

Middleton Budget Committee

July 18, 2022

Board Members:

Laura Parker, Chair

Tracy Donovan-Laviolette

Bonnie Gagnon

Andrea Bowden

Craig Moody

Representatives:

Rebecca Eastman-Derrow, School Board

Janet Kalar, SLVD (absent)

Roxanne Tufts-Keegan, Selectmen

6:30 pm – Meeting called to order

Andrea Bowden made a motion to accept the 6/20/22 meeting minutes as written, Bonnie Gagnon seconded, committee voted, the motion passed. (7-0-0)

Revenue Report:

No treasurers report for the second month.

Deposit Journal – It was asked what the Insurance Claim for \$8,799.44 was from?

This would be from the Police Chiefs accident with the cruiser. Primex is the insurance that is used for town vehicles.

School Report:

The SAU is not yet done with the end of year report.

Town Budget:

The town budget is currently at 44.01%, should fall at 49.98%, so the town is currently under budget.

The auditors have said some of the items that were paid out of this year's budget due to not being paid when the bills should have been paid, can be moved to previous unaudited correct years.

New Hampshire Retirement Reconciliation - \$5,000.00, moved back to 2020

Dead River bill from 2019 and 2020 - \$3,400.00, moved back to 2020

First Light – Office telephone line - \$7,500.00, moved back to 2020

Audit costs – from 2019,2020 and 2021 will be rolled, so the town will not pay all in one year for three years.

GOFFER money – 9,000.00, after the BOS decide what lines that will come from and if the audit is not completed this can also be moved back to 2021.

4153-10 – att - Town Attorney

Craig Moody asked if the Budget Committee has a general response to the public when asked about this line four times over budget? Roxanne Tufts-Keegan stated that some of the line is from prior to current BOS members that the attorneys were dealing with and some of it is that the town had to hire an additional attorney for personnel issues. A portion has also been for clarification on BOS matters. Laura Parker asked moving forward what should the Budget Committee look at for budgeting purposes next year? Roxanne Tufts-Keegan stated that budgeting \$10,000 - \$15,000 should be fine but you never know. Craig Moody asked if anyone has thought of using some ARPA money to offset that line? Roxanne Tufts-Keegan said looking at the full bottom line budget we are still looking ok and we should look again in the last quarter of the year.

4210-12-pol – Police Full Time

Andrea Bowden asked if the large increase was only one officer? Laura Parker stated that the Police salary lines also contained the EMS pay not budgeted for, when they received their contracts. Roxanne Tufts-Keegan stated that all the detail pay was coming from that line also, any officers picking up time from Barrington or New Durham.

4155-30-adm - Police Retirement

Craig Moody asked if anyone has forecast the retirement line with being down personnel that line should be considerably less. Roxanne Tufts-Keegan explained that the EMS pay that was added into the Police Salary lines was not budgeted for in retirement, she believes that line was under budgeted.

It was asked if the extra cell phones have been given out or returned? Roxanne Tufts-Keegan will look into that.

Craig Moody asked if the Budget Committee had a mission statement? Asked what was an acceptable tax rate, what are we trying to achieve? There was discussion on wants vs needs, inflation having an effect on budget lines. The tax cap was also discussed moving forward with a proposed budget for next year. There was much board discussion regarding town and school budget moving forward.

Bonnie Gagnon made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:14 pm, Roxanne Tufts-Keegan seconded, the committee voted, motion passed (7-0-0)

Respectfully Submitted,

Tracy Donovan-Laviolette