

**Camden Budget Committee  
Minutes of Meeting  
March 5, 2015**

**PRESENT:** Committee Members: Chairman Ed Collins, Joseph Russillo, Jean White, Matt Orne, Richard Gross, Etienne Perret, Frank Stearns, Anita Brosius-Scott, Richard Stetson, Dave Nazaroff, Brett Lerner, Rick Knowlton, Morgan Laidlaw, Deborah Oliver, John Lewis, Sonny Goodwin, Robin McIntosh, Steve Melchiskey, and Patty Eddy.

**ABSENT:** Karen Grove and TC Bland

Chairperson Collins called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Scheduled for discussion this evening are the following proposed budgets: Police Department; Public Safety Dispatch; Fire Department; Public Safety Building; Hydrants, Emergency Medical Services, Emergency Operations Center, Administration, Professional Services, Planning & Development, Information Technology, Insurances, and Town Office Building.

Some of the line items were reviewed and questions were raised by committee members, Chief Gagne and Town Manager Finnigan explained the details. The biggest increase in the departments but is a request to fund for a part time officer for downtown foot patrol. After discussion,

**Morgan Laidlaw made a motion to recommend the Police Chief's' recommendation of \$1,073,184 for the Police Department budget. Steve Melchiskey seconded this motion.**

**Further discussion,**

**Rick Knowlton made a motion to amend the figure to the Town Manager's recommendation of \$1,064,572 for the Police Department budget. John Lewis seconded the motion.**

**Chairman Collins asked for the vote on the amended motion. The motion passed on a vote of 14-6. The amended motion passes.**

**Chairman Collins asked for a vote on the original motion with the amended amount of \$1,064,572. The motion passed on a vote of 14-5.**

Regarding Police Capital Improvements,

The proposed budget includes funding for the scheduled replacement of a police vehicle.

**John Lewis made a motion to recommend the Town Manager's recommendation of \$37,000 for a new police cruiser. Anita Brosius-Scott seconded this motion. The motion passed on a 20-0-0 vote.**

Regarding Knox County Dispatch,

**John Lewis made a motion to recommend the Town Manager's recommendation of \$126,497 for Knox County Dispatch services. Morgan Laidlaw seconded this motion. The motion passed on a 20-0-0 vote.**

Regarding the Fire Department,

Chief Farley reviewed line items in his budget and questions were raised by committee members, Chief

Farley and Town Manager Finnigan explained the details. The biggest increase in the fire dept budget is they are seeking two additional full time firefighters to be on shift during the 7 am – 7pm which is when a majority of the calls come in. During this time frame the department’s part time employees are at their primary jobs. They are also seeking funding to implement an incentive award program for the part-time staff. After further discussion,

**John Lewis made a motion to recommend \$450,844 for the Fire Department budget. This amount is \$40,000 more than the Town Manager’s recommendation of \$410,844 to implement an incentive award program for the part-time firefighters. Patty Eddy seconded this motion. The motion passed on a 15-5-0.**

Regarding Public Safety Building,

**John Lewis made a motion to recommend the Town Manager’s recommendation of \$49,036 for the Public Safety Building line. Frank Stearns seconded this motion.**

Discussion,

**Anita Brosius-Scott made an amended motion of \$46,036 to cut \$3,000 from the custodial and would like to see more proaction in reduction of heat costs. Dave Nazaroff seconded the motion.**

**Chairman Collins asked for a vote on the amended motion. The motion failed on a vote of 3-10-7.**

**Chairman Collins asked for a vote on the original motion which is to fund \$49,036 for the Public Safety Building. The motion passed on a vote of 12-6.**

Regarding Hydrant Assessment,

Committee member Rick Knowlton said he thinks there may be a reduction coming for the rates fire hydrants from Maine Water so he recommended tabling the vote for Hydrant Assessment.

**Dave Nazaroff made a motion to table the vote for Hydrant Assessment. John Lewis seconded the motion. The motion passed on a 20-0 vote.**

Regarding Emergency Medical Services,

Town Manager reported that Northeast Mobile Health Services is wrapping up their second year in June. They have been very good to work with. They have presented 3 different proposals for the four towns and the committee is recommending going with the mid-range of \$20,000. They are still negotiating with them so the figure could be different.

**Anita Brosius-Scott made a motion to table this until the negotiations are complete. The motion failed on a lack of a second.**

**John Lewis made a motion to approve the Town Manger’s recommendation of \$20,000 for Emergency Medical Services. Frank Stearns seconded the motion. The motion passed on a 20-0 vote.**

Emergency Operation Center,

Chief Farley reported they have made an agreement with the First Congregational Church because they have a generator installed in their basement. The fire department is in a flood zone area so it made sense to find an alternate location for shelter in emergencies. This budget is funding for training and supplies to support the Emergency Operations Center.

**Dave Nazaroff made a motion to approve the Town Manger's recommendation of \$1,500 for the Emergency Operations Center. Sonny Goodwin seconded this motion. The motion passed on a 20-0 vote.**

Regarding Fire Department Capital Reserves,

Fire Chief Farley is recommending to put aside \$14,500 in the Fire Equipment Reserve to fund hose replacement, and funding for the self contained breathing apparatus. He is recommending to put \$5,000 in the Fire Truck reserve. Engine 5 is in need of corrosion repairs. The estimated cost over 3 years is \$15,000. His last request is for \$5,000 for partial roof replacement over the Police Department side of the Public Safety Building.

After further discussion,

**Anita Brosius-Scott made a motion to approve the Town Manager's recommendation of \$24,500 for 3003-4110; 3003-4115; and 3003-4155. John Lewis seconded this motion. The motion passed on 20-0-0 vote.**

Regarding Fire Department Capital Improvements,

Chief Farley reported they got three quotes for the roof replacement ranging between \$23,000-\$29,000.

**Dave Nazaroff made a motion to recommend the low bid price of \$23,000 for roof replacement at the Public Safety Building. Matt Orne seconded this motion. The motion passed on 19-1 vote.**

**Chief Farley reported they are requesting funds for a bigger generator for the Public Safety Building. The quote they have received is for \$25,000. The old generator would be moved to the Public Works facility which currently does not have one.**

**After further discussion, Dave Nazaroff made a motion to table this item to investigate further possibilities. Frank Stearns seconded this motion. The motion passed on a 20-0 vote.**

**Because of the timing of the meeting it was agreed upon the committee to adjourn and move the remainder of the agenda items to another meeting.**

**A motion was made and duly seconded to adjourn at 9:00 pm. The motion passed on 20-0-0 vote.**

Respectfully submitted,

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Janice L. Esancy  
Recording Secretary