

## MINUTES

**Selectmen's Meeting**

**December 16, 2015**

**Town Hall**

**11:30 AM**

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### **ATTENDEES**

David Stickney

Leo Enos

Leon Rideout

Ed Samson

Randall Saulnier

Cindy Normandeau

The meeting was called to order at 11:30 a.m.

### Presentation by CSFG/Woodsville Guaranty Savings Bank

Randall Saulnier, Community Financial Services Group (CFSG) provided an overview presentation on financial investments. CFSG is owned by Woodsville Guaranty Savings Bank and two other banks. Mr Saulnier is a registered investment advisor, Trust Officer with insurance designations and CTFA certified. A copy of the presentation is filed with these minutes. Mr. Saulnier offered to answer questions.

Town Manager Samson thanked Mr. Saulnier for the presentation and asked if he could do a sampling of one of the town's accounts to see if the town could be making more money. Mr. Samson asked that nothing be done until the end of January after the budget process has been completed.

Mr. Saulnier and Mrs Normandeau left the meeting.

### Finalize 2016 Proposed Budget

Mr. Samson advised that the proposed budget has an increase of 1.7927% without warrant articles.

He outlined the following changes:

1. Financial Administration – increase in office assistant wages of \$4000 which has been over-expended for a couple of years. Service Contracts – increase of \$6,200. Gas and oil down \$1000.
2. Legal Expenses – may be able to reduce by \$10000. Mr. Samson said his concern is that if the town has to argue before the Supreme Court it would be expensive. Currently have spent \$37400 with two more invoices to pay. Hoping to keep it same as last year.
3. Personnel Administration – increase of \$20000 in health insurance. Have a new plan with Harvard Pilgrim through Interlocal Trust. \$500 deductible per insured with a cost of \$73 per week/family plan for the employee. There is a quarterly incentive plan to buy down the deductible. Mr. Samson said that Doug Shearer(GMS) offered a plan as well from Harvard Pilgrim with a \$1000 deductible. It is age driven, employees pay more and does not include the retirees. Mr. Shearer's plan is \$41000/month without retirees and the plan from Interlocal is \$30000 more a year. Town Manager Samson recommended staying with the Interlocal plan because changing would put the tradeoff on the backs of the employees.

L. Rideout stated that he is not in favor of raising the deductible.

Moved by L. Rideout and seconded by L. Enos to continue with the new plan from Interlocal Trust through Harvard Pilgrim.

Motion carried.

4. Planning and Zoning – increase of \$1000 in service contracts to aid in the upkeep of the digitized maping system. Eventually will save money.
5. General Government Buildings – decrease of fuel/heat to \$16000 based on the current fuel costs. \$3000 less than last years budget.
6. Insurance and Bonds – Workers Comp went from \$92000 (2014) to \$107000 (2016) because of a premium holiday (refund) from the provider. Property Liability went from \$67000 to \$77000. Overall increase of \$27000 most of which is within property liability.
7. Police Dept – very little change. Change is in service contracts and is based on software and communications support. Mr. Samson said that the oil/gas line may be able to be adjusted.
8. Fire/EMS – down from \$665000 to 660000. Revenues expected to exceed what was expected for 2015. Discussed health insurance for an employee briefly.
9. Street Lighting – in negotiations with Eversource.
10. Solid Waste Collection – no change – contracted.
11. C&D and MSW – no appreciable change.
12. Welfare – remains the same.
13. Parks & Recreation – Colonel Town's operating expenses consistent with last year (paid through taxation) with the rest of their budget coming from anticipated revenues.
14. Water and Sanitation Dept – no large increases. Capital projects are included. Forced main replacement (Sanitation) was a warrant article however USDA will pay so warrant article money will not be spent.
15. Cemetery – consistent with last year. Will purchase a new lawnmower.
16. Library – went down.
17. Highway – Mr. Samson recommended that the highway employees get a \$.75/hr increase (5 employees). The Selectmen agreed.

Capital Reserve funds will be reviewed.

Moved by L. Rideout and seconded by D. Stickney to approve the 2016 Proposed Budget as presented by Town Manager Samson.

Motion carried.

Budget will go next to the Budget Committee for approval.

Motion was made, seconded and carried to adjourn the meeting at 1:10 p.m.

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Respectfully submitted,

Jean Oleson

Signed/Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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Leon Rideout

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David Stickney

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