

**Hill Budget Committee
Meeting Minutes
January 27, 2021**

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Present: Bill Wilson (Chairperson), Tom Seymour (Selectperson), Joann Irving, Paula McDonough
Carol Asher (School Board), Betty Hanks, Lee Hertich, Don Meyer (on zoom video)
Paul Meyerhoefer (Secretary)

Absent: Marshall Bennett

SAU: Dr. Brian Connelly (Superintendent/Principal), Mike Lammani (Finance Officer/on zoom video)

Public: Natilie Mills (School Board), Charlie Estes, December Fortin,

Meeting Minutes

Bill called meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

Discussion of Town Revenues

Tom commented on revenues as a best estimate. He felt estimating lower than higher made better budgeting for revenues, in this way revenues could be considered as a plus if they came in higher for the town. Tom stated the Town Flood Control reimbursement will continue to be less until there will be no monies. Carol questioned the layout for revenues on missing line items. The state feels you can't put monies in lines because they haven't been voted on. Tom made motion to accept revenues for town , Bill 2nd motion, vote was 5 yes 4 no

Discussion on School Budget

Brian answered several questions on current budgeting of school. He explained increases in tuition were due to our agreement with Newfound School which locks us into cost sharing on building improvements. Newfound added a new ventilation system in the middle school. Our contract is until 2024 with Newfound. Brian noted the cost of new help more expensive than maintaining current staff which currently has 14 full time people of which 9 have benefits. Mike commented the school works very hard to stabilize the budget so to avoid crazy spikes in tax rate. This helps with families looking to move into town knowing taxes rates are stable They run the school budget like they would run a business with the only positions filled are what are needed. Carol made motion to move 2021-2022 total school appropriation of (\$ 2,207,766.00) Tom 2nd motion Lee opened discussion with a motion to amend to reduce total appropriation by 5% or (\$ 110,388.30) Bill 2nd motion vote on amendment was 3 yes, 4 no, 1 abstained, amendment failed. Vote on Carol's original motion vote was 6 yes, 3 no, motion carries.

Carol made motion to accept minutes as corrected , Tom 2nd motion, vote was 8 yes, 1 abstained

Bill talked on the possibility of budgeting for a secretary for the committee will look to further discussion on idea. Bill also talked on the zoom public hearing with the possibility of training.

Carol moved to adjourn, Paula 2nd motion, vote was unanimous
Meeting ended at 10:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Paul Meyerhoefer