Andrea moved the Board vote to accept the Library Trustees FY2015 Budget Request and Place Their Requested Funding of \$200,318.00 on the Town Meeting Warning as Presented to the Selectboard. Second by Mike B and approved.

CCTA FY2015 Budget

Bill Watterson, executive director of CCTA was present to answer any questions on the proposed budget.

Bill said they are seeing steady growth with a 9% increase in ridership.

Jon asked about the cost and Bill said all CCTA members have a 3% increase, the additional capital cost to Hinesburg is paying the additional for ACTR.

Jon asked if any of the other communities have businesses that are helping by contributing to the cost and Bill said nothing significant is being contributed.

Tom said he feels more of the cost should be from the people riding the bus and not the Town.

Agency Request Review Committee (ARRC) Fy2015 Budget

Members of the committee were present to answer any questions on their recommendations for funding.

All applicants received funding from the Town in a prior year. They based the amount of funding on services provided to Hinesburg.

The Board thanked them for the thought put into the recommended funding.

New Police Cruisers

Per the approved FY2014 Town budget, Chief Koss is prepared to move forward with the lease-purchase of two (2) new SUV cruisers. He recommends replacing the two (2) Chevy Tahoes with two (2) Ford Interceptor's. His desire to change vehicles is the result of analysis from Officer Brian Fox.

Chief Koss would also like to replace the cameras in all of the cruisers. For the two (2) new cruisers (Fords) the lease cost would be rolled into the total cost of the vehicles; for the older vehicles funds from the capital budget would be utilized.

The approved capital budget for FY2014 – this fiscal year – calls for the replacement of these vehicles with the new three (3) year lease payments starting in FY2015. This will keep the town on track with a six (6) year replacement schedule for PD cruisers.

The Board asked Frank about the use and condition of the vehicles with the idea of perhaps keeping a vehicle longer. Frank said there comes a point where the cost of maintenance is high and does not make sense to keep a vehicle.

Mike B moved the Board vote to authorize the Lease-Purchase of Two (2) Ford Interceptors and Two (2) Video Cameras Utilizing a Three (3) Year Lease Purchase Financing Plan with the lease to begin after July 1, 2014. Second by Andrea.

Andrea said he has concerns in part with the method of doing the capital budget with automatic replacement every so many years which takes the opportunity away from voters to discuss the merits of the vehicle purchase.

Motion voted and approved.

Mike B moved the Board vote to authorize the Sale of the 2006 and 2009 Chevy Tahoes with the Town Utilizing a Public Bid Process. Second by Andrea and approved.

Mike B moved the Board vote to authorize the Lease - Purchase of Two (2) additional video cameras utilizing a three (3) year lease purchasing financing plan with the lease to begin after July 1, 2014. Second by Andrea and approved.

#### Additional Funds for New Police Station

The entire Public Safety Facility Committee strived to deliver this project on time and on budget an additional \$11,000 is required to adequately furnish the building. The \$30,000 additional spent on foam for the foundation is the main reason we are in this bind.

Mike B moved the Board vote to authorize the Over-Expenditure of up to \$11,000 on the New Police Station for Interior Furniture with the Additional Funds Taken from the General Fund's Fund Balance. Second by Andrea and approved.

#### Town Administrator's FY 2015 Budget

The Board reviewed the Town Administrator's budget with Joe.

#### 12. Town Administrator Report

1. FY2013 Audit – Our CPA's will present the FY2013 audit to the Selectboard on January 20, 2014.
2. Silver Street Crosswalk – Joe reports that changes made would delay the project a year. Andrea said that traffic management needs to be discussed not just the sidewalk, but drop off at the school and traffic congestion. Tom said just because there is funding he does not support going ahead with what could possibly be a dangerous situation.
3. Masons Building Sewer Line – Line has been replaced.
4. HWY Garage RFQ – RFQ's for the Highway Garage were due on Friday, January 3<sup>rd</sup>. Will need to get an ad hoc group together to review the proposals and interview top candidates.

Selectboard items

Tom reminded all they still have some tickets on sale for the fund raising concert for the rec fields.

Mike B asked about reviewing the job description for the Town Administrator - this is on the agenda for next week.

Mike B also said they need to talk about the disposition of the former police station.

Warrants

Jon moved the Board vote to approve the warrants, including payroll, as submitted by the Town Treasurer.

Second by Andrea and approved.

Jon moved the Board go into executive session including Joe Colangelo and the Town Agent for discussion of the proposed contract from VT Gas. Second by Andrea and approved.

Jon moved the Board come out of executive session and adjourn, second by Andrea and approved.

Respectfully submitted,  
Valerie Spadaccini, secretary



