Town of Epping

Budget Committee Meeting

March 17, 2021

Call to Order:

The budget committee meeting was called to order at 7:00pm via zoom.

Attendance:

Budget Committee Members: Michael Charkowski-Chairman, Steve Ozols, Heather Clark-School Board Rep, Marty Dyer, Mike Lecuyer, Jen Chapman, Robert Hodgeman, Mark Vallone, Bob Jordan-Town Selectman Rep, Cody Belanger, Greg Dodge and Cynthia Hounam.

Other attendees: Steve Thomas and Adam Munguia

Opening Comments:

Michael Charkowski would like to welcome the new members, Mark and Cody and welcome Jen back.

Roll call: Steve-here, Jen-here, Heather-here, Cody-present, Mark-here, Marty-here, Robert-here, Mike Lecuyer-present, Bob-here and Michael Charkowski-here.

Approval of the minutes for January 6th and January 13th, motion to accept by Steve and seconded by Mike Lecuyer. Roll call: Steve-I, Jen-I, Heather-I, Cody-abstain, Marty-I, Robert-abstain on January 6, I on January 13th, Mike Lecuyer-I, Mark-abstain, Bob-abstain and Mike Charkowski-I. Motion passes 6-0-4**.**

Old Business:

Michael Charkowski asked for any old business.

Reconstruction of the Board:

Heather motioned for Michael Charkowski as Chairman and Steve Ozols for Vice Chairman, seconded by Mike Lecuyer. Roll call: Steve-I, Jen-I, Heather-I, Cody-yea, Mark-I, Marty-I, Robert-I, Mike Lecuyer-I, Bob-I and Michael Charkowski-I.

New Business:

* Michael Charkowski would like to add to the agenda for next meeting the discussion of setting targets for the budgets and getting them out earlier to the boards. Also, discuss a handbook for the budget committee.
* Bob said he does know what the reorganization of the selectmen board is going to be yet, but he is hoping to go forward and keep the lines of communication open so there will be no mis-communication like last year.
* Mark asked what the board was thinking for timelines for the school and town boards for data to address. Michael would like to have a target in place before we break for summer.
* Mike Lecuyer agrees with target setting, he feels like last year they were rushing and did not have time to digest and discuss all the information. Mike Lecuyer asked if it was possible to start the process earlier.
  + Michael Charkowski said he will make the request to Lisa and Bonnie even if it comes back in draft form.
* Heather said targets will be difficult to address for the school earlier because school is not back in session until September. Heather said she will look into it but it will be difficult.
* Cody said getting questions ahead of time is important and be prepared for other questions to arise.
* Steve said that they are always in a crunch and having targets will make the November and December meeting much easier. Next meeting will be a good time to layout ground work for the year, when we will meet and setting target dates for the town and school.
* Steve said there is one opening for the board.
  + Robert said he said he would like to nominate someone.
  + Michael said that Greg has posted a notice and set a date for April 16.
  + Steve said any candidate can speak before we vote on April 21st, Michael said that his intent was to speak with the candidates and vote the same night.
  + Cody asked if it was customary for selectman to appoint the candidate. Greg said the per RSA3215 the appointed authority is to the board not the selectmen.
  + Cody asked how many people have put their name in, Greg said 1 so far but as they come in he will share it will the chairman and the chairman will share it with the board.
* Heather asked Bob if the town will be opening for meetings again, Bob said it was based on what the states tells us to do.
  + Cody thinks the state of emergency will in end in April, but he does not know the date, the house votes on April 7th then it will go to the governor.

Michael Charkowski asked if there were any other question.

Motion to adjourn by Robert, seconded by Mike Lecuyer. Roll call: Steve-I, Jen-I, Cody-I, Mark-I, Marty-I, Heather-I, Robert-I, Mike Lecuyer-I, Bob-I and Michael Charkowski-I.

Heather told Michael he did not ask for public comment. Cody motioned for 30 seconds. No public questions.

Meeting adjourned 7:45

Respectfully submitted:

Cynthia Hounam