

TOWN OF ALLENSTOWN
Budget Committee
16 School Street
Allenstown, New Hampshire 03275
March 23, 2017

Call to Order.

The Allenstown Budget Committee Meeting for March 23, 2017 was called to order by the Vice Chair at 6:00pm.

Roll Call.

Present on the Board: Melaine Boisvert, Carol Angowski, Fran Severance, Tiffany Ranfos; Mark Wilder, Dave Coolidge, Chad Pelissier, Deb Carney, Kris Raymond, Roger LaFlamme, and Ronnie Cox.

Others Present.

Residents of Allenstown:

Others Present:

Other Public Officials:

Allenstown Staff: Shaun Mulholland, Town Administrator and Karen Simmons, Finance Director.

Election of Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary

Motion. Mr. LaFlamme made a motion to nominate Keith Klawes as Chair for the Budget Committee. Ms. Angowski seconded the Motion. There was no additional discussion.

A Roll Call Vote was taken: Mrs. Boisvert – Yes; Ms. Angowski – Yes; Mrs. Severance– Yes; Mrs. Ranfos – Yes; Mr. Wilder – Yes; Mr. Coolidge – Yes; Mr. Pelissier – Yes; Mrs. Carney – Yes; Mrs. Raymond – Yes; Mr. LaFlamme – Yes; and Mr. Cox – Yes. The Chair declared the Motion passed.

Motion. Tiffani made a motion to nominate Melanie Boisvert as Vice Chair for Budget Committee. Roger seconded the Motion. There was no additional discussion.

A Roll Call Vote was taken: Mrs. Boisvert – Abstained; Ms. Angowski – Yes; Mrs. Severance– Yes; Mrs. Ranfos – Yes; Mr. Wilder – Yes; Mr. Coolidge – Yes; Mr. Pelissier – Yes; Mrs. Carney

– Yes; Mrs. Raymond – Yes; Mr. LaFlamme – Yes; and Mr. Cox – Yes. The Chair declared the Motion passed.

Motion. Tiffani made a motion to nominate Kris Raymond as Secretary for Budget Committee. Mr. Coolidge seconded the Motion. There was no additional discussion.

A Roll Call Vote was taken: Mrs. Boisvert – Yes; Ms. Angowski – Yes; Mrs. Severance– Yes; Mrs. Ranfos – Yes; Mr. Wilder – Yes; Mr. Coolidge – Yes; Mr. Pelissier – Yes; Mrs. Carney – Yes; Mrs. Raymond – Yes; Mr. LaFlamme – Yes; and Mr. Cox – Yes. The Chair declared the Motion passed.

Review and Approve Minutes

Ms. Angowski stated she reviewed the minutes but it was so long ago she is going to say they are fine. Mrs. Raymond stated the comment tracking was on so unfortunately there are comments on one section when she wasn't following Mr. Frascinella's comments. Mr. Pelissier asked what paragraph it was. Mrs. Raymond stated this was the first meeting where Mr. Trainque of Hoyle, Tanner and Associates, presented what the Sewer was doing. She explained there was a discussion back and forth of who pays what for the pump station.

Motion. Carol made a motion to accept the minutes from November 17, 2016 as written. Tiffani seconded the Motion.

Mr. Cox asked if the minutes are available on the website for them. Mr. Mulholland stated it is a problem they have right now because he hasn't received anything since December 2015. Mr. Cox asked if they can start producing them. Mr. Mulholland stated they have to be produced before they can put them on the website. Mr. Coolidge asked if anyone has transcribed them. Mr. Mulholland explained the issue is the Chair has to sign the minutes and send them to the town clerk before they can put them on the website.

A Roll Call Vote was taken: Mrs. Boisvert – Yes; Ms. Angowski – Yes; Mrs. Severance– Yes; Mrs. Ranfos – Yes; Mr. Wilder – Yes; Mr. Coolidge – Yes; Mr. Pelissier – Yes; Mrs. Carney – Yes; Mrs. Raymond – Yes; Mr. LaFlamme – Yes; and Mr. Cox – Abstained. The Chair declared the Motion passed.

Mrs. Raymond stated the Chair had sent out the January 12, 2017 minutes twice. She stated the first one was the transcriptionist where the recorder had stopped and the second was hers which were completed.

Motion. Tiffani made a motion to accept the January 12, 2017 minutes for the Budget Committee. Carol seconded the Motion. There was no additional discussion.

A Roll Call Vote was taken: Mrs. Boisvert – Yes; Ms. Angowski – Yes; Mrs. Severance– Yes; Mrs. Ranfos – Yes; Mr. Wilder – Yes; Mr. Coolidge – Yes; Mr. Pelissier – Yes; Mrs. Carney – Yes; Mrs. Raymond – Yes; Mr. LaFlamme – Yes; and Mr. Cox – Abstained. The Chair declared the Motion passed.

Expenditures and Revenues Reports

The Vice Chair stated they would review the Town Expenditure and Revenue report first.

The Vice Chair asked Mr. Mulholland to clarify the legal line was not encumbered funds. Mr. Mulholland responded they were not encumbered. The Vice Chair asked if they will using all of the line. Mr. Mulholland stated it depends however the Fairpoint and Segtel litigation is over with. He stated the Sewer pays for their own. He stated they still have the Eversource case and there is a case with Brady Sullivan which will be expensive. The Vice Chair asked if the Sewer Department is part of this legal line. Mr. Mulholland stated they have their own line.

Mr. LaFlamme asked if the expenditures report year to date. Mr. Mulholland stated the expenditures only go until March 9, 2017 when they ran the report. Mr. LaFlamme stated his problem with this is he has a difficult time determining how they are doing because they don't have year to date. He stated it would be easier if they had year to date actual and budget columns. Mr. Mulholland stated the budgets don't all track on a regular basis. The Vice Chair stated historically they have used the last column to track where they are in the year.

Mr. Cox stated one question which came up at candidates night was the challenge of going through all the budgets. He asked if there is an excel where they could sort everything. Mrs. Simmons explained the soft version which comes out of the software is pretty ugly. She stated the other way comes out similar looking to csv format. Mr. Cox asked for a copy of the csv format. Mrs. Simmons stated she could get him a copy. She also suggested they could run a summary report which would give them by department rather than by line. Mrs. Raymond stated she thinks the request is just for Fund 1.

The Vice Chair asked Mr. Mulholland explained what the categories are for the new members. Mr. Mulholland stated the account numbers start with the first two digits being what fund they come out of. He stated the next set is the Function code which is established by Administrative Rules from DRA. He stated the next two digits are a sub code and then an object code. He explained the object codes repeat themselves. He gave an example of object code 110 being the Finance Director Salary and under Assessing the assessing clerk's salary is 110. He pointed out various codes such as personnel applies to all of the departments, PZBA is the planning board

and zoning board of adjustment, GBB applies to the town hall building, INA Property is their property insurance line, ADA is regional advertising, BI is building inspector.

Mr. Mulholland stated the first column is the approved budget and then there are adjustments made in the budget which there will be more of this year. The Vice Chair asked why there will be more adjustments. Mr. Mulholland explained they will be adding in the grants and the encumbrances to the adjustments columns. Mrs. Raymond asked if the grants which go in expenditures should there be related revenues on the budget as well. Mr. Mulholland stated she was correct. He stated the next column is the current period spent, then the year to date, the balance left over and then any funds encumbered. He stated it is not the same as the encumbrance of the previous year's money.

Mr. Cox asked if the committed purchase orders reflect on the year to date spent. Mr. Mulholland stated they are reflected in the encumbrance line and taken out of the budget balance. He stated if they don't end up using the funds it gets removed. He stated right now they have 81.85% of the budget left, \$27,543 in encumbrances so far and have spent \$684,967 so far.

Mr. Cox stated it looks like the school budgets are broken down much more than the town's budget. He stated the town shows 172,000 for the Executive Budget. Mrs. Karen stated the number represents the total for the lines above it.

Mr. Mulholland stated they are over the budget for salt on the Highway budget already. He stated they will pick it up again in the fall so they will be over about \$4,000.

Mrs. Raymond asked if they have not had TANS for several years why do they keep budgeting for it. Mr. Mulholland stated they don't know when they are going to have them again. Mr. Cox asked if the fiscal year budget is for the town calendar. Mr. Mulholland stated it is correct. He explained they start spending money for this budget in January but it isn't approved until March.

The Vice Chair asked what the contracted services, \$12,800, for Emergency Services was for. Mr. Mulholland stated it is a grant they had received. He stated it is a contract with Hubbard Consulting to manage the active shooter exercise with the school. Mrs. Raymond asked if they will see it on the revenue side. Mr. Mulholland stated they will once it has been received.

Mrs. Raymond asked if they can move from one line to another if there is over spending on a line. Mr. Mulholland stated they can but they would rather not because it shows them where they have over spent and under spent. Mr. LaFlamme agreed it is more transparent this way.

-Mr. Cox asked if there is a monthly breakdown so they can see if things fluctuate. Mr. Mulholland stated something like the heating line will go up in the winter and down starting in

April. He gave an example of the dispatch line for Fire showing \$29,000 and the bill is over \$30,000 however it is not reflecting yet. Mr. Cox asked if there is an area they can go to and see the breakdown. Mrs. Karen stated what might help was to look at the budget narrative. She stated Mr. Mulholland had the department heads go through and explain line by line what was going on.

Mrs. Ranfos asked if the checkbook is online. Mr. Mulholland stated each week they put the lines for every item which is paid in the week. Mr. Cox stated they are not going to know what they have planned to spend for the year by looking at those reports. Mr. Mulholland stated they would have to ask the departments to see it.

Mr. Cox asked if they can require departments to provide a monthly breakdown. Mr. Mulholland stated it would mean operating as enterprise fund. Governments use the modified accrual method of accounting. He stated they don't spend on a quarterly basis; it is an annual basis. He stated it is the Budget Committee's job to monitor the budget to ensure the town does not overspend its budget or act outside the law as it pertains to appropriations.

The Vice Chair asked about the highway loader lease. She stated they budgeted \$30,500 but the lease came in at \$33,600. Mr. Mulholland stated it was charged to the wrong line and it is actually for the dump truck. He stated it has already been fixed.

Mr. LaFlamme asked if they have any long-term debt for the equipment or anything at all. Mr. Mulholland stated they have a lease for the loader, fire truck and dump truck. He stated they don't have any long-term debt.

The Vice Chair stated they would review the Public Safety and Capital Reserve expenditure reports next. She asked Mr. Mulholland if there was any activity for the year yet. Mr. Mulholland stated they transferred funds over from the last town meeting.

The Vice Chair stated they would review the Sewer expenditures report. Mr. Mulholland stated they are in good shape. Mrs. Ranfos asked if they passed the voting to construct the pump station and if so do they know where they are at. Mr. Mulholland stated it passed and the next step is to put the package together. He stated they are going to send out an RFP to see what kind of deal they are going to get in terms of bonds.

Mr. LaFlamme asked if they can adjust their rates throughout the year if they are over during the year. Mr. Mulholland stated the rates are set by the Sewer Commission. He stated the plan is to use the existing septage hauler funds. He stated they gave the caveat they cannot guarantee they will use the septage hauler funds.

The Vice Chair asked if they are going to wait until after the appeal to move forward. Mr. Mulholland stated it takes time to do this so they can't wait for the appeal. The Vice Chair stated she would question the rate they quoted because it was given in April 2016. Mr. Mulholland stated the revolving fund rates are set by state statute. Mrs. Raymond asked if they had to wait for the appeal first before they can pull the trigger on anything. Mr. Mulholland stated they do not have to wait for the Supreme Court.

The Vice Chair asked if the worst which would happen would be they lose the appeal and the sewer rates go up. Mr. Mulholland stated they can increase the rates but there are other options available.

Mr. LaFlamme asked where money comes in which the town gets from a sale of property. Mr. Mulholland stated it is unanticipated funds which they can use however the Board deems appropriate or it can go into the unassigned fund balance and let the voters decide how they want to use it. Mrs. Raymond asked if they would see it come in through Fund 1 revenues. Mr. Mulholland stated they would see it on the budget.

Mr. LaFlamme stated looking at the annual report there are a lot of town properties. Mr. Mulholland stated some of it is for sale.

The Vice Chair stated they were moving onto the Revenue Budget Report. She asked if they budget revenues. Mr. Mulholland stated they do and they hadn't loaded them in yet.

The Vice Chair stated they would review the School Expenditures report. Mrs. Raymond stated they discussed at the previous meeting to see all of the funds. She stated they are now all on the budget She stated most of the funds net down to zero if they take the revenue minus the expenditures. Mr. LaFlamme stated he likes this format better because there is a budget and projections column so they know if they are going to be off budget.

The Vice Chair asked Mrs. Raymond where they stand with the budget. Mrs. Raymond stated Fund 1 is the budget is what she brings to the Budget Committee and the one everyone votes on. She stated right now they show a surplus of \$13,396. She reminded the members they were showing a deficit in October which is the trend. She stated they don't know where they are going to end up at the end of the year because there are a lot of unknowns involving special education.

The Vice Chair asked if nothing changes, the \$13,396 is what they need to operate from now until June 30, 2017. Mrs. Raymond stated if everything stays as is until June 30, 2017 the \$13,396 is the surplus the School would have to decide what to do with. She stated special education is a huge outlier and they federally have to report a student which is why the education lines are projected at 100%.

Mr. LaFlamme asked if they have a surprise of more special education needs can they move some money from other funds. Mrs. Raymond stated they do have one where a student moved into town and they don't know if they need out of district services yet. She stated they can move money around within the lines of the budget.

The Vice Chair asked if the superintendent resigned. Mrs. Raymond stated she is retiring as of June 30, 2017. She stated they just received her notice so they are all hands on deck to fill the position.

Mr. Wilder asked about special education contracted services showing a deficit of \$67,000 and if it was a result of needing more services than predicted. Mrs. Raymond stated it was because there has been an increase in need over the last several months. Mr. LaFlamme asked if when they budget the category is it based on the number of students they have at the time. Mrs. Raymond stated he was correct. She stated if they go out of district it will come before the School Board. Ms. Angowski asked if they went out of district would it be listed under special placements. Mrs. Raymond stated she was corrected.

The Vice Chair stated she understands a little more about the budget tonight than back in the winter. She stated she thought they were running at a deficit as of the report but the expenditures on the report hadn't been budgeted out to the end of the school year. Mrs. Raymond stated she was hesitant to get the word out because everyone else thought the same. She stated Mrs. Wheeler is budgeting out for the twelve months. Mr. Coolidge stated this past year was the first time they made a big deal about the deficit. He stated they haven't made a big deal in the past because each year the school always had money left over at the end of the year.

Mr. Cox asked about plowing services for the school and why the town doesn't plow the school. Mrs. Raymond stated the school owns the property not the town. Mr. Cox asked about the school librarian and if she only works two hours a week because the salary is only \$13,000. Mrs. Raymond explained they reduced it down to a .2 and could not hire a media specialist. She stated they hired two part-time media specialist. She stated the licensed librarian was cut in the prior year school budget.

Mrs. Raymond stated she will give them the Fund 1 budget each month but will not print everything in detail each month. She explained Mrs. Wheeler is trying to keep everything separate so there may be a few new lines.

Mr. Cox asked if there was a way to get access to the reports prior to the meeting. Mr. Mulholland stated they are on the website right now. He stated the only time he puts school

budget documents on the website is when it becomes property of the Budget Committee. Ms. Angowski stated the Chair will email out the reports before they meet.

Mrs. Raymond explained for Fund 1 revenues, the school gets big chunks of money quarterly. She stated it is hard to gauge the revenues because of it. Mr. Mulholland stated they have a schedule of when the town distributes the funds to the school.

State of the Town

Mr. Mulholland stated they continue to be in a positive financial status. He stated the Capital Improvements Plan they have been developing will be finalized by April 17, 2017. He stated the documents are in the Select Board's agenda. He stated the goal has been to make the expenditures without having to increase the taxes. He stated once the plan is finalized they will present the plan to the Budget Committee.

Mr. Mulholland stated the 2018 budget process will start on May 8, 2017 which is when the Board will give guidance to department heads. He stated the department budgets will be due in July. He stated the Board of Selectmen will review the budgets in September and October and then the Budget Committee will review them in November and December. He stated he will publish the schedule on the website once approved.

Mr. Mulholland stated for the Charette process there is nothing new in terms of the mill as the owners are not interested in doing anything.

Mr. Mulholland stated for the Suncook Village Commission the resolution was passed by both the Pembroke and Allenstown Board of Selectmen for the redevelopment of the downtown. He stated their representatives are two planning board members, Mike O'Meara and Diane Adinolfo, and Ryan Carter as selectman's representative. He stated Mike Crockwell and Dave Sheldon are the representatives for Pembroke.

Mr. Mulholland stated is has been working with the road agent on the Ferry Street boat ramp. He stated they may be able to obtain a permit by notification. He stated they lost the state grant funds. He stated when the grant first came out they were first in line but the Sewer Commission at the time sent a letter to DRED (Department of Resource of Economic Development) opposing the boat ramp. He stated the present Sewer Commission is in support of it but unfortunately the funds are gone. He stated the road agent and himself have been speaking to an engineering firm about it. He stated the cost has to go to the taxpayers now.

Mr. Mulholland stated they have a meeting scheduled on April 11, 2017 for the rail trails.

Mr. Mulholland stated the Economic Development Committee has been reformed. He stated Ryan Carter will be the selectman's representative on the committee. He stated they have asked for a planning board member on the committee. He stated they are looking for three residents at large and if anyone is interested to let him know. He stated Central NH Regional Planning has received a grant and will allow them to use Matt Monahan to help them implement economic development section of the Master Plan.

Mr. Mulholland stated he met with representatives from Northern Pass yesterday. He stated they are making it through the SEC process to obtain all of their permits. He stated they originally gave the town an estimated value of the assets of \$13.8 million and now they are saying it is \$22.3 million which would increase the town's assessed value by \$22.3 million and they would receive about \$611,000 in new revenue (this is all according to Northern Pass).

Mr. Mulholland stated they did question the numbers but didn't get a clear answer. He stated it would be in the existing right away. He stated Northern Pass wants them to enter into a tax agreement but he is going to recommend the Board doesn't do it. Mrs. Raymond asked if the increased valuation would help out the tax rate. Mr. Mulholland stated it will help the town portion not the school because the school tax rate valuation does not include the utilities.

Mr. Mulholland stated they have been working with the new property owner at 98 Main Street to refurbish the building. He stated they are interested in using the revitalization tax credit under RSA 79-E. He stated if the Board approves it this will provide a tax incentive to do it.

Mr. Mulholland stated for the Fire Department solar project they are waiting for the rest of the permits.

Mr. Mulholland stated they have completed part of the town hall and the police department for the LED light project. He stated they are hoping to complete the fire department by the end of the year.

Mr. Mulholland stated they have a major disaster recovery exercise next Friday. He stated the scenario involves two selectmen being killed and the town clerk is killed as well so they have to find people to take those positions.

Mr. Mulholland stated they have the active shooter exercise scheduled for September. He stated this is the \$12,800 which was asked about earlier.

Mr. Mulholland stated on April 17, 2017 the Board will be meeting with the town assessor and the DRA Assessing Supervisor to discuss the assessing process in the town.

Mr. Mulholland stated they probably heard the President has proposed to cut the fuel assistance program, Meals on Wheels program, community block grants and EPA funds. He stated if it gets passed by Congress they are trying to determine what the impact to fuel assistance will be. He stated if they are cut the town will be responsible for filling the gap. Mr. Cox asked if there is a regulation cap for fuel assistance. Mr. Mulholland stated there is an application process and they have to provide enough fuel to make it through the week.

Mrs. Ranfos asked Mr. Mulholland if he knows how much they typically spend for fuel assistance. Mr. Mulholland stated it is in their budget. He stated he can't use what amounts they currently get for funds because the cost and demand fluctuate with the weather. He stated they are going to have to budget for not having the funds. He stated the Meals on Wheels shouldn't impact them too much. Mrs. Ranfos asked if volunteers could use the kitchen at the community center to provide food.

Mr. Mulholland stated Phase II of River Road should be starting pretty soon. Ms. Angowski stated they can see where the man holes could be marked. Mr. Mulholland stated Deerfield Road probably won't get done until the fall.

Mr. Mulholland stated they should have all received a copy of the county budget. He stated the budget came in higher than what was originally proposed. He stated the budget came in \$200,000 higher than expected. He stated it is spread across the county so the impact in the increased amount over what was previously proposed is negligible to the town. The original amount however is a considerable increase at almost 5%.

Mr. Mulholland stated the governor's budget includes proposals for all day kindergarten and infrastructure funding. He stated there is a proposal to freeze the catch up formula for the Meals and Room tax. He stated House Bill 413 applies to retirement costs. He stated the State of NH use to pay for 30-35% of retirement costs; however, it eliminated it 5 years ago. He stated House Bill 413 would reinstitute it for 13% for municipal employees. He stated the word is it will be killed by the Senate.

Mr. Mulholland explained roads and bridges are getting the infrastructure funds. He stated the town will not see any bridge funding because they don't have any bridges. He stated they are not scheduled to get any funds for the schools.

Mr. Mulholland stated part of the Speaker's plan is to provide general revenue sharing in the budget but it is not clear how it will be distributed.

Mr. Mulholland stated the governor's plan for all day kindergarten seems to be dead on arrival at the finance committee for the House. Mrs. Raymond stated they already have full day kindergarten so they don't expect to see any of those funds.

Mrs. Carney asked what the status is on the 210 mobile homes which was voted on and passed. Mr. Mulholland stated the BOS voted and signed a purchase and sales agreement so the next step is for the developer to go before the Zoning Board and Planning Board.

The Vice Chair asked where this is going to go. Mr. Mulholland stated it will be on the Hooksett line at the end of Chester Turnpike. The Vice Chair asked if it is part of the new road. Mr. Mulholland stated it abuts it but is not part of it; there was supposed to be a major housing development. He explained the property hasn't been sold until they get all their permits and licenses. The Vice Chair asked if it is town owned land. Mr. Mulholland stated she is correct. Mrs. Ranfos stated right now they aren't getting tax revenue from it. She stated the only person interested in it is going to be the park. She stated there were some stipulations to upgrade Chester Turnpike, water and sewer lines, sidewalks, and other items.

Mrs. Carney asked if they could go in on a golf course with Hooksett. Mr. Mulholland stated they are not interested in it.

Ms. Angowski stated she read an article in the paper which said it would be an over 55 years old environment with 210 homes and a firm in Canada owns it. Mr. Mulholland stated Hynes Group is in British Columbia. Ms. Angowski stated the article also said there would be minimal impact to the school however the requirement is only one person in the home has to be over 55 years old. She stated she thinks the projection of the impact to the school was incorrect. Mr. Mulholland stated if they look at the studies and look at similar facilities throughout the country the numbers are actually conservative. He recommended they read the studies and the reports. There was further discussion of the impact to the town and the school.

Mrs. Ranfos stated they need to do word of mouth and get more people to the town meetings because it is how they are going to educate people at a town level. The Vice Chair stated she has been against SB2 because she would rather have less people going to the polls which are more educated about the budget than more people going and just voting no. Mr. Mulholland stated this is not just an issue in Allenstown.

New Business

The Vice Chair stated the Chair would like to have the department heads present at some of the meetings. She stated he is proposing the April meeting to have the Police Chief and Fire Chief, the May meeting to have the Road Agent and Parks and Recreation and the June meeting to have

the School Board. She stated the purpose is to get a better understanding of when they get into the budget process how they prioritize things. Mr. Mulholland stated they don't have any guidance yet. He stated the Board of Selectmen budget is what the Budget Committee gets.

Mr. Mulholland stated they had discussed having one day where they break into smaller groups and learn each department budget and then do a brief of the budgets. He stated the department heads rely a lot on the Board of Selectmen for guidance. Mr. Coolidge stated the department heads usually come before them once the budgets have been to the Select Board. Mr. Mulholland stated he thinks it will be helpful when they have a few members getting familiar with each budget.

Mr. Cox stated he would like to know what the department heads are doing to reduce the budgets. Mr. Mulholland stated it is important for the committee to get into more of the weeds of the budgets. Mrs. Ranfos suggested having the department heads coming in and discussing the current budget. Mr. Mulholland stated in the past they would have a budget committee member go to the Select Board meeting to learn what is going on with each budget. The Vice Chair stated they used to go through every line item with the Select Board. Mr. Mulholland stated they have budget narratives now which answer a lot of questions which the budget committee members have. He stated he doesn't think a lot of people are reading the narrative and would recommend they do so going forward.

Mr. Pelissier suggested they go through the narrative as a group and then if they have any questions call the department heads in. Mr. Mulholland stated Mr. Pelissier's point is they are running out of tricks up their sleeves. He stated saving money here and there is coming to an end. Mr. Mulholland suggested if they are going to do the narrative to have the department heads present at the time and ask questions then.

Mrs. Raymond stated there are two sides of the coins. She stated they can't complain to the school about increasing without looking at where they are at and the fact they have two aging schools they continue to service. Mr. Pelissier stated he doesn't know what federal mandates the school faces to know if there is wiggle room. Mr. Cox suggested the school indicate on the budget areas which are federally mandated.

The Vice Chair stated the gifted and talented students are just as much special needs students as the students they all think of as special needs. Mrs. Carney stated they teach the entire class to the lowest level in the class. She stated there were 14% of the students above average in class and asked what the 14% were getting. The Vice Chair stated those students could go to Pembroke Academy. Mrs. Carney stated they are not getting challenged in math. Mr. Cox stated at AES they assigned his son in classes ahead of the rest of his classes. Mrs. Raymond stated they wouldn't report it on the budget. The Vice Chair stated she thinks there should be more in

the lines. Mrs. Ranfos stated it only adds to the bottom line of the budget and doesn't guarantee those students would get the funds.

Mr. Pelissier stated where he was going is if they were what lines were and who mandated them they could get a better idea of where the budget is and why it is. He stated they could then speak to their state representatives. Mrs. Raymond stated it is already there because the special education is federally mandated. Mrs. Ranfos asked if they could know what other lines are federally mandated. Mr. Cox stated they could also go to the School Board to ask what the lines are about.

Mr. Cox stated one of the questions at candidate night was the no one from the budget committee goes to the School Board meetings. Mrs. Raymond stated they had one meet which was just for the budget and no one showed up.

Mrs. Carney asked the changes in charter schools at the federal level and how it will affect the schools here. Mr. Mulholland stated the concept would be parents can choose what school the child goes to and voucher is provided for the child. He stated if the tuition for the student is higher than the town's school than the parent would have to pay the difference.

Motion. Mrs. Raymond made a motion to adjourn. Mrs. Ranfos seconded the Motion. There was no additional discussion.

A Roll Call Vote was taken: Mrs. Boisvert – Yes; Ms. Angowski – Yes; Mrs. Severance – Yes; Mrs. Ranfos – Yes; Mr. Wilder – Yes; Mr. Coolidge – Yes; Mr. Pelissier – Yes; Mrs. Carney – Yes; Mrs. Raymond – Yes; Mr. LaFlamme – Yes; and Mr. Cox – Yes. The Chair declared the Motion passed.

The Vice Chair declared the meeting adjourned at 8:16pm.

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

Signature Page

Original Approval:	
KEITH KLAWE, CHAIRMAN	DATE

Amendment Approvals:		
Amendment Description:	Approval:	Date:
	<i>Keith Klawes</i>	9/21/2017
	KEITH KLAWES, CHAIRMAN	DATE