

TOWN OF EPSOM

BUDGET COMMITTEE

JANUARY 27, 2011

Present: Marylou LaFleur-Keane, Chairman; Joyce Heck, Vice-Chairman; Bob Sawyer; Keith Cota, Selectmen's Representative; Mike Wiggett, School Board Representative; Brad Keyes; David Fiorentino; Kevin Reeves, Water District Representative; Penny Graham; Carole Brown; Virginia Drew

Not In Attendance: Carol McGuire

Other Attendees: Mary Frambach; Nancy Wheeler

Marylou opened the meeting at 7:00 PM.

Review Minutes of January 13, 2011

The minutes of January 13th were reviewed and amended.

Mike moved to accept the minutes of January 13, 2011 as amended, Kevin seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Marylou noted the following articles were revised by DRA and Town Counsel with a need for the Budget Committee to vote on the revised articles.

Article 10 – Shall the Town of Epsom create a trust fund per RSA 31:19-a, for the purpose of cemetery maintenance and repair called the “Cemetery Trust Fund”, the interest only to be expended, name the Cemetery Trustees as agents to expend, and to raise and appropriate the sum of three thousand nine hundred dollars (\$3,900.00) from the General Fund, which is the equivalent of one half of the plot sale proceeds for 2006-2010?

Brad questioned where the money was now. Keith and Marylou explained it was in the general fund and needed to be put in the correct account. If the article does not pass future plot sale money will go to the general fund to offset taxes. The current balance will go into the current surplus fund balance fund. Nancy noted prior to 2006 the money was voted to be put into a perpetual care trust fund each year; no articles have been presented to the voters since then to distribute the funds. Discussion ensued regarding the purchase of future plots and how the money may be distributed.

Nancy noted the change in these two articles from what was presented at the public hearing is the words “raise and appropriate from the general fund” and the word “rescind” was removed. Penny questioned if wording could be added to indicate no tax money would be raised for these articles.

Joyce motioned the Budget Committee recommend Article 10 as revised, Brad seconded the motion.

Keith noted the Board of Selectmen voted three against Article 10 as they felt all the money should go into Article 11; with three in favor of Article 11. Keith noted the Selectmen felt at the deliberative session someone might motion to decrease the money in Article 10 and increase the money in Article 11 to essentially eliminate Article 10 and create just one trust fund.

The motion failed with 0 yes, 8 no and 3 abstentions.

Article 11 – Shall the Town of Epsom create a trust fund per RSA 31:19-a, for the purpose of cemetery maintenance and repair called the “Cemetery Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund”, principal and interest to be expended, name the Cemetery Trustees as agents to expend, and raise and appropriate the sum of three thousand nine hundred dollars (\$3,900.00) from the General Fund, which is the equivalent of one half of the plot sale proceeds for 2006-2010?

Joyce motioned the Budget Committee recommend Article 11 as revised, Brad seconded the motion.

Keith noted the Board of Selectmen voted unanimously to approve this article. They are in hopes that someone would motion at the deliberative session to increase the amount of money in this Article to include the money from article 10.

The motion passed with 8 yes, 1 no, and 2 abstentions.

Kevin had copies of the Water District Budget for signature. Nancy prepared the Town Warrant for Committee signature.

There was no old/new business.

Dave moved to adjourn, Mike seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Marylou adjourned the meeting at 7:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Betsy Bosiak
Recording Secretary