

TOWN OF ALLENSTOWN  
Budget Committee  
16 School Street  
Allenstown, New Hampshire 03275  
February 6, 2014

**Call to Order.**

The Allenstown Budget Committee Meeting for February 6, 2014 was called to order by the Chair at 6:00pm.

**Roll Call.**

Present on the Board: Dave Coolidge, Jeff Gryval, Dave Eaton, Larry Anderson, Carol Merrill, Jerry McKenney, Mike Frascinella, Penny Touchette, Andrea Martel, Deb Carney, and Carl Caporale.

Excused: Roger LaFleur and Chris Lavalley.

Unexcused:

**Others Present.**

Residents of Allenstown: Robin McAfee, Kim Foss, Jean Schaeffer, Leann Tremblay, Keith Klawes, Jennifer Klawes, Jennifer Johnson, Shawn Johnson, Kris Fowler, Dennis Fowler, and Caroline McKenn.

Others Present: Jane Thul

Other Public Officials: Carl Schaeffer, School Board; Tom Irzyk, School Board.

Allenstown Staff: Paul St. Germain, AFD; Beth Tower, AFD; and Shaun Mulholland, Town Administrator.

**Opening of the Meeting**

The Chair explained that the purpose of this meeting is to look at warrant articles that changed at the Deliberative Session. He stated that the Warrant Articles that changed were the Town Budget, Petition Warrant Article and the School Operating Budget. He stated that they would also be reviewing the minutes from January 9<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>.

He stated that when they get to the changed warrant articles they will make motions to recommend. He also stated that Mr. Irzyk will be explaining the impact of the changed School Operating Budget to see if the Budget Committee wants to recommend it.

### **Review and Approve Minutes**

Motion. Ms. Martel made a motion to accept the minutes from January 9, 2014. Mr. Anderson seconded the Motion. There was no additional discussion.

A Roll Call Vote was taken: Mr. Coolidge-Yes; Mr. Gryval- Yes; Mr. Eaton – Yes; Mr. Anderson- Yes; Mrs. Merrill- Yes; Mr. McKenney – Yes; Mr. Caporale- Yes; Mrs. Touchette – Abstained; and Ms. Martel – Yes. The Chair declared the Motion passed.

The Chair stated that there was a question mark next Joyce Welch’s name on the minutes for January 11, 2014 but other than that he did not see any errors.

Motion. Mr. Anderson made a motion to accept the minutes from January 11, 2014. Mr. McKenney seconded the Motion. There was no additional discussion.

A Roll Call Vote was taken: Mr. Coolidge-Yes; Mr. Gryval- Yes; Mr. Eaton – Yes; Mr. Anderson- Yes; Mrs. Merrill- Abstained; Mr. McKenney – Yes; Mr. Caporale- Yes; Mrs. Touchette – Abstained; Ms. Martel – Yes; and Mrs. Carney - Yes. The Chair declared the Motion passed.

The Chair read aloud an RSA Sect 32 V regarding the budget;

“When any purpose of appropriation submitted by a governing body or by petition appears in a special warrant article, the article shall contain a notation of whether or not that article is recommended by the governing body and if there is a Budget Committee, the notation of whether or not it is recommended by the Budget Committee.”

He continued with reading Subsection b;

“IF an article is amended at the first session of the meeting and an official ballot referendum municipality, the governing body and the Budget Committee, if one exists, may revise its recommendation on the amended version of the special warrant article and revised recommendation shall appear on the ballot for the second session of the meeting provided.”

The Chair stated that this RSA only specifies special warrant articles and thus they would only be reviewing the Petition Warrant Article. He stated that the way the RSA goes, they can submit

their recommendations but that the one that goes on the ballot is the one for the Special Warrant Article.

Mr. Frascinella stated that in years past, they have had budgets increase or decrease but that they have not met to discuss the changes. The Chair stated that they have the option to do so.

Mr. Mulholland stated that the RSA says that they may meet to change their recommendation if they should choose to do so. He also stated that the law says that the warrant article goes in as it is and has to stay posted incorrectly even if there are changes. He stated that the issue is what gets posted on the ballot and that it has yet to be resolved.

Mr. Frascinella asked if they had a clear direction on amending articles for changes to typos and wording. Mr. Mulholland stated that typos are one thing that can be changed but that the substance cannot be changed. He stated that the Town will be posting an amended article next to the original warrant for clarification purposes. There was further discussion on how the changed article would appear on the ballot.

Motion. Mr. McKenney made a motion to open Petition Article XVIII. Mr. Coolidge seconded the Motion.

A Roll Call Vote was taken: Mr. Coolidge-Yes; Mr. Gryval- Yes; Mr. Eaton – Yes; Mr. Anderson-Yes; Mrs. Merrill- Yes; Mr. McKenney – Yes; Mr. Caporale- Yes; Mr. Frascinella – Yes; Mrs. Touchette – Yes; Ms. Martel – Yes; and Mrs. Carney - Yes. The Chair declared the Motion passed.

The Chair read the Petition Warrant Article XVIII;

“Shall the town of Allenstown vote to raise and appropriate in the sum of \$3,500 for the purpose of supporting a portion of the services provided to residents to access counseling and family support services without regard to income from Child and Family Services. Child and Family Services provides accessible and affordable programs to children, youth, and their families leading for a stronger family connections, improved school performance and better citizenship. From July 1, 2012 and June 30, 2013, ninety-eight (98) Allenstown residents received over \$94,000 of free or reduced services from Child and Family Services including mental health counseling, adoption planning, child abuse prevention and treatment, foster care, residential summer camping, elder care and independent living. Passage of this article has an estimated tax rate impact of approximately \$0.01 per 1,000 of assessed value.”

The Chair asked Mr. Gryval if the Select Board met to vote on this. Mr. Gryval stated that they did and that their vote was to not recommend this article.

Motion. Mr. Anderson made a motion to recommend the Petition Article XVIII. Mrs. Touchette seconded the Motion.

Mr. Frascinella stated that he thinks it was a worthwhile idea but that it was presented too late in the season.

A Roll Call Vote was taken: Mr. Coolidge-Yes; Mr. Gryval- No; Mr. Eaton – No; Mr. Anderson- No; Mrs. Merrill- No; Mr. McKenney – No; Mr. Caporale- No; Mr. Frascinella – No; Mrs. Touchette – No; Ms. Martel – No; and Mrs. Carney - Yes. The Chair declared the Motion failed and that the warrant article will state that the Budget Committee does not recommend the warrant article.

### **Review of Town or School Budget Changes**

The Chair asked the members if they would like to review the Town or School Budget changes. He stated that any change in the Budget Committee's recommendation would go on the minutes but not on the ballot.

Mr. Irzyk stated that he wanted to explain the impact of the cuts that were made of the \$1 million to the School Budget. He stated that there will be cuts to 14 staff members comprised of teachers and non-teachers. He stated that services and specials.

He further explained that the cuts to the specials will cause them to be in non-compliance with the State Board of Education and that they will have to present why they are no longer teaching the classes that they are mandated to teach.

Mr. Caporale asked which classes they will have to be cutting. Mr. Irzyk stated that they will not be teaching art, foreign language, music, physical education and others. He also stated that there will no longer be an eighth grade class trip, field trips, team sports, the SRO Officer will be removed, both libraries will be closed. He stated that these are all potential cuts that the School Board will vote on next week.

Mr. Caporale asked if they can share information with other towns. He stated that Gofsttown had similar cuts to their budgets and asked if the School Board had taken the things that Gofsttown cut into consideration. Mr. Irzyk stated that the School Board had already made close to \$160,000 cuts before going to the Budget Committee and that the Budget Committee cut an additional \$34,000. He stated that this cut puts them back 10-15 years with what they have accomplished with the community. Mr. Irzyk further discussed the cuts that have been made to the School Board budget.

A resident asked if there is a state penalty for not having an adequate education in our school systems. Mr. Irzyk stated that it could adversely affect what the State gives them for funding. The resident stated that there are ten programs that they have to offer and with those cuts, they are losing half of those.

Mr. Caporale stated that he agrees with Mr. Irzyk but that they are approaching \$10 million and other communities which are similar are not. Mr. Irzyk stated that they have been maintaining a straight line and haven't added any position. He stated that because they were able to return \$1 million last year, everyone thinks that they can afford a \$1 million cut this year. He stated that they have to budget for what children they have at the system at that time and when children leave, it creates a surplus. He stated that he was hoping that the Budget Committee would vote to change their recommendation.

Motion. Mr. Caporale made a motion to adjourn. Mr. McKenney seconded the Motion. There was no additional discussion.

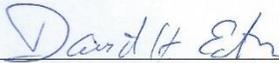
A Roll Call Vote was taken: Mr. Coolidge-Yes; Mr. Gryval- Yes; Mr. Eaton – Yes; Mr. Anderson-Yes; Mrs. Merrill- Yes; Mr. McKenney – Yes; Mr. Caporale- Yes; Mr. Frascinella – Yes; Mrs. Touchette – Yes; Ms. Martel – Yes; and Mrs. Carney - Yes. The Chair declared the Motion passed.

The Chair declared the meeting adjourned at 6:31pm.

TOWN OF ALLENSTOWN  
BUDGET COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES  
February 6, 2014

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**Signature Page**

<b>Original Approval:</b>	
	<i>4/25/2014</i>
DAVID EATON, CHAIRMAN	DATE

<b>Amendment Approvals:</b>		
<b>Amendment Description:</b>	<b>Approval:</b>	<b>Date:</b>
	DAVID EATON, CHAIRMAN	DATE

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