

Town of Farmington
Budget Committee Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, February 19, 2019

Committee Members Present:

Sylvia Arcouette, Chairman
Jodi Connolly, Vice Chairman
Stephen Henry, Secretary
Paula Proulx, Alt. Selectmen's Rep.
Angie Cardinal, School Board Rep.
Tim Brown
Jason Lauze
Samantha Place
Heidi Mitchell

Committee Members Absent:

Neil Johnson, Selectmen's Rep.
Elizabeth Johnson
Charlie King, excused

Others Present:

Arthur Capello, Town Administrator
Ann Titus, Selectman
Blanche Tanner

1). Call to Order:

Chairman Arcouette called the meeting to order at 6 p.m.

2). Pledge of Allegiance:

All present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

3). Public Hearing:

Chairman Arcouette opened the Public Hearing at 6:03 p.m.

Mr. Capello said they are looking to dissolve the Police Outside Detail Special Revenue Fund (SRF) and set up a revolving fund for Police Outside Details which is allowed by state statute. The concern was what would happen if the SRF was dissolved and the revolving fund did not pass and then they can't pay the officers. He said he drafted an additional warrant article for this and then walked the members through the articles.

Article #22- Discontinues the Police Outside Details SRF.

Article #23- Mr. Capello said this article is to withdraw up to \$100,000 from the SRF and is the one the voters normally see on the warrant. This article would be null and void if Article #22 and Article #24 pass he said.

Article #24 – Mr. Capello said the purpose of this article is to create a Police Outside Details revolving fund and it is also an appropriation article because \$1,944 from the current SRF would be deposited in the new revolving account. He said the Bud Com needs to make a recommendation for Articles #23 and #24 as they are appropriation articles and that is why he asked for this meeting. If Article #24 passes, Article # 23 will be null and void he said.

Mr. Brown asked if it would make sense to motion to take the articles out of order at Town Meeting and put the article to create the revolving fund first to see where the townspeople stand on creating the revolving fund.

Mr. Capello said he would not recommend doing that because the articles are contingent upon each other with their numbers included in the articles.

Motion: (Brown, second Connolly) to recommend Articles #23 and #24 as written;

Discussion: Mrs. Place asked if they planned to walk the voters through these articles at Town Meeting as they probably would not get through it as fast as the committee because they had discussed it before.

Mr. Capello said he planned to bring a flow chart to facilitate the explanation of the articles.

Mrs. Cardinal asked what happens if all 3 articles failed at Town Meeting.

Mr. Capello said if they all fail it would be the same as if the usual yearly article seeking to appropriate funds from the SRF failed- they can't pay the Police Officers.

Mrs. Cardinal suggested this be made clear to the voters at Town Meeting.

She said that Article #23 does not show the tax impact of the article as required on all articles by a previous Town Meeting vote and she did not want it to pass and then be ruled invalid because the tax impact was not included.

Mr. Capello said he would add the tax impact to the article (\$0).

There were no questions or comments from the audience.

Chairman Arcouette closed the Public Hearing at 6:07 p.m.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously (9-0).

4). Any Other Business before the Committee:

Monthly Meeting Canceled - Mrs. Place asked the committee for their options on canceling the regular monthly meeting scheduled for Feb. 27 in anticipation of the girls' varsity basketball team playing in Plymouth at 5:30 p.m. next Wednesday.

Some members said they wouldn't be available for the meeting as they planned to attend the game or due to February school vacation week plans.

Consensus of the committee was to cancel the meeting on Feb. 27 with the exception of Mrs. Cardinal who abstained from answering as she did not consult the School Board on the matter.

Warrant Signatures - Mr. Brown asked when the members would need to sign the warrant.

Mr. Capello said the warrant would be available for signatures in the Town Clerk's Office on Thursday afternoon/evening and on Friday and that it has to be posted by Monday.

5). Adjournment:

Motion: (Connolly, second Place) to adjourn the meeting passed unanimously at 6:12 p.m.

Respectively submitted

Kathleen Magoon, Recording Secretary

Sylvia Arcouette, Chairman