

Town of Effingham

Budget Committee

January 8, 2019

Call to Order: 6:30 p.m.
Location: Effingham Municipal Office Building
Members Present: David Strauss, Leo Racine, Chuck Fuller, Timothy Eldridge, Jory Augenti, Lenny Espie (Selectmen's Rep), Mellisa Seamans (via conference call)
Others Present: Selectman Michael Cahalane, Selectman John Meisner
Minutes By: Mellisa Seamans

Actions

MOTION: "To approve the minutes of December 11, 2018" Passed-unanimous
MOTION: "To recommend the library budget of \$61,435 (\$46,940 salary, \$14,495 operating expense)" by Eldridge, 2nd Fuller. Passed by roll call 4-3 with Strauss, Espie, Racine opposed. (Those opposed were in favor of the selectmen's recommended \$60,290.)
MOTION: "To recommend \$5,000 for Freedom Food Pantry" Passed unanimous roll call.
MOTION: "To recommend \$716 for Northern Human Services" Passed unanimous roll call.
MOTION: "To recommend \$0 for American Red Cross" by Seamans, 2nd Racine. Passed-unanimous roll call.
MOTION: "To recommend \$2,000 for Ossipee Children's Fund" by Eldridge, 2nd Fuller. Passed unanimous roll call.
MOTION: "To recommend \$4,500 for Meals on Wheels" by Strauss, 2nd Eldridge. Passed unanimous roll call.
MOTION: "To recommend \$1,000 for Starting Point" by Strauss, 2nd Espie. Passed unanimous roll call.
MOTION: "To recommend \$1,500 for Children Unlimited" by Eldridge, 2nd Fuller. Passed 6-1 on roll call with Racine opposed.
MOTION: "To recommend \$1,000 for White Mountain Community Health Center" by Eldridge, 2nd Augenti. Passed unanimous roll call.
MOTION: "To recommend \$3,000 for Central NH VNA & Hospice" by Eldridge, 2nd Fuller. Passed 5-2 on roll call vote with Strauss and Racine opposed.
MOTION: "To recommend \$3,000 for White Horse Addiction and Recovery Center" Passed unanimous on roll call vote.
MOTION: "To recommend \$3,000 for Tri-County Community Action" Passed unanimous on roll call vote.
MOTION: "To recommend \$12,000 for general assistance" Passed unanimous on roll call vote.

Notes

- There was discussion about the need for Town personnel policies, specifically benefits, to be reviewed in 2019 and applied consistently across all employment positions.
- The new non-profit budget request application packet worked well this year with all requests accompanied by appropriate paperwork. The following attended this meeting to present their budgets and answer questions: Starting Point (Raetha Stoddard), Northern Human Services (Eve Klotz), Freedom Food Pantry (Doris Sorois), White Horse (Mitch Yeaton), and Children

Unlimited (Barbara Ross). The goal was to keep the recommended non-profit budget request amounts total within one percent of the total operating budget.

- The general assistance budget was recommended at \$2,000 less than requested based on spending trend of past four years.

The public budget hearing is February 5 at 7:00 p.m. Snow date February 8. The budget committee will meet prior to the hearing at 6:30 p.m.

The deadline for citizen petition warrant articles is February 5 (NH RSA 39:3).

Next Meeting: January 15 at 6:30 p.m. (Snow date January 16)

Minutes approved by majority vote on: 01/15/19