

Greenville Board of Selectmen
Minutes of the Public Meeting
February 7, 2008

PUBLIC HEARING
2008 PROPOSED BUDGET & ARTICLES

Members present: Debbie Bouley, Scott Blease

Budget Committee Members present: Rose Thibault, Shirley Winslow, Tom Barrett, Rick Miller

Hearing opened at 7:00 pm

D. Bouley explained procedure for night, warrant and budget would be reviewed and open to comment, questions and suggestions by the public.

Carla Mary questioned if there was going to be an article to create a capital reserve fund for cleaning the lagoons. The Board stated that they will discuss this at the end of the public session of this hearing.

Warrant Articles reviewed:

1 – election of officers not reviewed

2 – agents reports not reviewed

3 – budget review line by line

Executive office – question on bank charges. Zebadiah Kellogg-Roe answered that the new sweep account has fees associated with it however, the interest has increased.

Financial Assessment – increase due to last year in the cycle

Personnel Insurance – Christine Deane questioned if any employees are investing into it. Board stated that they currently are only paying into the dental insurance. It was suggested that this is something that the Selectmen should look into for the future.

Police – Christine Deane questioned increased line items. Chief McTague explained salaries are up for the 3% increase, full-time officer and 2nd secretary are now for a full year, dispatch services increased and in speaking with the Sheriff this is going to go up over the next 2 years, however one thing he is trying to do is with 2 secretaries have someone at the office all day, assisting with dispatching non-emergency daytime hours and answering the phones in the office verses the dispatch center.

Fire – Christine Deane asked for an explanation on the increases. Larry Legere explained increase in salary line item is due to increase in number of firefighters plus a stipend increase, training line item is for EMT's to recertify, equipment up for new firefighter gear, new truck lease is added on for the new equipment. Christine Deane questioned why the fire equipment expendable trust fund is not increased back to \$20,000. Larry Legere questioned the same thing.

Emergency Management – Christine Deane asked for an explanation of the increase. Marcel Bernier explained that he **has applied** for a grant for a lap top computer and this will cover the town's share. Recommendation was made for the Emergency Management Department to consider purchasing digital tape recorders to be used by those out in the field to make notes and that could be brought back to the office and entered into the computer. **Allowing for better record keeping which is needed if any Government relief is to be applied for.**

Forest Fire – Larry Legere explained that the increase on supplies is that they plan on putting new tires on the truck.

Highway Administration – Dennis Heywood, Road Agent was not present to respond to questions. Christine Deane stated that it looks like just cost of living increases.

Highway & Streets – Dennis Heywood, Road Agent was not present. Christine Deane questioned list of roads to be done this year. Board stated that Dennis Heywood has been asked to have this list available at town meeting.

Street Lighting – Shirley Winslow explained **the** project for upgrading the street lighting has been done and an agreement signed with PSNH to begin the work in March 2008. Shirley Winslow stated that we pay for the lights whether the light is working or not. Christine Deane asked if the Police and Highway could make note of the lights that are out and report them.

Health Officer – recommended by Christine Deane to increase health officer salary. **Zebadiah Kellogg-Roe commended that if we are in need of replacing the current officer we may have a problem due to the rate and an increase down the road could be a bigger hit.**

Welfare – Christine Deane stated that the increase for salary seems to be large percent wise. Brenda Bergeron question if the Board had problems with her work. Debbie Bouley stated yes at first but partially due to problems with the phone system and it was changed. Also that she now has to have set hours available in town by appointment. Zebadiah Kellogg-Roe stated that he has been in the office lately and there seems to be an increase in amount of funds going out these expenses. **Expenses to date were reported (\$1,345.00)and are very low for this time of year with heating costs.**

Parks & Recreation – Christine Deane questioned what equipment is being purchased – Rick Miller stated that they are planning on drain work and shelving. Salary increase is due to increase number of guards, increase to bring up to minimum wage and 3% increase.

Capital Reserve Fund – Christine Deane questioned why there is not an increase in public works equipment. Board explained that they feel there are sufficient funds there for now, take a year off.

Article 4 wastewater – **Christine Deane asked what the increase was. Debbie noted 2% contract increase.**

Article 5 water – no questions

Article 6 highway block grant – question as to which roads will be done. Board stated that Dennis Heywood was asked to have this information available for town meeting.

Article 7 building codes – no questions

Article 8 treasurer – Barbara Eaton questioned why they want it appointed. Board stated to have more control over the qualifications of the individual.

Article 9 police contract – Chief explained why change from 3 to 5 year stating that it does not make any difference as the towns can get out at anytime. This will save cost for legal fees every 3 years. There also have been no complaints about the merger. Chief explained that if the merger breaks, it is not only about saving money, but about keeping officers, keeping coverage, and temple a police station. If Greenville decides to go on their own, the budget as presented will not change a lot, it will be determined by the amount of coverage. He has maintained each town's budget as if they were on their own and if the merger broke up Greenville would need to purchase another cruiser, \$15,000 in equipment, loose 2 officers that they would need to replace and the total cost would be an additional \$150,000 more than currently paying. Chief stated that right now we are in line with our salaries in comparison to other surrounding towns.

Article 10 & 11 fire station – discussed whether to allow selectmen to authority to spend the funds.

Article 12 new municipal facility – discussed what facilities are being planned. Debbie Bouley stated that the Fire Station Committee was only given request to look into the fire station, they would like to be able to look at all buildings so that a complete cost could be shown to the town.

Article 13 fire station roof – Brenda Bergeron questioned where this price came from. Jim Stimans stated that they received three quotes.

Article 14 expendable trust fund for wastewater collection repairs and maintenance – Paul Roux explained this is to start to do some of the repairs that are needed from the I&I study.

Article 15 wastewater pump station – Christine Deane questioned why work from 2 years ago on other wastewater funds appropriated are still not done, this is a lot of money being asked for and is the work going to be done this year. Board explained the reasons for what has occurred. She questioned if what is appropriated this year will be done this year and Scott Blease said yes it will.

Article 16 lime system – no questions

Article 17 shipping container – Christine Deane requested explanation. Carla Mary explained that this will house the lime system and possibly the jetter.

Article 18 jetter – Paul Roux explained the difference between the jetter and rotter. He stated the jetter would be used to also clean the pipes before examining them for cracks, breaks, etc. in order to decrease the problems with I&I in town lines. Carla Mary stated that her intentions are to try to get a good used jetter to save the town funds but needs an appropriation to be able to negotiate a price.

Article 19 pool repairs expendable trust funds – no questions

James Lambert requested that someone put together for town meeting a comparison as to what other towns budgets are, such as Mason, Temple and Wilton. He also asked that they prepare the cost of \$1,000 expense added to budget how much is that going to affect the tax rate. Brenda Bergeron commented that that is not a good comparison as Greenville has Municipal Utilities that the surrounding towns don't have allowing them the luxury of spending money on other items. Linda reported that \$146,000.00 adds \$1.00 to the tax rate.

Public session closed at 9:20 pm

Board and Budget Committee reviewed recommendation and the following changes:

Budget:

- Increase health officer salary to \$500
- Add \$5,000 to Public Works Equipment Fund
- Changed Fire Equipment Fund to \$20,000

Articles:

- Remove article 16 to purchase lime system and use expendable trust funds to purchase
- Remove article 18 to purchase jetter and use expendable trust fund to purchase
- Add article to create an expendable trust fund in the amount of \$20,000 for cleaning/repairing the lagoons at the water treatment plant.

Minutes taken by,
Linda Langille

Minutes approved by,
Board of Selectmen

Debbie Bouley, Chair

Scott Blease