

TOWN OF SEABROOK

BUDGET MEETING

OCTOBER 21, 2010

Present: Paula Wood 6:00PM  
Ivan Eaton  
Aboul Khan  
Richard Maguire  
Don Hawkins  
Peg Weare  
Albert Abramson  
Paul Knowles  
Jessica Brown (for Kathy Cronin)

Mrs. Wood opened the meeting at 6:03PM.

**MINUTES - DECEMBER 17, 2009, JUNE 17, 2010 & SEPTEMBER 23, 2010**

The committee will review and take up later in the meeting.

Mr. Abramson asked that the discussion on health savings accounts were discussed to save money and also that the committee had a discussion on the revolving accounts.

MOTION: Paula Wood To adopt the minutes of  
Second: Aboul B. Khan 9/23/10 with correction.  
Unanimous

**MEMORANDUM FROM TOWN MANAGER**

The committee received a memo from the Town Manager regarding the information that was requested.

Mr. Khan said the Selectmen would begin the budget reviews starting Tuesday, October 26. He said the Selectmen asked the Town Manager to prepare the budget maintaining existing services and asked the Department Heads to not put in a wish list but just what they need to run their departments. The budget increase is about 3% without the insurance rates. The largest increase is in the water department for the operation of the water treatment plant.

Mr. Hawkins commented that the revenue report is missing the property tax figures, which is an important piece of information for this report with an \$18 million dollar budget.

The next meeting will be November 11 at 6PM for budget reviews.

Mr. Abramson commented on RSA 41:11a that property can only be leased for a year by the Selectmen. The voters can allow the Selectmen to sign for up to 5 years and asked if this vote had ever been taken. Mr. Maguire explained this RSA as he

understands it is for the Town to lease out property not for obtaining a lease like on vehicles.

Mr. Abramson commented on RSA 189-2 that says the Town can vote for a 4-day school week. The studies show that test scores have gone up with this. Mrs. Wood said he should take this up with the school board.

Mr. Abramson also commented on RSA 32:23 and said if the budget committee feels the budget was not done properly they could petition the court to remove the Town Manager. This would take a majority vote he said. Mrs. Wood said she was going to look at this RSA. Mr. Abramson said she should also look at RSA 32:22 and 32:12.

#### **BUDGET REVISIONS**

Mrs. Wood said due to time constraints the 2011 budget committee budget was submitted as status quo. She would like to have a discussion on adding in legal services with permission for her to go to the Selectmen and request they add it as well.

There was discussion on how much money may be needed. The committee agreed there would be no need to defend a court case but just enough to be able to ask questions that may arise.

MOTION: Ivan Eaton To add line for legal services in the amount of \$6000.

Aboul B. Khan left the meeting at 6:40PM.

Mr. Abramson said the concern of the people is the amount of money spent on the attorney's and court fees. If paying money to the LGC why have additional money to pay for attorneys. Mrs. Wood said she feels they need to have some money to ask questions to someone who works for them. Mr. Abramson said he doesn't want to be paying money for a wrong opinion.

Second: Paul Knowles

Opposed: Albert Abramson, Don Hawkins, Richard Maguire and Peg Weare

Abstain: Jessica Brown

Motion did not pass

MOTION: Peg Weare To add line for legal services in the amount of \$3000.  
Second: Albert Abramson  
Opposed: Don Hawkins

Abstain: Jessica Brown, Ivan Eaton and Paul Knowles  
Motion passed

MOTION: Albert Abramson To have the chairman  
Second: Richard Maguire act on behalf of the  
Opposed: Don Hawkins committee to request  
Abstain: Jessica Brown, Ivan Eaton & the legal services line  
Paul Knowles in amount of \$3000.

MOTION: Don Hawkins To adopt the minutes of  
Second: Richard Maguire 12/17/09.  
Present: Albert Abramson  
Motion passed

MOTION: Don Hawkins To adopt the minutes of  
Second: Richard Maguire 6/17/10.  
Present: Albert Abramson  
Motion passed

MOTION: Paula Wood To adjourn the meeting  
Second: Don Hawkins at 6:53PM.  
Unanimous

Meeting adjourned at 6:53PM.  
Minutes taken by Kelly J. O'Connor

Approved and endorsed:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Paula Wood, Chairman

Date: \_\_\_\_\_