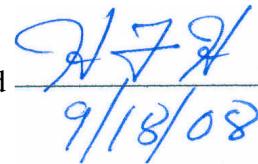


Approved as amended

Handwritten signature and date: 9/18/08

TOWN OF EPSOM

BUDGET COMMITTEE

JUNE 12, 2008

Present: Harvey Harkness, Chainnan; Marylou Keane, Vice Chairman; Joanne Randall; Joyce Heck; Carole Brown;
Excused: Bmd Keyes

Absent: Carol McGuire; Larry Yeaton; Larry Caraway; David Fiorentino

Other Attendees: Nancy Wheeler; Jom Kitson; Dodie Douclos

Harvey opened the meeting at 7:00 P.M. Harvey stated seven members were required for a quorum. They did not have a quorum and could not do anything that requires a vote. Nancy had prepared updated budgets that were given to the members.

Harvey introduced Dodie who is a Trustee of Trust accounts.

Dodie explained the packets she had prepared for the members. All the town's trust funds are at ill Banknorth. Funds had been at *PDW* but were moved to TO Banknorth to make easier access for both deposits and withdrawals.

Nancy explained the handouts she gave to the members with copies of the Warrant Articles and portions of the RSAs as they pertained to the various Capital Reserve Accounts and as they pertained to this session.

Nancy explained the Capital Reserve Funds and Trust Funds are under the care of the Trustees with the special Revenue Funds being under the care of the Treasurer.

Nancy explained the Capital Reserve Funds and Special Reserve Funds do not have anything to do with the operating budget. She explained the Warrant Articles that established the various funds.

The balances and interest of the Lillian Morrison Accounts were discussed. Jom asked about the difference in the principle amount of the town Lillian Morrison Account. Nancy explained there had been a court settlement with Kings Grant requiring the owner to pay the town \$20,000.00. The Board of Selectmen voted to add this money to the principle of the town account.

Harvey asked if the Lillian Morrison accounts could be broken by a vote of the town. Dodie explained they could only be broken by probate or a living donor. If the donor

were deceased the town would start in probat~ to break the trust and may end in Superior Court.

Harvey asked if the town could disassociate itself from a trust. Dodie explained only if it was no longer feasible or impractical to Jori filthe mission of the trust. The town could petition as above to have the trust money go to other similar town funds or another similar use.

The town can add to the principle of a trust, but could not remove the additional money later.

Nancy explained the capital Reserve Funds were established by a vote of the town. She explained what each fund represents, who could expend the funds, and other facts about the funds.

Discussion ensued at the end of the school fiscal year the School Board could consider surplus any money left over for use toward the ensuing year's budget or it could go toward the surplus accounts.

The special Revenue Funds were discussed with Nancy explaining it takes a vote of the voters to expend that money.

The Conservation Funds were discussed. If the Conservation Committee does not expend its entire budget the entire remaining balance can be transferred to the special Conservation Fund. It was voted in 2005 to deposit 10% of the land Use Change Tax in the Conservation Funds for the purchase of land and easements.

The town has some funds with the purpose no longer being there. These would have to be dissolved by a vote of the voters. There would be considerable research involved to determine the origin of the funds before they can be dissolved.

Nancy explained the town's surplus funds are not all in cash. Ofthe amount, approximately three million dollars only about one million is in cash. This is held by the Treasurer. Nancy explained how the town could use the surplus funds if necessary. They could not be expended until the complete operating budget was spent and any capital Reserve Funds for the same purpose spent. The town would have to request DRA to use the funds and may also need a vote of the voters.

Joanne left at 8:37 P.M.

Carole has met with the Fire Department and Emergency Management Director. She noted Emergency Management has less than \$2,000.00 in its budget. Rick Bilodeau will be requesting \$20,000.00 next year. He would use the additional money as matching funds for grants. These would include grants for purchasing a computer, a moveable generator and bullet proof glass at the town office.

Chief Yeaton told Carole he is concerned with the fuel line. He only has 15% of that line remaining at this time. Everything has been shut off at the Station to conserve energy. Chief Yeaton will be requesting two new full timers next year. Chief Yeaton suggested the town bid diesel fuel from suppliers. Nancy said the town does not pay the taxes on diesel. This was not deemed feasible at this time. One of the engines needs more repairs.

Harvey has spoken with the Police Department. They have lost an officer due to salary. Chief Preve has been recruiting, starting with 30 candidates, but is down to one person. They are managing to cover with overtime. This is temporary until a new officer is hired and trained. Harvey had ads from the newspapers from other towns and discussed the salary ranges.

Harvey said the Website Committee met with the ad hoc committee and will be continuing with entering data.

The next meeting was set for at 7:00 P.M. on September 18 at the Town Office.

Harvey adjourned the meeting at 8:57 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Betsy Bosiak
Recording Secretary