

Town of South Thomaston, Maine: Budget Committee minutes Meeting #1

Monday January 27, 2014

Present:

Selectmen - Robert Branco, Dorothy Meriwether and Dianne Darling

Budget committee members - Moira Paddock, Gayle Gallant, Donna Withington, Gary Skarka, Don Protheroe. Absent: Rebecca Geesey and Ray Wooster

Town Administration - John Spear

Guests - Tina Branco, Lawrence Terrio, Adelbert Elliot, Edith Elliot

Moira Paddock was elected to chair the committee meetings and Donna Withington to recording secretary. The meeting was called to order at 6:04pm. The chair recognized and welcomed new committee members: Gary Skarka, Don Protheroe and Ray Wooster.

Each budget will receive a preliminary approval until the committee hears all budgets.

Gayle Gallant requested an accounting correction be made to the total funding report submitted to the committee. John Spear agreed to look into it.

Administration (510):

John Spear presented the budget which was followed by a lengthy discussion of the reallocation of the assistants hours to cover recent personnel changes. The 1.5% cola increase and insurance coverage was also discussed.

Donna Withington moved to approve the preliminary budget of \$171,598.00.

Gayle Gallant seconded.

Motion passed 4-1.

Assessors (520)

John Spear presented the budget which was followed by a brief discussion of department changes and training.

Donna Withington moved to approve the preliminary budget of \$37,636.00.

Gayle Gallant seconded.

Motion passed 5-0.

Planning Board (530)

Donna Withington moved to approve the preliminary budget of \$1,000.00.

Gayle Gallant seconded.

Motion passed 5-0.

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CEO & Plumbing Inspector (560)

Lawrence Terrio presented the budget which was followed by a brief discussion of coverage being met when Larry is out of state. The matter was referred to the selectmen.

Donna Withington moved to approve the preliminary budget of \$19,133.00.

Gayle Gallant seconded.

Motion passed 5-0.

Library (650)

Tina Branco presented the budget which was followed by a lengthy discussion. The library is currently staffed by volunteers and is directed by Tina, also a volunteer, who will retire in April. The department is requesting a paid position for director.

Moira Paddock moved to approve a preliminary budget of \$1,500.00 striking the paid position.

Gayle Gallant seconded.

Motion passed 4-1.

Recreation (660)

Donna Withington moved to approve the preliminary budget of \$100.00.

Gayle Gallant seconded.

Motion passed 5-0.

General Assistance (640)

Donna Withington moved to approve the preliminary budget of \$1500.00.

Gayle Gallant seconded.

Motion passed 5-0.

Street Lights (600)

A brief discussion was held and John Spear agreed to research the cost of switching to LED lights.

Donna Withington moved to approve the preliminary budget of \$7000.00.

Gayle Gallant seconded.

Motion passed 5-0.

Moira Paddock moved to adjourn at 8:25pm. The next meeting will be held January 28 at 6pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Withington