

**TOWN OF GREENVILLE, NH
SELECTMEN'S MEETING
February 3, 2016
2016 Budget Hearing Minutes**

7:00 p.m. Budget Public Hearing

*Town of Greenville
Public Notice
2016 Budget Public Hearing*

The Selectmen will be holding a Public Hearing on the proposed 2016 budget on Wednesday, February 3, 2016 at 7 pm in the Town Hall Meeting Room. Should it become necessary to conduct another meeting due to changes made after this meeting or due to inclement weather, the meeting will be held on February 10, 2016 at 7 pm.

Chairperson Mary read the above notice and opened the 2016 Budget Public Hearing at 7:00 p.m.

Chairperson Mary introduced the people at the table(s) as herself, Selectman Doug Reardon, Town Administrator Kelley Collins, Alan Gould, President and Chief Operating Officer of Municipal Resources, Inc., Shawn Mulholland, Consultant with MRI, Thomas Page, Engineer with Underwood Engineering, and Biron Bedard, Town's Legal Counsel.

Chairperson Mary stated that she was not going to read every Warrant Article but rather, give the residents a chance to read them over and then see if anyone had any questions.

Article #1 – Election of Officers – no questions

Article #2 – There is a handout in each packet, for tonight, with a brief description of the project and we did hold a Bond Public Hearing in January – no questions

Article #3 – Covers reports of officers, auditors and will be printed in Town Report – no questions

Article #4 – Article #5

K. Washburn asked what was the reasoning for a stand-alone department.

Chairperson Mary noted that they are not promoting a stand alone department, the Board noted that there have been some complaints regarding coverage and they wanted to give the residents a choice in police coverage.

R. Eaton verified dollar amount

K. Washburn asked if this was a result of any corrective action being taken.

Chairperson Mary noted that no one had been disciplined.

D. Spratt asked what happens to the equipment? The contract lays out the disposition at current percentages.

Is there a transition period. We would be prepared to take this on within the 30 days allowed by contract.

What is the feeling of the Police Department on being a joint department?

Chief McTague answered that no one has asked. To put it simply if we go out on our own the budgets will go up considerably. The merger happened to solve problems. Greenville didn't have any officers and Temple wanted a little more coverage and needed a station.

A. Gould from MRI noted that they did not study the Joint Department they simply did a feasibility study on what it would take to have a stand- alone Greenville Police Force.

H. Vaillancourt: who asked first Greenville or Temple?

E. White: has concerns with a 24 hour per week Police Chief. Things might get missed and there is less ownership in the department.

Mr. Giddings: What happens if Article 4 passes or 5? He feels that 30 days is too short time, we need a couple more years.

D. Spratt – would p/t Chief give more or less management time? Probably the same or more coverage since they would not be in the rotation for covering shifts.

Attorney Bedard – either Town can leave with six months notice or if either Town fails to appropriate the money for the police department then the contract expires 30 day after that meeting. If Article 4 passes you have until April 30.

H. Burke - Where is Temple with this?

K Washburn is concerned about finding qualified part time police officers to work here. Where would we find a part time Chief and part time officers.

A. Gould/MRI – actually there are a lot of retired Chief's that could work up to 32 hours per week. We would find retired officers for part timers or full time officers from other towns willing to work part time here.

H. Vaillancourt – has lived here all his life, best department we've ever had. They do a good job and are the envy of other Towns. We are on the verge of letting it go for nothing. Just because we don't have representation on the School Board doesn't mean we should impose that on another Town.

D. Reardon – it was never this Board's intention to dissolve the PD. The Board wants to give the residents a choice.

E. White – Who prosecutes cases and would that stay the same. All officers prosecute and we hire a prosecutor for felonies.

R. Eaton – Doug just said not the intention to dissolve TGPD.

D. Reardon – there were some resident complaints about not getting coverage.

C. Mary – We wanted this open to you. Wanted to put it out there for you to decide.

K. Washburn – Does anyone remember what the budget was 11 years ago?

S. Winslow – You have opened Pandora's Box by putting this on the warrant? What was the cost of the MRI study (Town Administrator noted a "not to exceed of \$5000" and we have spent about \$2332 to date). Where did this get charged? (Town Administrator thought "legal")

C. Buttrick – We, as taxpayers haven't had a lot of time to think about this.

H. Vaillancourt – To be proceeding on this based on a handful of people has stirred up a hornets nest. Would have been nice to have both Boards sit in front of all residents of both Towns. This has been mishandled.

D. Spratt – She attended the Joint Board meeting in August and no one asked for this to occur. She is concerned what we've created now and that staff morale may be in the tank.

C. Mary noted that all staff will have a job regardless.

H. Burke – why am I just hearing about this now?

Unknown resident – If there is some possibility that Temple was thinking of this, then I don't think this is a lot of money to spend to look into it.

E. White – If Article 5 gets voted in and Town wanted to withdraw, we could give notice in June? Yes.

K. Washburn – are the reports available. The Town Administrator has a few with her tonight and will put on Town's website tomorrow.

S. Winslow – Can Article 5 go first?

Moderator – Articles can be taken out of order. This is not a posted warrant so the Board can change the order.

J. Lambert – Has the Department of Revenue Administration looked at this Article. Town Administrator noted that both DRA and Town Counsel have reviewed these articles.

H. Vaillancourt – It is time to hold a public forum with Temple. We need a meeting with entire Joint Police Board before Town Meeting.

K. Washburn asked for a show of hands on people who want to keep warrant articles in current order.

J. Hartley thinks it stimulates conversations.

Chairperson Mary and Selectman Reardon asked Town Administrator to switch Article 4 and 5.

Article #6 – Cemetery Maintenance to fix headstones. Mr. Hartley noted that first suggestion was to put it in a trust fund but decided to put it in the operating budget so the repairs get done. May add fee to either lot fee or burial fee to go into Trust Fund to take care of these in the future.

Mr. Eaton asked about property liability insurance. TA noted that all property insurance is for six months so that we can change from a July 1 renewal to a January 1st renewal.

S. Winslow – Patriotic Purposes – wonders if we can tone down the blasting of the sirens and horns on the fire trucks during parades. Chief Buttrick has tried to address this but he cannot enforce it on other departments.

Article 7 – no questions

Article 8 – no questions

Article 9 – no questions

Article 10 – how much is in these Expendable Trust Funds now?

Fire Station Repairs \$12,532.75; Pool Repair and Improvements \$32,476.58; fire Equipment \$75,201.55; Police Cruiser \$3,956.49; Loader/Backhoe \$14,300.95

Article 11 – no questions

Article 12 – no questions

Article 13 – There is currently \$111,990.59 in this capital reserve fund and the money will be used to reconfigure the selectmen's office space and to add a barrier (gate) for the public. Town Clerk/Tax Collector's office will also need a gate per the State's Department of Labor.

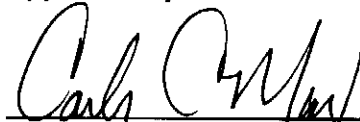
Article #14. There is a typo. Remove the word "Department" at the end.

Article #15 – no questions


Chairperson Mary asked if there were any more questions regarding the Warrant or Budget, there being none she closed the 2016 Budget Public Hearing at 8:55 p.m.

Submitted by: Kelley Collins/Town Administrator

Approved by:



Carla C. Mary/Chairperson



Douglas A. Reardon/Selectman

Feb 3, 2016

BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING

Name

Thomas Plourde
Charles Buttrick

Jim Giddings

Paul Eaton

Sarah Hentley

Jim Hartley

Richard Eaton

Hamir Vaillancourt

Eli Whit

Linda Hungen

Laurette Lafreniere

Heber Burt

Jimmy Lambert

Linda Carron

Deb Spruit

Steve Spruit

Shirley Windsor

Therese Pelletier

Pete Vetter

Rocky Washburn

Cooker Mahan