

TOWN OF SALISBURY

Budget Committee Business Meeting Summary

June 28, 2010

Jeff Nangle, Chair	Present	Mary Heath	Present
Joe Landry	Absent	Sandy Miller	Present
Gene Shaw	Present	Ralph Downes	Present
Ed Sawyer	Present	Ken Ross-Raymond, Selectman Ex-Officio	Present
Sara (Sally) Jones	Present	Margaret Warren, Admin. Assistant	Present
Bill MacDuffie, Sr.	Present	April Rollins, Recording Secretary	Present

Other Selectmen Present: Karen Sheldon

General Public Present: None

Handouts for Meeting:

- 2010 Budget & Revenue ending on 5/31/10
- 2010 Budget Committee Meeting Schedule

Jeff Nangle opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Review & Approve Minutes of April 12, 2010 – Gene Shaw made a **motion** to approve the meeting minutes of April 12, 2010 with no changes. Ed Sawyer **seconded** the motion. The **motion passed unanimously**.

Review of 2010 Budget Committee Meeting Schedule –Mary Heath made a **motion** to leave the Budget Committee’s meeting schedule as drafted. Sandy Miller **seconded** the motion and the **motion passed unanimously**.

Update on Town Issues – Selectman Ross-Raymond

Pingree Bridge – Selectman Ross-Raymond informed the Budget Committee that Beck & Bellucci have been awarded the bid, \$393,050 dollars has been received from the State, easements are completed and the poles have been placed. Selectman Ross-Raymond noted a temporary bridge will be in place by 8/5. Selectman Ross-Raymond stated the BOS are advertising the old bridge again and they are looking to utilize \$50K from DOT. The final completion date is May 20, 2011.

Ring Road – RA MacDuffie reported the project complete.

Review of 2010 Budget & Revenue Figures – Chair Nangle the Town would be getting the M&R funding from the State but everything looks in line. AA Warren stated the Assessor’s are 20% completed with updates and abatements are on track. Chair Nangle asked if the legal fees for the BOS and the ZBA are for legal opinions and Selectman Ross-Raymond replied yes. Chair Nangle asked if the dispatch had been paid in full and AA Warren replied yes. Ed Sawyer noted that the Co-op has’t said anything regarding the tipping fee changing but the Town has voted to go with Single Stream Recycling and it will be 1 ½ years until the program starts. The tipping fee has been set at \$61 dollars. Gene Shaw asked if Direct Assistance was over and if it had been added to. AA Warren stated the line had been added to and Direct Assistance costs are mostly rent currently but the Town can only provide \$500 dollars a month for rent/mortgage. Sandy Miller asked if oil prices were locked in and AA Warren replied she is still working with Irving Propane regarding a price and

Huckleberry Oil is included with the School. Sandy Miller noted \$2.35 a gallon was the price she received.

General Review of Major Department Heads – Chair Nangle stated he would like to look at the budgets from 2005-2009 by department and RS Rollins provided the BC with a hand-out. AA Warren provided the surplus figures. Chair Nangle stated there is \$361K in the General Surplus budget from tax revenue and would like to see how the surplus money in the budget is level funded but the issue at hand is setting up a base amount with revenue coming back. Chair Nangle noted that the Budget Committee has been frugal, the idea of taking general surplus to lower taxes should be considered in the first place. Chair Nangle stated the BC needs to look at redistribution of assets or to keep doing things the same way. Sandy Miller replied the general surplus is the Town's cushion. AA Warren noted the State requires a certain percentage to be in the surplus and the money is already raised & appropriated. Chair Nangle stated taxes are raised based on the preceding year and wants to understand the trend. Chair Nangle noted that he is not saying there is any fiscal irresponsibility but people are getting hurt and would like to see a zero allocation base budget, to get a better understanding of where the money is going. Selectman Ross-Raymond noted that he was taken back by no salary increases and feels it is the last thing that should be looked at before addressing anything else. Selectman Ross-Raymond informed the BC that the LGC says there is no standard budgeting procedure and whatever works...use it. Chair Nangle stated he would like facts gathered by September.

Compensation Review Sub-Committee – Chair Nangle expressed concern with going in to executive session with the Town's employees and is not comfortable doing so, this should be the Selectmen's charge. Chair Nangle noted there needs to be structure (entry level, mid-level, experienced) and if the BOS want the BC's help then great but for now the BOS are in charge.

Other Business – None at this time.

Remaining Scheduled Meeting Dates for 2010:

- No meeting in July or August
- September 13, 2010
- October (No Meeting)
- November 8, 2010
- December 13, 2010

Gene Shaw made a motion at 8:47 p.m. to adjourn; Mary Heath seconded. All voted in favor.

Respectfully submitted: April Rollins, Recording Secretary