

Approved as Amended _____

TOWN OF EPSOM

BUDGET COMMITTEE

FEBRUARY 12, 2011

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

Other Attendees:

Marylou opened the meeting at 12:59 PM.

Review Minutes of February 9, 2011

The minutes of February 9th were reviewed, no amendments were made.

Virginia moved to accept the minutes of February 9, 2011, Carole seconded the motion. The motion passed with Brad and Mike abstaining.

The Committee considered and voted on the following two articles as amended by the Town Deliberative Session:

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 zero dollars (\$00.00) from the General Fund? Majority vote required.

Brad moved the Budget Committee recommend Article 10 as amended, Carole seconded the motion. The motion passed with 9 yeses and 2 nos.

Keith joined the meeting.

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 seven thousand eight hundred dollars (\$7,800.00) from the General Fund, which is the equivalent of the total of the plot sale proceeds for 2006-2010? Majority vote required.

Carol moved the Budget Committee recommend Article 11 as amended, Kevin seconded the motion. The motion passed with 11 yeses and 1 abstention.

Keith requested a revote on Article 10 as the way it has been amended if the motion passed the Town vote a Trust Fund would be established with no funds for the fund.

Discussion occurred to verify a Trust Fund would be established with no funds in the fund.

Dave moved the Budget Committee revote to recommend Article 10 as amended, Penny seconded the motion. The motion failed with no yeses, 11 nos and 1 abstention.

Keith noted this was a public meeting of the Budget Committee, asking if the Committee wanted to revisit any of the other Articles based upon the information presented at the Deliberative Session, he expressed an interest to revisit Article 6.

Article 6: Shall the Town of Epsom raise and appropriate the sum of forty thousand dollars (\$40,000.00) to hire engineering and architectural services to evaluate the short and long term use options of the Meetinghouse and the surrounding land at Tax Map U4 - 52, and to prepare and present drawings and cost estimates for the occupancy and use of the Meetinghouse? Majority vote required. This appropriation is in addition to the operating budget.

Virginia moved the Budget Committee revisit Article 6, Bob seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Penny noted she had voted no on the Article at the public hearing as the article was for engineering only. She questioned if funds not spent would be returned to the general fund, Keith noted they would be.

Penny noted for the Town to apply for future grants or if funds are used to modernize the building a historical structure report has to be completed. Keith indicated the Selectmen would need to add language to the scope of work to include having a historical structure report included. He noted if the Town has a document in place it may be able to offset some renovation costs.

Kevin's concern is they may put the Town offices in the bottom floor, but to save the historic content of the upper level.

Penny noted the Town was denied an LCHIP grant last year as the Town did not have a clear sense of the building use.

Virginia moved the Budget Committee recommend Article 6 as presented, Mike seconded the motion. The motion passed with 8 yeses and 4 nos.

Marylou noted the Committee had to remember to schedule a meeting in June.

Dave moved to adjourn the meeting, Virginia seconded the motion.

Marylou adjourned the meeting at 1:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Betsy Bosiak
Recording Secretary