

# CONWAY MUNICIPAL BUDGET COMMITTEE

Wednesday, April 27, 2022

Reorganization Meeting

Professional Development Center

Kennett Middle School, Conway, NH

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM. The following Budget Committee members were present: John Colbath, Erik Corbett, Randy Davison, Peter Donohoe, Bob Drinkhall, Kit Hickey (arrived at approximately 6:34 p.m.), Dave Jensen, Frank Jost, Jim LeFebvre, Ellin Leonard, Quentin Lewis, Bill Marvel, and Stacy Sand.

Excused: Terry McCarthy and John Edgerton

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Jensen.

**Approval of Outstanding Minutes: (1/26/2022, 1/31/2022, 2/9/2022, & 3/9/2022):**

**Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Mr. Marvel to approve the January 26 & 31, 2022, February 9, 2022, and March 9, 2022, minutes as written. Motion Carries. (11-0-2[Mr. Drinkhall and Mr. Lewis])**

**\* Mr. Jensen abstained from the January 26, 2022, as he was not present.**

**Comments from Past Chair; Mr. LeFebvre:**

- Composition of Conway Select Board remains unchanged.
- Conway School Board has significant changes as Joe Lentini lost his bid for a 4<sup>th</sup> term. Dr. Michelle
- Capozzoli is the Chair, Joe Mosca is the Vice Chair, and Randy Davison continues as the School Board representative on the Budget Committee.
- Suggestion of developing 3 subcommittee groups to meet between July and October.
  1. Town Questions
    - Ms. Sand as leader; Mr. Jost, Ms. Hickey, Mr. Jensen, and Mr. Corbett
  2. School Questions
    - Mr. LeFebvre as leader, Mr. Marvel, Mr. Drinkhall, and Mr. Davison
  3. General Administration (review schedule, review how information is requested from non-profits, etc.)
    - Ms. Leonard as leader, Mr. Corbett, Mr. Colbath, and Mr. Lewis
- Suggest committee members attend the School Board and Select Board meetings to show the budget committee is not a dead letter.
- Town hall has been provided with an ad for the vacant position.
- Many questions and comments have been raised regarding the role of the Budget Committee. In accordance with RSA 32, the Budget Committee has direct authority over the town and school operating budgets and develops the town's default budget.
- As of today, the town budget is more than \$12 million and the school budget is more than \$44 million

- 44 • Town article 32, the bathrooms, passed 582 – 581. At least one Budget Committee member  
 45 should volunteer to be part of the subcommittee that discusses and plans how to go forward.  
 46 Additionally, it would be beneficial if the subcommittee also took into consideration the 50% of  
 47 voters that did not approve the bathrooms.
- 48 • RSA 32
- 49 — It is suggested to have Bruce Kneuer from DRA at the July 20<sup>th</sup> meeting to provide a  
 50 presentation on RSA 32.
- 51 — Under RSA 32:15, VI, any elected member shall cease to hold office after 4 missed  
 52 consecutive or announced meetings and was not excused by the Chair. Therefore, if you are  
 53 going to miss a meeting let the chair know as soon as possible.
- 54 — RSA 32:18 explains the 10% rule.  
 55

56 **Election of Officers (Chair and Vice Chair):**

57 **Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Ms. Leonard in nominating Mr. Donohoe as Chair. Motion**  
 58 **Carries. (12-0-1 [Mr. Donohoe])**

59

60 **Mr. LeFebvre moved, seconded by Mr. Jensen in nominating Mr. Jost as Vice Chair.**  
 61 **Motion Carries (12-0-1 [Mr. Jost])**

62

63 Introductions were conducted. Mr. Jost and Ms. Leonard were welcomed back, while Mr. Lewis was  
 64 welcomed to the committee.

65

66 **Mr. Colbath** inquired if the vacant positions for East Conway and Red Stone representatives will  
 67 also be advertised for. **Mr. LeFebvre** advised the precinct commissioners are responsible for  
 68 appointing representatives to serve on the Budget Committee. **Mr. Lewis** asked if the vacant seats  
 69 count against the quorum. **Mr. Colbath** advised the rule states the quorum is 50% + 1 of those  
 70 eligible to attend the meeting.

71

72 **Chair Donohoe** stated the next scheduled meeting is set for July 20, 2022, time, and location TBD.  
 73 The agenda items will include the quarterly review of town and school budgets, fiscal year-end  
 74 review for the school, and approval of the 2022-23 meeting schedule.

75

76 A discussion ensued regarding the schedule.

77

78 **Old Business:**

79 **Mr. Colbath moved, seconded by Mr. Jost to send commendation to Mr. Edgerton for his**  
 80 **extended years of service on the Budget Committee. Motion Carries (13-0-0)**

81

82 **Mr. Drinkhall** spoke on his opinion of what the budget committee's role is in being fiscally  
 83 responsible along with the lack of engagement and participation.

84

85 A discussion ensued regarding nonprofit funding and being more diligent in reviewing the request.  
 86 Including revising the request form to capture all pertinent information, such as the benefit that is  
 87 provided to the town.

88

89 **Ms. Sand** stated the nonprofits are a small portion of the overall town budget and the more important  
 90 process would be to help find ways to decrease the large costs within the budget such health

91 insurance.

92

93 **Mr. LeFebvre** stated as Mr. Jensen recommended previously another area of review would be  
94 revenues. A discussion ensued pertaining to potential revenue opportunities.

95

96 **Vice Chair Jost** reminded the committee that he and Mr. Marvel are on the Facilities Use Committee  
97 for the school, which is looking at what the appropriate use of the facilities with the closure of a  
98 school.

99

100 **New Business:**

101 **Mr. Drinkhall** commented there might be a problem with the new windows at KHS and asked Mr.  
102 Davison to provide an updated report after inquiring with the School Board.

103

104 **Public and Media Questions/Comments:** None

105

106 **Adjourn:**

107 **Mr. Marvel moved, seconded by Mr. LeFebvre to adjourn the meeting at 7:48 PM.**

108

109 Respectfully Submitted,

110 *Lisa E. Towle,*

111 Recording Secretary