

**Town of Brentwood  
Budget Committee**  
Minutes of October 17, 2016

*Meeting:* Budget committee meeting held at the Brentwood Town Office

*Present:* Krista Steger, Chairperson, Keith Levitsky, Bill Faria, Malcolm Allison, Michelle Siudut, Melissa Hanlon, Jeff Bryan, Amy Mitchell

*Visitors:* None

Krista called the meeting to order at 6:58.

**Approval of Meeting Minutes**

Krista called for approval of the draft minutes of the Budcomm meeting of April 18 2016. There no corrections. Motion to approve the minutes Melissa/Michelle, carried 7-0-1.

**Updates from the Selectman & School Board Representatives**

None from the Selectman, other than recommended department budgets which will be considered later in this meeting.

Amy reported that the School budget would be presented to the Budcomm on December 19, 2016, the school board meetings are on the first Monday of each month this year, and there are no contracts to be considered.

**Budget Committee Budget**

Krista discussed whether to increase the budget to \$750 or \$800 from the \$700 in previous years. In order to have sufficient funds in the budget due to the number of committee meetings and members continued training, \$800 was moved Jeff/Bill carried 8-0.

**Budgets for Consideration**

Krista provided the members an updated spreadsheet, by department, summarizing yearly 2013, 2014, 2015, and 2016 budgets and expenditures as well as 2017 budgets requested.

Legal Budget level at \$37,002 Motion to approve Jeff/Mal carried 8-0.

Town Meeting Budget at \$3501, down from last year's \$4251 due to fewer elections. Motion to approve Jeff/Mal carried 8-0.

Election Budget at \$5951, down from last year's \$10675 due to fewer elections. Motion to approve Jeff /Keith carried 8-0.

Waste disposal, Waste collection, and Recycling Budgets. which totaled \$274,500 were considered individually:

Recycling at \$46665, up \$465. Motion to approve Jeff/Keith carried 8-0

Waste collection at \$123,150, down \$350. Motion to approve Jeff/Amy carried 8-0

Waste disposal level at \$104,685. Motion to approve Jeff/Michelle carried 8-0

Debt service Budget at \$340,155, up \$5721, Jeff explained the increase was due to the fire station, which last year used impact fees to offset the interest. Motion to approve Jeff/Amy 8-0.

Emergency Management Budget level at \$14875. Discussion followed, as the last 5 years expenditure has never been over \$6900 usually much less. Motion to table til later in the year pending more information Mal/Michelle carried 5-3.

Finance Budget at \$62351 up \$1081. Wages and salaries were up and audit expenses were down. Motion to approve Jeff/Amy carried 8-0

Welfare Budget at \$7272 up \$136. Motion to approve Jeff/Michelle carried 8-0.

Regional Associations Budget at \$14837 up \$153 which was requested by Meals on Wheels. Motion to approve Jeff/Keith carried 8-0.

Executive Office Budget level at \$27,489. Jeff noted that the selectman have not received an increase for approximately 10 years. Discussion ensued regarding providing an increase to the selectman possibly to attract someone to run for selectmen. Motion to table for consideration at a later date Mal/Michelle. carried 7-1.

Assessing Budget at \$31,376 down \$900. Motion to approve Jeff/Amy carried 8-0.

### **Other Business**

Bill reported that he is the new Brentwood animal control officer and that he will have to recuse himself when that budget is discussed.

Malcolm updated the members on the solar effort headed up by Rob Wufchuck. He noted that the current plan is to get new quotes for a solar installations in by Nov 1, at both the firehouse and at the town hall. Quotes will include two alternatives; a straight town buy which would require a warrant, and a 3<sup>rd</sup> party ownership arrangement with a buyout at 1/2 price after 6 to 8 years. The solar committee would crunch the numbers and offer the best alternative to the town at the next town meeting. Public meetings would be held prior to the town meeting to answer questions from the general public.

Krista updated the members on the middle school renovation plans including adding A/C and possibly a gym with a multi-purpose room. She indicated the Building Committee plan could cost

as much as \$20M, which has to be recommended to the coop school board budget committee for a decision. Discussion followed.

**2016 Meeting Dates**

Krista noted that we are making good progress, and after discussion members agreed to cancel the October 24 Budcomm meeting and spend more time in the November 14 meeting. Additional meetings are planned for November 21, 28 and December 12 & 19(school board budget presentation).

Motion to adjourn at 7:50 Jeff/Amy, carried 8-0

Minutes respectfully submitted by Malcolm Allison