

Approved

**Town of Brentwood
Budget Committee Meeting
Minutes of November 9, 2009**

Present: Elyse Seeley (Chair), Bob Mantegari, Bill Faria, Ken Christiansen, Jeff Bryan (Selectmen's Rep), and Dianne Vosgien (Swasey School Board Rep. sitting in for C. Gargaly)

Absent: Jason Clark, Charlie Gargaly

The meeting was called to order at 7:07 PM

Correspondence:

- Town of Brentwood Holiday party announcement.
- Elyse received several calls from townspeople last month: do we have a need for a fire station; query re: number of actual calls for Brentwood vs. mutual aid; has an effort been made to cost out what it would cost to use surrounding towns to answer Brentwood calls?
- Two State of NH technical info releases distributed- 1). Election laws affected by the 2009 Legislative Session RSA 32:5, V-a Budget Preparation, 2). From the NH Municipal Association: Final Legislative Bulletin 2009 pgs. 10-11 addressing Intergovernmental Relations; Retirement; State Budget – of note: a.) State Treasurer has set the wk of Dec 28th for distribution of meals and rooms distribution payments to towns and cities; and b.) State Retirement Contributions have been budgeted to decrease in 2010 and 2011, leaving it up to the towns and cities to fill the gap (the matter is in court right now).

Public Input:

Jim Michaud, Tax Assessor, discussed the upcoming property assessment process and associated expenses. Brentwood is in the process of its 5 year, state required update. Expectation is that valuations will come in at around 110%. Committee took the opportunity to review the Assessor's Budget and vote on it. Ken made the motion, Bill 2nd, and the budget passed. (See the attached Brentwood Town Budget Detail 2010 file.)

Old Business:

Meeting minutes: Committee reviewed and approved the 10/9 minutes. Jeff motioned to accept, Bob seconded, and Bill abstained. Minutes approved.

Updates:

1. Updates
 - Future status of State Revenues, Valuations (update from last in 2005) Julie Stevens provided Elyse with a revised revenue estimate of \$1,616,638 vs. the prior

- \$1,438,000 for ~ \$200k increase. There has also been an additional \$100k in property back taxes
- Swasey budget (Diane) Committee was provided with the Swasey financial statements for 2009-2010 as of 11/06/09. Additional information included Principal Ostrowski's worksheet highlighting anticipated areas of change in the 2010-2011 budget. The Principal's Report to the School Board provided actual enrollment figures, showing October enrollment at 392 pupils. The SCS budget will be on the 12/14 BudComm calendar for review and voting. The Town and School Budget hearing is scheduled for 2/8/10 @ 7 pm at the SCS gym.
 - Coop budget (Elyse) There is an anticipated 22% increase in the Health Insurance Rate. Class size is averaging 22. EHS Principal Sokul may consider cutting electives that aren't full to reduce costs. Earlier in the fall, the COOP Board recommended to the Teacher's Union that they freeze wages to save jobs – the union did not accept the recommendation.

New business

2. Discuss / Vote on completed Town budgets from Selectmen (see attached worksheet for budgets reviewed and voted on)
3. Petition warrant for Budcomm Recommendations on Warrant
 - Jeff Bryan to investigate what the BudComm can and cannot recommend
4. Other from floor

December meetings (2): 11/30 Police, Fire, Highway, Library, other town budgets

12/14: Recreation, Swasey School

Tentative future meetings include Jan 4th and 11th.

Meeting adjourned at 8:59.

Minutes taken and reported by Tracie May