

Town Council Meeting Minutes April 9, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm.

Roll Call

All Councilors were present and answering roll call.

Item 1 Presentation and Discussion of the Fiscal Year 2016 Proposed Budget.

The School Department, through its finance committee chair, Lucy Tucker, presented the School budget. The Town, through its finance committee chair, Russ Anderson, presented the municipal budget.

Item 2 Public Hearing to seek public input and inquiries relative to the Fiscal Year 2016 Proposed Budget.

Chair Farber opened the public hearing.

John Winslow spoke and expressed concern that the school budget has increased 35% over the past 8 years and that this level of an increase is not sustainable.

Cindy Han expressed appreciation to the School and Town for the thoughtfulness and time it takes to develop a responsible budget.

Chair Farber closed the public hearing at 8:00 PM and asked Councilors if they had any questions or comments.

Councilors Hemphill, King, Mahoney and McBrady all expressed appreciation for the effort of all those involved with the creation of this budget.

Chair Farber expressed agreement and acknowledged that the School Department budget process included discussions amongst the School Board members that challenged all aspects of the increases in the budget. She and Councilor Anderson both attended the School Board budget workshop and observed the process.

Councilor Anderson also agreed that the process has resulted in a responsible budget that meets the needs of the Town. He indicated that no one likes a tax increase, however this budget was responsible. He also discussed how we need to be prepared for future budget discussions if there are negative impacts from State budget changes.

Adjourn

Councilor King moved and Councilor Hemphill seconded that the meeting adjourn at 8:10 PM. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Nathan Poore
Town Manager