

Pownal Budget Committee

April 3, 2013

Minutes – Unapproved

Committee Chair Wyatt called the meeting to order at 7:02pm

Members Present: Andy Wyatt, Kim Best, Kathy Hogue, John Green, Carlene Harvey

Guests: Scott Seaver, Tim Giddinge

Minutes: The minutes for January 16th and March 27th 2013 were unanimously approved as amended.

Public Comment – None

Selectmen's Input – None

Presentation of Proposed Budgets:

- a. **Cemeteries:** Dwayne Snow presented for the cemetery commission. The cemetery commission continues to maintain Pownal's cemeteries also completing various improvement/rehab projects as their budget allows. In the past few years the amount of bronze markers for the veterans has been low – the commission has purchased enough last year so that they feel comfortable with the numbers right now. However, they will need more in the future due to the aging population of our veterans. The commission will be removing some trees at the Allen Road(?) cemetery and the State will be helping with this project. The commission has asked for its standard request of \$1000. After some conversation about budgets and needs we have encouraged the cemetery commission to review their needs and possibly refine their request. The commission meets the first week in May, so it is possible they will return at our last meeting to present again.
- b. **Public Safety** (second view) There was no further discussion on the Public Safety budget as a whole. However, we had a lengthy discussion on compensation. The outcome of this discussion was that although we all agreed with a compensation plan that rewarded education, training, and attendance, we felt that Public Safety's compensation policy should be researched by a committee – similar to the last compensation committee prior to being adopted or brought to town meeting. The budget committee agreed to support an overall 5% increase to Public Safety's compensation.

- c. **Public Works** After a very detailed presentation Road Commissioner Bennett showed a small increase of ~\$3800. or 1%. His budget shows a moderate savings due to switching to natural gas and great savings due to the use of brine. This year he will purchasing a tank to be used for anti-icing, dust control, and bridge maintenance, possible saving us more in the future.

Next Meeting: Wednesday April 17, 2013 7:00pm Mallet Hall

Committee Chair Wyatt adjourned the meeting at ?

Respectfully submitted,

Carlene Harvey