

MUNICIPAL BUDGET COMMITTEE

Wednesday, March 28, 2018
Professional Development Room
Kennett Middle School, Conway, NH

Chairman Jim LeFebvre called the meeting to order at 6:31pm. The following members were present: David Jensen, Mike Tetreault, Doug Swett, Bill Marvel, Bob Drinkhall, John Edgerton, John Colbath, Bill Masters, and John Whittier. Also present: Lisa Towle, recording secretary

Excused: Pat Swett; Pat Kittle; Terry McCarthy; and Joe Mosca

Absent: Steven Steiner and Mike Fougere

Mr. Drinkhall led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

REVIEW OF MINUTES:

Motion by: Mr. Edgerton, seconded by Mr. Drinkhall to approve the minutes from the January 29, 2018 Budget Committee meeting. (9-0-1 [Mr. Whittier])

Motion by: Mr. Marvel, seconded by Mr. Colbath to approve the minutes from the January 31, 2018 Budget Committee meeting. (8-0-2 [Mr. LeFebvre and Mr. Whittier])

Motion by: Mr. Drinkhall, seconded by Mr. Tetreault to approve the minutes from the February 14, 2018 Budget Committee meeting. (8-0-2 [Mr. Jensen and Mr. Whittier])

Motion by: Mr. Colbath, seconded by Mr. Tetreault to approve the minutes from the February 15, 2018 Budget Committee meeting. (8-0-2 [Mr. Jensen and Mr. Whittier])

OLD BUSINESS:

Mr. Whittier: Inquired if there was any additional information pertaining to the legality of moving the Rec Center to KMS? **Mr. Edgerton:** One of the members made a motion to remove the Budget Committees non-recommendation as the dollar figure was also removed. This then means there can be legal contract between the town and the school as it requires a dollar amount. **Chairman LeFebvre:** I will bring that point up with the DRA when I speak with them. **Mr. Whittier:** That will remove the whole thing? **Chairman LeFebvre:** Stated that would be something that would have to come from the DRA. **Mr. Marvel:** During his presentation Mr. Hounsell noted the DRA told him it was not illegal for the Budget Committee's vote to be on the article and it was up to the School Board to decide if they wanted it there, however, as it was a negative vote they did not want it there. In regard, to contract being legal for the lack of a dollar amount, I believe it would be similar if the School Board wants it there or not. **Mr. Whittier:** I think the whole situation is illegal due to concerns of putting a private entity that offers adult programs during the day, inside a public entity. **Mr. Edgerton:** It is all municipal and town entities. **Mr. Colbath:** The contract was reviewed by attorneys for both the town and the school

and deemed to be a legal lease agreement and I am sure if it wasn't it would not be going forward.

NEW BUSINESS:

Chairman LeFebvre: thanked the following individuals who have been with the Budget Committee for a long time and some who will not be returning.

- Pat Kittle has been a solid member of the Budget Committee for several years and will not be returning due to other commitments. I want him to be recognized by myself and others for his service with us, he is a good man.
- Terry McCarthy is not going off the Budget Committee, however, she is someone who should be recognized for the work she has done.
- Pat Swett has decided to not run again for various sound reasons and I agree with her rationale.
- Bill Marvel is not running for a seat on the Budget Committee again. With my heart felt respect, he is one of the best members of the committee and has displayed a remarkable attention to detail. Your service has been greatly appreciated, and I think everyone here recognizes how deeply you dig into issues and work hard to make it go smoothly. **Mr. Colbath:** I agree, he comes to every meeting prepared and it is amazing the information he come up with. {applause}
- Dick Klement, had served on many different venues of the town and school and was known for taking a high degree of interest in the education of the students and making sure it was done at the least cost possible. The students were his primary focus along with ensuring what we did what was right by the students. I appreciate all the work he did, his knowledge of how the School Board works(ed) was invaluable to everyone on the committee and the taxpayer. **Mr. Klement** deserves some special thanks from all of us, he will be sorely missed in the future. **Mr. Marvel:** He was sorely missed this year, I think we could have gone a lot farther in the investigation into efficiencies with him, that was the main reason I backed out of look at it myself as he had the knowledge. **Chairman LeFebvre:** He will be missed by everyone in the town for the work he has done.
- Bob Drinkhall, came back to the budget committee filling a one-year vacant seat. He had been on the Budget Committee for many years in the past and also served as a selectman at one time. He brought a great deal of knowledge on how the town worked and has always been willing to look at what is right by the students at the least possible cost to the taxpayer.
- That has always been my focus; make sure we do what is right by the students because they are the future. In addition, to making sure we do what is right by the taxpayer because those people are the ones paying and all too often they are forgotten by individuals looking at their own narrow niche. The Budget Committee is the one group in this town that has to look out for the tax payers.
- The lady to my left taking the minutes diligently will also be leaving after the reorganization meeting.

A reorganization meeting has tentatively been scheduled for **April 25, 2018** for all re-elected or newly elected members of the Budget Committee. At this meeting we will be electing a new chair, which I am running for, and vice chair, which Mr. Jensen has expressed his interest in that position.

PUBLIC COMMENT: none

ADJOURN:

**Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Mr. Drinkhall, to adjourn the meeting at 6:44 PM.
Motion carried unanimously.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa E. Towle, Recording Secretary