



TOWN OF PITTSFIELD
BUDGET COMMITTEE
TOWN HALL, 85 MAIN STREET
PITTSFIELD, NH 03263

MEETING MINUTES OF Wednesday, January 12, 2022

CALL TO ORDER

Call to order at 6:30 PM by Katie Bocash, Chair

MEMBERS PRESENT (10)

Katie Bocash, Chair
Jeremy Everson, Secretary
Carol Richardson, Select Board Rep.
Justin Clough, School Board Rep.
John Christakos
Dan Greene
Fred Hast
Ammy Ramsey
Helen Schiff
Randy Severance

MEMBERS ABSENT (2)

Robert Schiferle, Vice Chair
Larry Konopka

GUESTS PRESENT

Bryan Lane, Schools Superintendent
Cara Marston, Town Administrator
Pete Pzonowsky, Fire Chief
Adam Gauthier, School Board Chairman
Sandra Adams, School Board Member

DOCUMENTS DISTRIBUTED:

- *Pittsfield School District Proposed Warrant Articles*
- *Pittsfield School District Staff List Report*

Agenda Item 1: Public Hearing Preparations - Schools

Documents Referenced:

- *Pittsfield School District Proposed Warrant Articles*

Discussion: K. Bocash led the discussion regarding the public hearing. B. Lane contributed the plan and summary for presenting the Pittsfield Schools Budget.

- The budget proposal is a decrease from the previous year, but there is a decrease in revenue as well. The overall budget is still a decrease, therefore the default budget would be a higher amount than the budget proposal.
- There was a request for the 'Estimated tax impact' amount in the warrant article #1 reflect the overall tax impact as the town publishes it. This way the numbers are consistent on all ballots and for the voters to more easily understand.
- Warrant Article 2 is the 3-year contract with the teachers union. B. Lane and the school board feel this contract is fair for both the teachers and the tax payers.
- Warrant Article 4 establishes a school district reserve fund. This fund would serve projects approved by the School Board, the Budget Committee and voters.
- Warrant Article 5 appropriates \$3,000 for the dumpster reserve fund.
- Warrant Article 6 appropriates funds for the school food service program. This has no impact on taxes as the revenue comes from sales of food and state and federal sources.
- Warrant Article 7 approves the expenditure of grant money, if received from federal and private grants and foundations.

Agenda Item 2: Public Hearing Preparations - Town

Documents Referenced:

- *Town of Pittsfield Draft 2022 Annual Town Meeting Warrant*

Discussion: K. Bocash led the discussion regarding the public hearing. C. Marston contributed details and information for presenting the Town Budget.

- There was a request to cover the Waste Water Treatment Plant line items that reflect a large increase. This increase is covered by grant revenues but is reflected in this budget for accounting purposes.
- J. Christakos will give a summary and overview of the CIP planned purchases and timelines involved in the plan for future replacement of vehicles in the Highway Department, Fire Department and Police Department.
- P. Pzonowsky presented a summary and details regarding the proposed purchase of a new fire engine pumper. This is requested in Warrant Article 5.
- There was discussion about how to inform the voters on the difference between 'tax rate' and 'tax impact'.

Agenda Item 3: Approval of Meeting Minutes

January 5, 2022 Meeting Minutes

- Motion to Approve: R. Severance
- Motion 2nd: A. Ramsey
- 8 (yes) – 0 (no) – 2 (abstentions)

Motion Passed

Next Meeting

- January 13, 2022 Public Hearing
- January 14, 2022 Public Hearing (Snow Date)
- January 19, 2022 Budget Committee Meeting, Voting Session

Next regular meeting will be on Wednesday, January 19, 2022, starting at 6:30 PM.

Meeting adjourned at 7:41 PM.

Submitted by: Jeremy Everson, Secretary

Approved:

Katie Bocash, Chair

Date

