

**Town of Brentwood  
Budget Committee**  
Minutes of February 16, 2017

*Meeting:* Public Hearing and Budget committee meeting held at the Brentwood Town Office  
*Present:* Krista Steger, Chairperson, Keith Levitsky, Bill Faria, Malcolm Allison, Michelle Siudut, Jeff Bryan, Amy Mitchell, Melissa Hanlon

*Visitors:* Ken Christiansen, Melissa Litchfield, Mike Morgan, Leslie Morgan, Liz Faria, Wayne Robinson, Diane Robinson, Doug Cowie, Dick Chamberlain, Allison Higgins, Letty Bedard, Karen Clement, Jonathan Ellis, Elza Silva, Rob Bergin

**Approval of Minutes**

The meeting was called to order at 6:36.

Krista called for approval of January 30, 2017 Budcomm meeting minutes. There were several amendments. Motion to approve the minutes as amended Melissa/Amy, carried 8-0.

**Final Budget Recommendations**

Krista handed out copies of the final wording for the town warrants, the final figures for the proposed town budget and warrant articles.

She read and called for approval of the solar photovoltaic system warrant (number 3).

Discussion followed. Malcolm noted that no money is involved in the warrant wording, as the Budcomm approves each departments' budget for power each year anyway. Motion to approve Mal/Jeff, carried 8-0.

Krista read and called for approval of the warrant to add \$85K to the new capital reserve fund for Fire and Rescue vehicle replacement from a donation by the Fireman's Association (number 10). Motion to approve Jeff/Amy, carried 8-0.

**Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Budcomm will be April 10, 2017. Approval of these minutes and election of officers for the next budget period will be on the agenda.

Krista noted that there will be only seven Budcomm members in the future, and thanked Amy and Melissa for their participation and efforts.

**Other Business**

Bill asked about the prior Budcomm vote regarding the Prescott Road warrant. He stated that he had been to a recent meeting on the subject and it appeared that the residents of Prescott road may not want the project for various reasons. Krista referred to the Budcomm minutes of December 23 and noted that the Budcomm supported the project 6-2.

Melissa asked (since there are two Prescott Road warrants) what happens if both are approved. Karen Clement, a visitor who was allowed to speak, stated that if both pass, there would need to be a public hearing regarding the scenic road designation.

Krista stated that she wrote two articles for the Brentwood newsletter; one about the Coop School budget, and the other about the School and town budgets.

Krista noted that on the surface it looks like the Budcomm approved a 32% increase in town warrant articles this year, but it is really a 10.7% increase as \$85K to the Fire and Rescue Vehicle Capital Reserve is a donation and \$50K to the Bridge Repair Capital Reserve will come out of end of the year fund balance. Neither amount will come from taxes.

Krista recessed the meeting at 6:55 for a 10minute break before the Public Hearing.

### **Public Hearing**

Chairperson Krista Steger called an end to the recess and started the Public Hearing at 7:01PM. She provided handouts to the visitors showing budget and warrant article summaries which are also in the town report. She also stated that the presentation would be on the town website tomorrow.

Krista delivered a detailed presentation on The Town Operating Budget, Town Warrant Articles, Swasey School Operating Budget, School Warrant Articles, Coop School Operating Budget, and the Coop School Warrant Articles. The presentation was complete with the tax impact for Brentwood residents based on an average property value of \$350K, as well as those items which will be voted on by Ballot on March 8.

Visitors were encouraged to ask questions during the presentation and offer comments after the presentation.

During and at the conclusion of the presentation there were numerous questions from the visitors which Krista fielded with some input from others and Budcomm members. There were two public comments praising the Budcomm for their efforts and thanking Amy and Melissa for their service.

Krista closed the Public Hearing at 8:11PM.

### **Budget Committee Meeting**

Krista called the meeting back order at 8:12PM.

She asked all Budcomm members to sign the MS forms for the school and for the town.

Motion to adjourn at 8:15 Amy/Mal, carried 7-0.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Malcolm Allison