



**BUDGET REVIEW COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 17, 2019**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order by Chairman Bill Sawyer at 8:31 am.

2. ROLL CALL

Members present: Bill Sawyer, Carole Aaron, Mark MacLeod, Fred Lynk, and alternates Elaine Cooper and Peter Kahn. Lindsey Perry was an excused absentee.

3. OLD BUSINESS

Review and approve minutes from March 27, 2019 meeting.
MacLeod 1st, Aaron 2nd; vote 5-0.

4. NEW BUSINESS

The intent of this meeting was to review the entire Operating Budget and the CIP budget for 2019-2020. Below are the highlights of the meeting:

- 1) We took a straw vote on every department's Operating Budget request as recommended by the Town Manager with the exception of General Government. We noticed many instances of discrepancies with the approved 2019 budget amount listed on our budget spreadsheet.
- 2) We asked that the interim Treasurer insure that the amounts listed on the budget spreadsheet match the amount approved by the voters in June 2018. Since these amounts will be the fallback budget for any department whose recommended budget is voted down by the voters, the BRC felt strongly that these amounts must reflect what was approved in June 2018.
- 3) The only department where the BRC is recommending voting on a different amount than recommended by the Town Manager is the Fire Department where we recommend reducing by 50% the new monies requested to support an additional third firefighter crew member at certain times. This would reduce the overall fire department budget by approximately \$31,000.
- 4) We then reviewed every CIP request and similarly conducted a straw vote on each.
- 5) The only CIP item unanimously rejected was a second sidewalk plow/mower.
- 6) Recommendations for each CIP item included the funding source: either the undesignated fund or bonding.
- 7) We further recommended that the interim Treasurer make an estimate of the impact on the mill rate based on our recommendations and have this available for the Select Board on April 23, 2019.
- 8) With 4 regular members and 2 alternates present, each straw vote was done with 6 votes.
- 9) Results of the straw vote, since they are non-binding, will not be listed here, but can be

viewed on the video for the April 17, 2019 BRC meeting.

5. FUTURE MEETINGS

We are planning on voting on BRC recommendations for the June 2019 Annual Town Meeting with the Select Board on April 23, 2019.

The BRC plans to hold monthly meetings throughout the year in accordance with the Town Charter provision permitting the BRC to assist with ongoing financial planning. The first of these monthly meetings will be held on a date to be determined in September 2019. The first topics to be explored during the September meeting will include a deep dive into FEMA funding and Contracted Services.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 11:46 am:
MacLeod 1st, Aaron 2nd, vote 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Bill Sawyer