

HAMPTON BUDGET COMMITTEE
MINUTES
February 17, 2009

Budget Committee Members Present

Mary-Louise Woolsey, Chairman
Michael Plouffe, Vice-Chairman
Richard Nichols, Selectman Representative
Rusty Bridle, School Board Representative
Gary Kubik, Precinct Representative
Maury Friedman
Dick Hansen
Eileen Latimer
Jack Lessard
Michael Pierce
Larry Stuker
Peter Traynor

Excused

Pat Collins
Victor DeMarco
Norman Silberdick

Chairman Woolsey called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Chairman Woolsey introduced the members of the Committee.

Approval of Minutes – January 15, 2009

Moved by Mr. Plouffe, seconded by Mr. Pierce, to approve the Minutes of January 15, 2009.

Vote: 11 yes, 0 no, 1 abstention (Friedman). Motion passed.

Chairman Woolsey said this meeting was a work session, public hearing and final review for the Hampton Beach Village Precinct. She introduced Gary Kubik, Chairman and Commissioner; Chuck Rage, Commissioner; John Gebhart, Treasurer; and John Kane, Marketing Director.

General Government

Moved by Mr. Kubik, seconded by Mr. Traynor, to move forward to the Public Hearing the amount of \$89,550 for General Government.

Mr. Kubik said they were pleased to inform the Committee that they have decreased the Precinct budget from last year.

He said the 2009 season will be a long one. The garage has been working on two shifts on busy days. Mr. Rage said that last year's income from the garage went up almost \$16,000 so it definitely paid for itself. Mr. Nichols asked what the comparison was for 2008 actual vs. 2007 actual for parking revenue. Mr. Rage said 2008 was up about \$7,000.

Ms. Latimer asked about the decrease in Other General Government. Mr. Gebhart said that last year the banners were a significant purchase. This year the Beautification budget is reduced by \$4,000.

Vote: 12 yes 0 no. Motion passed unanimously.

Culture & Recreation

Moved by Mr. Kubik, seconded by Mr. Lessard, to move forward to the Public Hearing the amount of \$356,050 for Culture and Recreation.

Mr. Kubik said they have attempted to keep expenditures down. The fireworks shoots will cost the same as last year. Less will be spent on the sand sculpture event and the volleyball event has been cancelled. There will be no ambassadors. The Chamber of commerce will take over their duties.

Mr. Rage mentioned the decrease in Advertising. He commended John Kane for negotiating great deals for advertising.

Ms. Latimer asked about Special Activities. Mr. Kubik said they are going to try to extend the season. They have talked about an ice rink, possibly in the parking lot. They are working on a movie night. Movies would be shown on the beach near the playground every Monday evening. This is geared towards families with children. There is also the possibility of a New Year's Eve fireworks display which would be dependent on weather.

Vote: 12 yes, 0 no. Motion passed unanimously.

Estimated Revenues

Moved by Mr. Kubik, seconded by Mr. Lessard, to move forward to the Public Hearing the amount of \$82,996 for Estimated Revenues/

Mr. Stuker asked what the gross revenue was for rooms and meals taxes. Mr. Gebhart said he believed that number was published by Hampton Beach Redevelopment. Chairman Woolsey said this could probably be found on the State website.

Mr. Stuker asked what the Commissioners thought about a surcharge being added to rooms and meals that would go 100% to the Town. Mr. Rage said that whenever you add a tax, it hurts business.

Vote: 12 yes, 0 no. Motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Woolsey then asked for a vote on the Total Operating Budget.

Moved by Mr. Kubik, seconded by Mr. Plouffe, to move forward to the Public Hearing the amount of \$445,600 for the Total Operating Budget.

Vote: 12 yes, 0 no. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Hearing

At 7:38 p.m. Chairman Woolsey opened the floor to the Public Hearing.

There were no comments from the public and the hearing was closed at 7:39 p.m.

Final Review

Chairman Woolsey asked the Committee whether any changes were to be made to the figures to be presented to the Public Hearing. There being no changes offered, the final review was closed.

Chairman Woolsey reminded the Committee that the Annual Meeting for the Precinct will be held on Friday, March 27th, at 7:00 p.m. at the Beach Fire Station. Voting, by Precinct residents only, will begin at 12:00 noon.

Mr. Nichols said he and Mr. Welch had testified in Concord on HB 641. If this moves ahead there could be a reduction in the spiking charges.

Mr. Traynor asked if negotiations are still going on for contracts. Mr. Nichols said two have declared an impasse and will go to arbitration.

Chairman Woolsey said the next meeting of the Budget Committee will be on Tuesday, March 17th, in the Selectmen's Meeting Room at 7:00 p.m. This will be the reorganization meeting for the Committee.

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Moved by Mr. Stuker, seconded by Mr. Lessard, to thank Maury Friedman and Norman Silberdick for their outstanding service on the Budget Committee.

Vote: 11 yes, 0 no, 1 abstention (Friedman). Motion passed.

Mr. Friedman thanked the Committee for allowing him to participate on the Budget Committee for the past six years.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Committee, Mr. Nichols **moved**, seconded by Mr. Lessard, that the meeting be adjourned. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

The meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Rice
Secretary

Mary-Louise Woolsey, Chairman

