

## Middleton Budget Committee Meeting February 6, 2021

### Board Members:

Roxanne Tufts-Keegan, Chair	Laura Parker, Vice Chair
Tracy Donovan-Laviolette	Scott Ferguson (Absent)
Bonnie Gagnon	Mary Knapp, School Board Rep
Joe Varga, Selectman Rep(absent)	Janet Kalar (Absent)

Roxanne Tufts-Keegan called the meeting to order at 12:50pm.

The Budget Committee reconsidered Article II from the School Deliberate Session held on February 6, 2021 at 10:00am.

**ARTICLE II:** Shall the Middleton School District raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling \$5, 067,459? Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$5,305,232 which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Middleton School District or by law; or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only. \* **Note: This warrant article (operating budget) does not include appropriations requested in ANY of the other warrant articles. (The Middleton School Board recommends \$5,305,447 by a vote of 3-0-0. The Middleton Budget Committee recommends \$5,117,595 by a vote of 7-0-0.) Estimated tax impact on \$5,067,459: is an increase of TBD/\$1,000 resulting in an estimated tax rate of TBD.**

Laura made a motion to accept the article as read. Bonnie seconded. Budget Committee recommends this article 5-0-0.

The following are the town warrant articles with updates (in red). Articles 7, 8, 10, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19 were not reconsidered for review and remain unchanged from the February 4, 2021 meeting.

Laura reached out to the DRA regarding wording of the warrant articles. She asked *“when the budget committee goes over them can they have their recommendation say for the article NOT to come from the unassigned fund balance and to be raised from taxation?”* The response from DRA was *“Yes, they can say this and on the budget form you would leave the offsetting revenue off in the BC column on that article.”* Based on this response

from the DRA, the budget committee reconsidered the following warrant articles: Articles 9, 11, 12, 13, and 14.

**Article 7:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000) for the purpose of road construction and paving of various roads in town. This is a non-lapsing appropriation pursuant to RSA 32:7 VI and will not lapse until December 31,2025, whichever is sooner. (Majority Vote Required)

Recommended by Board of Selectmen  
Recommended by Budget Committee 5-0-0

**Article 8:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of four hundred thirty-two dollars (\$ 432) to be added to the Highway Department Building Capital Reserve Fund, with said funds to come from the unexpended fund balance as of December 31, 2020. This amount represents the difference between appropriated to the Highway Department for 2020 and the amount spent. (Majority Vote Required)

Recommended by Board of Selectmen  
Not Recommended by Budget Committee 0-5-0

**Article 09:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Ten thousand dollars (\$ 10,000) to be added to the Highway Department Vehicle Capital Reserve Fund, with said funds to come from the unexpended fund balance as of December 31, 2020. This amount represents the difference between appropriated to the Highway Department for 2020 and the amount spent. The Budget Committee recommends the sum of Ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) to be raised through taxation and not to be funded by the unexpended fund balance. (Majority Vote Required)

Recommended by Board of Selectmen  
Recommended by Budget Committee 5-0-0

**Article 10:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of five hundred dollars (\$500) to be added to the Milfoil Invasive Aquatic Species Capital Reserve Fund established for the purpose of treating exotic milfoil and other exotic aquatic weeds, with said funds to come from the unassigned fund balance. (Majority vote required)

Recommended by Board of Selectmen  
Not Recommended by Budget Committee 0-5-0

**Article 11:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of three thousand dollars (\$3,000) to be added to the Data & Equipment Capital Reserve Fund, with said funds to come from the unassigned fund balance. The Budget Committee

Recommended by Board of Selectmen  
Recommended by Budget Committee 5-0-0

**Article 16:** To see if the Town will vote to establish a Public Safety Complex Capital Reserve Fund per RSA 35:1, for the purpose of building a Public Safety Complex to contain Fire Department; EMS Department; Police Department; and Town Government Offices, and to raise and appropriate the sum of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) to put in the fund, with said funds to come from the unassigned fund balance. If this article fails, Article "17" will be null and void. (Majority Vote Required).

Recommended by Board of Selectmen  
Not Recommended by Budget Committee 0-5-0

**Article 17:** To see if the Town will vote to discontinue the Fire Department Addition Capital Reserve Fund Created in 1997. Said funds, with accumulated interest to date of withdrawal, are to be transferred to the Town's Public Safety Complex Capital Reserve Fund. This article will be null and void if Article "16" fails. (Majority Vote Required).

Recommended by Board of Selectmen  
Not Recommended by Budget Committee 0-5-0

**Article 18:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of seventy-five thousand dollars (\$75,000) for the purpose of purchasing a roadside mower. (Majority Vote Required)

Not Recommended by Board of Selectmen  
Not Recommended by Budget Committee 0-5-0

**Article 19:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter a five-year lease purchase for the amount not to exceed two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000) for the purpose of leasing a new highway truck with required equipment and to raise and appropriate the sum of forty-five thousand dollars (\$45,000) for the first year's lease payment through taxation. The current highway truck will be traded in which will be used to reduce the cost of the 5-year lease purchase. This lease will have an escape clause. (Majority vote required)

Not Recommended by Board of Selectmen  
Not Recommended by Budget Committee 0-5-0

## **Articles that were revised and reconsidered:**

**Article 9** was read. **Article 09:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Ten thousand dollars (\$ 10,000) to be added to the Highway Department Vehicle Capital Reserve Fund, with said funds to come from the unexpended fund balance as of December 31, 2020. This amount represents the difference between appropriated to the Highway Department for 2020 and the amount spent. The Budget Committee recommends the sum of Ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) to be raised through taxation and not to be funded by the unexpended fund balance. (Majority Vote Required)

Recommended by Board of Selectmen

Tracy made a motion to except the article as read and amended. Bonnie seconded.

**Recommended by the Budget Committee 5-0-0**

**Article 11** was read. **Article 11:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) to be added to the Reevaluation Capital Reserve Fund, with said funds to come from the unassigned fund balance. The Budget Committee recommends the sum of Ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) to be raised through taxation and not to be funded by the unexpended fund balance. (Majority Vote Required)

Recommended by Board of Selectmen

Mary made a motion to except the article as read and amended. Laura seconded.

**Recommended by the Budget Committee 5-0-0**

**Article 12** was read. **Article 12:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) to be added to the Reevaluation Capital Reserve Fund, with said funds to come from the unassigned fund balance. The Budget Committee recommends the sum of Ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) to be raised through taxation and not to be funded by the unexpended fund balance. (Majority Vote Required)

Recommended by Board of Selectmen

Laura made a motion to except the article as read and amended. Mary seconded.

**Recommended by the Budget Committee 5-0-0**

**Article 13** was read. **Article 13:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) to be added to the Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus Capital Reserve Fund, with said funds to come from the unassigned fund balance. The Budget Committee recommends the sum of Five thousand dollars (\$5,000) to be raised through taxation and not to be funded by the unexpended fund balance. (Majority Vote Required)

Recommended by Board of Selectmen

Tracy made a motion to except the article as read and amended. Laura seconded.  
**Recommended by the Budget Committee 5-0-0**

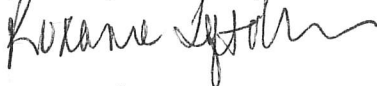
**Article 14** was read. **Article 14:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) to be added to the Natural or Man-Made Disasters Capital Reserve Fund, with said funds to come from the unassigned fund balance. The Budget Committee recommends the sum of One thousand dollars (\$1,000) to be raised through taxation and not to be funded by the unexpended fund balance. (Majority Vote Required)

Recommended by Board of Selectmen

Laura made a motion to except the article as read and amended. Bonnie seconded.  
**Recommended by the Budget Committee 5-0-0**

Mary Knapp made a motion to close the meeting and adjourn at 1:05pm. Bonnie Gagnon seconds, all in favor, 5-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,



Roxanne Tufts-Keegan