

Pownal Budget Committee
MINUTES ~ May 1, 2013

Present: Andy Wyatt, John Green, Jan Pieter van Voorst van Beest, Carlene Harvey, Kim Best, Kathy Hogue

Guests: Rodney Richards, Tim Giddinge, Selectman

1. Andy called the meeting to order, 7:04pm.
2. Minutes of April 17, 2013, were approved as amended:
 - a. Under Solid Waste: "Assessment cost and tipping fees were down." Add at the end of that statement - 20%.
3. Public Comment: None
4. Selectmen's Input: Tim Giddinge apologized to the committee for not having the compensation budget ready for review. He noted that CPI has gone up 1.6% from last year and will be reflected in salaries. He also stated that sharing our Road Commissioner with Durham will come at a savings to Pownal. We will pay 40% of his salary and Durham will pay 60%. This is based on miles of road. We have signed a 1 year agreement with Durham to reflect this.
- 5a. Capital Improvement Planning Committee: Rodney Richards presented a spreadsheet showing a 20 year plan listing proposed replacement items and building repairs. The committee has changed its name and is working on new procedures for calculating projections. They have not completed their work on the procedures; but have made a recommendation for this year. They will go back to refining the plan and calculation procedures after town meeting. The committee is suggesting to appropriate \$167,000 from taxation for each of the next 3 years to bring us up to the proposed \$225,000 annual amount. If we can raise \$225,000 each year, we will not have to go to bond for needed items. Since this is a \$70,000 increase from last year, members of the Budget Committee shared concerns with this large increase and how we might educate residents at town meeting. All agreed that although this is a difficult transition period, this is an important and necessary plan. Tim suggested we look at a 6-year transition plan as a compromise. This could bring the figure down to around \$152,000. Some items on the 20-year projection sheet would have to be moved around, but this may be a good starting point. The Board of Selectmen will look at this more closely and make their recommendation. Rodney noted that this spreadsheet of projected capital costs will be the one submitted for the town report. It was suggested that only the first 10 years be submitted at this time.
- 5b. The committee reviewed the PBC narrative for the annual report and made a few minor changes.
6. Next meeting will be Wednesday, May 8; to review compensation budget; discuss presentations for town meeting; determine need for additional meetings.

Meeting adjourned, 8:15pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen A. Hogue